

April 3, 2024

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting April 3, 2024 at City Hall.

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

Also, in attendance were Wanda Cody, City Treasurer; John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney; Drew Ruholl, Benton & Associates; Greg Hillis, Benton and Associates; Carmen Ensinger, Scott County Times; Steve Doolin, City Police Chief; George Lindsey, City Police Officer; Eli Evans, County Deputy; Josh Cannon, Toby Hammond, Richard Archer, Barrie Holzer, Diane England, Steve Hoots, Jacky Kuchy

Mayor McIntire led those attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer presented bills for approval.

**MOTION:** Terry Gregory moved and Jeff Pittman 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 of March 6, 2024.

**MOTION:** Tina Brown moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular March 6, 2024 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Greg Hillis, Benton and Associates,** grant for unsewered property is still not posted. They advise that should be open this fiscal year. Water main project is in review and should be closing in a couple weeks and hope to have loan approval in April. Library is close to be completed working on change order.

Invoice from Benton and Associates for water main project work for \$41,000.00 This will come from loan and can wait on this invoice.

OSLAD grant will be announced 07/01/2024 and awarded 09/13/2024. Mayor McIntire would like to get a group together to make plans on what money would be used for. Grant is a 50/50 grant unless a distressed community and city does not qualify.

City is needing assistance from Benton and Associates to complete the lead service line application. It is due on 04/15/2024. Fee is \$7000.00

**MOTION:** Terry Gregory moved and Tina Brown seconded to approve \$7000.00 to Benton and Associates to complete EPA lead line service application due 04/15/2024. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Drew Ruholl, Benton and Associates**, 2024 MFT annual drive thru. Since doing the water main project the oil and chip will be lighter and total cost will be lower. Funds for oil and chip \$39,206.50 and the additional fees \$21,918.00 for total of \$61,178.50. Estimate to appropriate \$40,000.00 for oil and chip program.

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve Resolution 2024-04-01 for 2024 MFT program \$40,000.00. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Josh Cannon**, wanted to see what can be done to stop semi traffic from using N Main St. They are not to be on this street and it is destroying the street. This is something that will be checked into.

**Toby Hammond**, was present to dispute fines. He states that pictures were taken illegally. He states that he has a tall fence and no way pictures could have been taken from street level and that city employee must have gone behind fence. He states that all in the yard is salvageable. He has received multiple citations from 2021 to present. Some have been dismissed as yard was cleaned up. City employees have the right to access property for utilities purpose. He states he has video of employees going into the back yard. The mayor asked for that video proof as he stands with his employees and that they did nothing illegal. Alderwoman Gregory stated that she can see his back yard from her front porch. Advise him he cannot have a salvage yard at his home. He states that he does not have one. Mayor McIntire also brought up the issue of his motorcycle and him racking off his pipes in town. Alderman Bell also commented that he hears them too. That also could be a fine as there have been numerous complaints of this as well. The city is just trying to keep the town looking clean and represent a nice place to live.

**Jacky Kuchy, Civic Group**, wanted to give update on group. Working on short promotional video for promote the town. This is being funded by Pat and Stevie VanDeVelde. Looking at a Tracy Grant for longer video. Wanting to see where discussion was on using TIF funds for the lighting project. Per city attorney can be under a separate program. Council is wondering how this will work and if the other businesses are going to agree to extra bill on power. Had suggestions on what the regular power would be or even solar panels that could run the lights. John Simmons will check into Ameren to see if they have any programs. Also, can check with Gregorys for estimate of what would cost for outlets. Applying for Two River Art Council Grant asking if City would help in funding a mural on Rural Cyclery building. The grant will not cover whole fee. Will be running an add in the Buzz magazine for advertising events. Having a progressive dinner on April 27<sup>th</sup> and Glow Run on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Steve Doolin, Police Chief**, passed out monthly report.

Animal complaint – 6; Arrests – 1; Assist EMS – 5; Assist outside agency(police) – 3; Assist motorist – 1; Clear roadway (Obstructions) – 1; Domestic disturbance – 1; Gas leak – 1; Harassment – 2; Investigations – 2; Juvenile – 1; Order of protection – 1; Paper service – 4; Property exchange – 1; Sex offender register – 1; Speak to officer – 31; Suspicious person – 2; Suspicious vehicle – 1; Traffic accidents – 1; Traffic control – 3; Traffic stops, citations – 1; Traffic stops, verbal warnings – 3; Vandalism – 1; Vehicle complaint – 2; Well-Being Checks – 4.

**Wanda Cody, City Treasurer**, passed out financial reports

**Teri Little, City Clerk**, called and received bids for clean up the week of June (10-14) 2024.

**Springfield Dumpsters**

Can provide 2 – 17 cubic yard dumpsters

\$890.00 plus \$185.00 for an exchange plus disposal weight. Average price for weight is around 140.00

No mattress allowed

**J and J Disposal**

Can provide a 20 cubic yard dumpster

\$575.00 this is for all fees and fuel costs.

Can exchange with 24-hour notice

**GFL**

Can provide 30 cubic yard dumpster

\$575.00 this is a bundled price and includes all fees.

5 tons allowed in this price if over that it is \$80.00 per ton.

Can exchange with 24-hour notice

**Alton Republic**

Can provide a 30 cubic yard dumpster

\$2539.00 this price quote is for 30 days. The first 7 days would be free

This includes all fees. He is sending an email with the breakdown on fees.

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve GFL for City Wide Clean up June (10-14) for \$575.00 per dumpster. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**John Simmons, Supt of Public Works**, monthly report: Work orders – 5; Locate tickets – 10; Grave openings – 3; Water leaks – 1; Gas leaks – 2; Zoning permits – 3; Monthly sniff test; Monthly odorant report; Monthly brush pick up; Monthly meter reading; Two abandoned gas services cut off; Cemetery clean up; Meeting with Benton’s about lead and copper lines; Gas meter change outs; Backhoe tires, mounted FS; Emptied water shed; Cleaner put in the sewer mains; Poured 5 yards of concrete on W Cherry St. after water leak – 13 hours; New employees are working great.

Received 2 bids for cleaning of pump 103. Brotcke Well & Pump \$31,231.00 and Layne \$26,850.00.

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve Layne to clean well 103 for \$26,850.00. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Asked if could purchase a small power washer to assist in cleaning at the pool. This one would remain there during the pool season. Price is \$699.00 DeWalt brand.

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve the purchase of a power washer for the pool for \$699.00. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Advised that the city may look into purchasing a concrete saw. There was a water leak on W cherry street and had to call 3 places to find a saw to be able to cut thru concrete and asphalt. White Hall came up and assisted with their saw. City spent all day fixing and pouring concrete in same day. Looked as some prices and a 24 inch walk behind concrete saw 28 hp for \$9371.00. Will look for more options and revisit.

**Rex McIntire, Mayor,** presented idea on constructing a few dog pens on city property. This would be to house and hold animals that are picked up by the animal control officers. This would cut down on fees paid to other rescues to house animals. Per James Sherwin and Leigh Winner a few 6ft tall chain link fence pens would be around \$4000 to \$5000. Maybe out by the water tower. Will look more into the subject and fees.

Update on Lincoln Statue. This is being purchased by donations made to the project. About \$9000.00 has been raised so far. This is something that can bring more traffic to downtown. Many people come to see the Stephen A Douglas Statue and a Lincoln statue commemorating the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas-Nebraska speech that was made in Douglas Park.

Received a letter from Wendy Smith that lists things to improve community health.

Mayor McIntire wanted to welcome the new store Hidden Honey Marketplace and workshop. This was opened by Kelsey Mayner whom is married to Matthew Mayner.

**John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney,** presented Ordinance 975. This is for supplemental appropriations for the police department. This is to cover the needed equipment purchases \$10,500.00.

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve Ordinance 975. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

The gas loan is due to be paid. This is for loan 03/12/2021 for \$395,000.00 at interest rate of 1%. This was due to the Vortex that was experienced in February 2021. Total that is being paid is \$407,387.64. This includes the \$12,387.64 in interest. Treasurer Cody will verify account number and send funds.

Have received one bid for codification project for \$8500.00 plus additional fees. Will work on getting additional bids.

Municipal court updates:

John Nott dismissed as cleaned up

Toby Hammond        \$1,500.00  
Nault                    \$2,500.00 after the 19<sup>th</sup> if not paid can file lien on property  
Debbie Watkins        big portion cleaned up still big pile of metal and motorcycles  
Fanny Mae              Sent citation 30-day Demo notice. The tore down house and filled in hole.

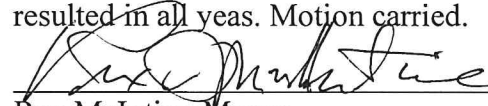
Dangerous dog update: Diesel was euthanized and other dog was moved out of city limits.

Presented resolution 2024-04-02 honoring the West Central Cougars 2023-2024 Boys basketball team. This is to celebrate the boys and coaches' accomplishments for their amazing season and winning the state championship.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot moved and Tina Brown seconded to approve Resolution 2024-04-02. Roll call resulted in 4 yeas and Ron Bell voting no. Motion carried.

**No Public Comments**

**MOTION:** Ron Bell moved and Melinda Hembrough second to adjourn 9:55 pm. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

  
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Rex McIntire, Mayor

  
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Teri Little, City Clerk