

City of Walnut
City Council Meeting Minutes
April 10th, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

Mayor: Brian Kirkpatrick City Attorney: Timothy L. Fielder

Council Members: (Vacant Seat #1), Melissa Smith, Brian Crapson, Seth Volz, Cory Scott

Clerk: Saralyn Boyd Treasurer: Samantha Guy Superintendent: Craig Kirkpatrick

Call to Order

Mayor Brian Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order with Council Members Melissa Smith, Brian Crapson, and Cory Scott, in attendance. Also in attendance were City Attorney Timothy Fielder, City Clerk Saralyn Boyd, City Treasurer Samantha Guy, and City Superintendent Craig Kirkpatrick. Council Member Seth Volz was absent.

Approval of Agenda

Cory Scott made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Brian Crapson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Approval of Minutes

Melissa Smith motioned for approval of the minutes from the previous regular meeting. Brian Crapson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Approval of Bills

Brian Crapson made a motion to approve the bills. Cory Scott seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Clerk's Report

The account balance as of April 10th was \$58,499.20. As for delinquent utility accounts for March, all were collected. The number of utility bills for April was four accounts at the time.

The Consumer Confidence Report was presented to the council for viewing before being sent to the utility customers.

The El Dorado Cloud Upgrade had taken place. There was some miscommunication with the representative with El Dorado who assisted with the upgrade, and it was discovered that the cloud base with El Dorado was not set up for Postcard printing yet. The bills were printed but had a slight alignment issue that is planned to be fixed by the next billing date.

The clerk mentioned Don Smith had purchased two fire-proof 4-drawer Filing Cabinets and Don ended up not needing the second one and it was presented to the clerk for purchase for City Hall for \$150. The Mayor approved the purchase of the filing cabinet for City Hall. It was later mentioned by Don Smith that the second filing

cabinet would not work where he planned to use it due to the size, so he offered it to the City for purchase as well for the same price. The clerk asked the council to approve the purchase of the second filing cabinet, as it would be a good investment, and would protect the important documents at City Hall. The clerk added the price of these cabinets brand new are a couple thousand each. Cory motioned to approve the purchase of the second filing cabinet. Brian Crapson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

City Treasurer, Samantha Guy, reported all was accurate for the reports for March. She mentioned reporting for the Federal ARPA allotment was finished that day, which completed the ARPA project in entirety.

Old Business

Brian Kirkpatrick mentioned he had not been able to follow-up with the owner of a recently moved mobile home, now located at the corner of Front and Walnut St. He said he will attempt again to reach out to the owner to discuss the issue.

New Business

The next item for approval was the renewal of the Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses for His & Hers Bar & Grill. Cory Scott motioned to approve the Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses. Brian Crapson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Maintenance Report

Craig noted that Lowrie Sheet Metal & Air told him they were expecting to start the project on Wednesday, April 12th.

Craig brought estimates for a battery-operated, cordless chainsaw from Home Depot and Harbor Freight and there was not much difference in the price, ranging from \$300-375, depending on the size of the saw, inquiring about a 12" or 18" saw. Cory Scott made the motion to approve this purchase not to exceed \$400.00. Melissa Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Librarian's Report

Breakfast will be held at the Church Hall on April 15th, 8-10 AM, hosted by the Walnut Public Library and Walnut Fire Department. This will be the last breakfast held for the season and it will resume in the Fall.

Sinks for the restrooms at the Library building have not been purchased yet.

Councilmember Concerns

There were no council member concerns at the time.

Public Comment

Kevin Mathis inquired about purchasing a lot the City owns at the corner of Main and Miller street, adjacent to property he said he recently purchased. Brian Kirkpatrick mentioned there are still possibly old fuel tanks underground on that lot, from a previous gas station that used to be there. It was also mentioned that property is used for the annual Labor Day celebration each year. It was also mentioned that it was a possible potential future site for a new Fire Department building.

Speaking about the current Fire Department building, the Mayor stated Rick Little did purchase a new fire truck and that the current building will have to have an addition and/or modifications to house the current truck inventory, including the new truck. There is discussion of possibly two additional bays being needed. The new truck will be taken to Rick Little's house over the summer for repairs and by Winter some adjustments will need to be put in order as far as making room for the fire trucks and tankers. Brian mentioned needing the possibility of the City looking to sell the potential corner lot is slim at this time.

Melissa Mathis asked if the City owned another lot adjacent to their property to the West, along Robbins Street. The clerk mentioned there is a lot there owned by the City, but at one time it was deeded to the owner (James Cochran) of the house to the North (James Cochran), since they maintained the property. It was mentioned there is also a service alley along that property. Cory asked Kevin what price he would give for the property. Kevin mentioned they hadn't really discussed that far yet. Brian Crapson asked Kevin what his intentions are with the property, besides cleaning it up. He answered, "Just to have it." Kevin also mentioned they were looking to build a "small metal building house". The Mayor reminded Kevin there is an ordinance stating the minimum square footage size of newly constructed homes, at 850 square feet of minimum living area, as well as placed on a concrete foundation and including skirting. Brian Crapson mentioned the intention of the ordinance is to avoid issues with tiny homes being built. Tim Fielder reiterated the statement causing additional concerns because the additional items outside have no place to be stored, causing it to look like trash or waste outside of the home. Kevin mentioned his sister has discussed building a house on the property, estimated at a 14' x 60' home. There was no action on this item.

Call for Adjournment

Brian Crapson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cory Scott seconded the motion. All were in favor.