

August 2, 2022

## WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting August 2, 2022 at City Hall.

Mayor McIntire called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with the following council in attendance: Lawrence Coultas, Jeff Pittman, Ron Bell, Bill Jacquot, Terry Gregory, Sandy Long, and City Clerk Teri Little

Also, in attendance were Wanda Cody, City Treasurer; Caleb Handy, Police Chief; John Simmons, Supt of Public Works; John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney; Greg Hillis, Benton & Associates; Carmen Ensinger, Scott County Times; Ben Cox, WLDS, Bobbi Jo Smith, Carrie Burk, Amanda Howerton, Leigh Winner.

Sandy Long led those attending meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer presented bills for approval.

**MOTION:** Lawrence Coultas moved and Sandy Long seconded to pay the bills as presented. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire asked for any corrections for the regular meeting minutes July 7, 2022.

**MOTION:** Lawrence Coultas moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular July 7, 2022 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Greg Hillis, Benton & Associates,** advised that USDA PER has a full invite for full application. This does not mean city is being awarded the grant but it looks good. If able to get the application in by the first of the year the Build America, Buy America (BABA) will not apply. After January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 this will apply. It is a good concept but, in the end, it will cost more money so it is important to get the application in sooner than later.

Hillis passed out the EJCDC (Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee) this is an agreement between owner (City of Winchester) and engineer for profession services.

Public hearing September 7, 2022 at 6:30. Has to be posted 10 days prior.

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve Agreement Between Owner and Engineer for Professional Services, EJCDC (Engineer Joint Contract Documents Committee) Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Library report, the windows have been received and installed except for one that was the incorrect size but replacement will be received next week. Drywall should start next week. Looking into additional driveway work.

**Caleb Handy, Police Chief,** passed out his monthly report. His report is as follows: Animal Complaints – 2; Assist EMS – 3; Assist Outside Agency (Police) – 6; Assist Fire Department –

1; Assist Motorist – 3; Attempt to Locate (Warrant) – 1; Building Alarm – 3; Clear Roadway(obstructions) – 1; DCFS – 1; Domestic Disturbance – 4; Juvenile – 3; Noise Complaint – 1; Paper Service – 1; Speak to Officer – 12; Suspicious Person – 3; Suspicious Vehicle – 6; Theft – 1; Traffic Accidents – 1; Traffic Control – 1; Traffic Stops-Verbal Warnings – 11; Well-Being Checks – 7. Total Vehicle Miles – 1288.

Chief Handy requested that the stickers for the golf carts be made larger and stated to place in the center of the slow-moving vehicle sign so it easier to monitor certified carts. Also, requested a list of all registered persons be sent to him so they are able to keep track of whom has registered.

Bobbi Jo Smith, Parks and Recreation Committee, reported that they had surveyed several people to see what they would like to see done in the city. A small item that a group would like to revive is the sand volleyball court. There is currently a court with a net but needs some work. The group is requesting that the city purchase boundary strips with stakes to outline the court. They would like to be able to hold tournaments and leagues in town. Many go to other towns to participate in games and would like to be able to keep some business and games in town and others that currently do not play would love to participate if had a local league. Smith stated that the person in charge of the league would be responsible for keeping the strips and stakes during the season and return to City Hall for storage when season is done. The cost of the strips is \$67.35. Alderman Coultas stated since the cost was minimal to purchase 2 sets that way the group handling the court can have one and keep one at city hall in case that person was not available.

**MOTION:** Lawrence Coultas moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve the purchase of 2 sets of boundary markers w/stakes not to exceed \$150.00. Roll call resulted all yeas. Motion carried.

Smith's second request was for a See Me Swing for the park. This swing is designed for baby/toddler to sit in the swing with the parent/adult swinging facing the child. RJ Pasley had requested in the past to be able to look into the cost of one of these swings. Smith met with a representative of the company and he stated the frame at the park that has the baby swings currently is sturdy enough to hold the swing. This would be replacing just one of the 3 baby swings currently there. Cost of the swing is \$2245.15. The committee could try and raise part of the funds for this but council approved to purchase this for the park.

**MOTION:** Lawrence Coultas moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve a See Me Swing not to exceed \$2500.00 for the park. Roll call resulted all yeas. Motion carried.

Third request was to look into possibly turning the existing tennis court into pickle ball courts. The current court can be turned into 4 pickle ball courts. This game is a very popular sport right now and being played in high school and the kids love it. The court would have to be completely resurfaced. The council gave the go ahead to look into what it would take to convert the existing court.

**Wanda Cody, City Treasurer,** passed out the profit/loss statement for the month and the expenses. There are 2 CDs for the library coming due at First National Bank. Asked if should combine the 2 and what period of time the council wishes to set the new CD as. 60 months is



.5% and 24 months is .45%. It was recommended to go the shorter period in case the interest rate rises in the near future. The 3<sup>rd</sup> CD comes due in October.

Mayor McIntire wanted to bring attention to the issue with erosion problem due to storm drainage in Mary White property. When there is a heavy rain, it drains into her yard and is causing the ground and road to erode. Would like to look into options to resolve the issue. Simmons mentioned that could extend the bridge, straighten out the ditch or cleaning up further up or maybe raise the road. Would like to have some options to go over in September meeting.

**Bill Jacquot, Alderman**, advised that no bids had been received 11 potential bidders. Contacted Justin Daws from Daws monuments and he advised was just too busy to take it on. Alderwoman Sandy Long recommended looking into Cemetery Restoration in MO. She will provide Jacquot the information and he will check into.

Pool business, pool is selling 50/50 tickets 1 for \$1.00 and 6 for \$5.00 these are located at local business and the pool. The pool board will be hosting a cookout at the 3 ways stop on August 13 at 9 AM.

**Sandy Long, Alderman**, presented a petition signed by residents in the neighborhood of a house that is currently a nuisance to the neighborhood. The house has no utilities (power, gas running water) the sewer is draining into the basement. The smell is terrible and the place is just in disrepair. There have also been numerous fights in the yard and in the street. Wanting to see if there is an ordinance or can create an ordinance to prevent people from living in homes with out utilities. Health Department cannot do anything. Attorney Coonrod will speak with Liz from the Health Department to see what can be done.

**Ron Bell, Alderman**, advised that Jim Dobson has received his Class B license and is due for his \$1.50 hr. raise. This will end the contract with Benton and Associates for running the water plant.

**John Simmons, Supt of Public Works**, wanted to clarify the times of trash burning in city limits. This is for paper, brush or etc. no trash is allowed. The times are 6 AM to 7 PM. This does exclude fire pits, wiener roast and etc.

Mayor McIntire mentioned that Josh Allen of J & J Disposal out of Pittsfield maybe able to service Winchester in time. If interested customers can call and inquire to advise interest. GFL Sanitation has purchased Area Disposal and Trash Queen and has applied a significant price increase for residents and it is concerning many.

New gas and water meter installation is going well and about 60 to 70% complete.

Monthly report – Locate tickets – 16; Work orders – 10; Brush pick up – 4 days; Funerals and grave openings – 2; Monthly meter reading; Monthly odorant report; Painted all parking lines; Gas leaks – 2; Zoning permits – 4; Houses torn down & utilities cut off - 2; Sidewalk work next to REA; Put up camera at park pavilion; ICC gas audit, public awareness; Extra work for car show; Spraying grass and weeds; Changing gas meters started July 25<sup>th</sup>; Mowing;

**Leigh Winner, Animal Control Officer**, wrote a formal letter requesting that an ordinance violation fee be set for animals found to be off leash and off owners' property or on leash but allowed to defecate outside the owners' yard. Situations have arisen where dogs in town have been found off leash multiple times. She has spoken with the owner multiple times but now it is time for fines as nothing is being done. The city does have a leash law and a fine set-in place that she could issue through the city and would help with the problem. Suggested fine is \$25.00 for each occurrence payable to city hall. This should also cover the ones that walk their dogs and allow them to defecate in others yards and not clean it up. Multiple calls have been received for this issue as well. She requested the authorization to cite ordinance violations. This would enable to by-pass the council and go to the municipal court. This will require a new ordinance.

Another issue is aggressive dogs. Two weeks ago, an issue arose with a resident that had several large dogs in her home that got into a fight. There was no dog on human injury, however, 2 of the dogs were injured and required treatment and stitches. The 2 aggressive dogs were signed over to Winner which in turn were taken and humanly euthanized. State and City police, Winner and SCDR Becky Lashmett were present at the home.

Winner suggested some type of ordinance that would specify guidelines on how the city handles dogs that are deemed aggressive. She suggested that it state if the dog was deemed aggressive, they would be required to be in a kennel and not on a tie out.

**Mayor Rex McIntire**, with Ed Gants retirement from the zoning board Mayor McIntire would like to recommend Harlan Fricke as his replacement.

**MOTION:** Lawrence Coultas moved and Terry Gregory second to approve the appointment of Harlan Fricke to zoning board to replace Ed Gant. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

West Central Cougar Boosters supplied the yearly advertisement Package for the 2022-2023 school year.

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Terry Gregory second to approve renew the WC Booster advertising package for \$650.00. Roll call resulted in 5 yeas and Lawrence Coultas voting no. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire will speak with Greg Hillis about the layout for the residential lots on North Main and will see if can provide update at September meeting.

Would like to have a policy to get handle on nonpayment offenders on city utilities. Attorney Coonrod stated that that was spelled out in Ordinance 936 that was passed in May 2022. It states due by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month and 10% of bill and not less than \$10.00. If 3 or more times it is moved to 25%.

At least 47 customers are 2 months behind and have penalized 144. Eight people have been disconnected. Four have paid and 4 still have not called in to set up arrangements.

Can adjust the Ordinance to say due 25<sup>th</sup> next day fee will be applied and if complete bill (including late fee) is not paid by the first of the month will be disconnected.

Joseph Hamilton's 6-month probation is complete and is eligible for his increase.



**John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney**, presented the Legal Service Agreement for USDA for the Water Grant and the Utility truck grants.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot moved and Ron Bell second to approve Legal Service Agreement both USDA Water and USDA Truck applications. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Municipal court updates: 5 cases – 3 were dismissed, 1 fined and 1 continued.

Has 2 to present for approval.

1. Guy Lewis at 131 Railroad St for filth, accumulated junk, trash and rodents. Can put a lien on property for past due utilities.
2. Toby Hammond for trash and weeds.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot moved and Sandy Long second to approve Municipal Court Citation for Guy Lewis. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot moved and Terry Gregory second to approve Municipal Court Citation for Toby Hammond. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

#### **No Public Comments**


**MOTION:** Terry Gregory moved and Jeff Pittman second to approve move into closed session. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman second to approve move out of closed session. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Lawrence Coultas moved and Jeff Pittman second to approve raise for Amanda Howerton and Carrie Burke effective 08/03/2022. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot moved and Ron Bell second to accept the resignation of Police Chief Caleb Handy and accept his request to remain as part time at an appropriate rate. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman second to adjourn at 11:30 pm. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

  
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Rex McIntire, Mayor

  
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Teri Little, City Clerk