

August 7, 2024

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting August 7, 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; Greg Hillis, Benton and Associates; Carmen Ensinger, Scott County Times; Steve Doolin, City Police Chief; John Simmons, Supt of Public Works; RJ Pasley, Rep from Parks and Recreation group; Don Campbell; Jacky Kuchy, Winchester Civic group.

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

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer presented bills for approval.

MOTION: Ron Bell 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 July 3, 2024.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular July 3, 2024 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire asked for any corrections for the special meeting minutes of July 17, 2024.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular July 17, 2024 meeting. Roll call resulted in 5 yeas and Ron Bell abstained. Motion carried.

Greg Hillis, Benton and Associates, presented the pay progress report #3 from 07/15/2024. The request is for period of 06/08/2024 to 07/06/2024. The total for Laverdiere is \$473,139.98 and Benton & Associates fees thru 08/02/2024 for \$20,489.86. Advised that the city crew has been amazing. The water mains being replaced so far have been in bad shape,

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve pay request #3 for Laverdiere \$473,139.98. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve paying Benton and Associates fees thru 08/02/2024 for \$20,489.86. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried

Sub committee for library met and getting closer to closing it out. There are a few number differences that Greg is checking into.

The application for the downtown beautification grant went well and has been submitted.

Coultas unsewered grant still has not been posted

Jacky Kuchy, Civic Group, wanted to give updates on previous and other events coming up. The glow run was well received and well attended. Will be having Ladies Night Out on 09/13/2024 from 4-8. Would like to use the council room, if possible, for vendors. Looking to maybe have a Harvest Fest 10/20/2024 and include food trucks, live music and pumpkins from 11-4 around the square. Possibly be able to use some tables from the park pavilion to set up.

Did receive a grant of \$875.00 from Great Rivers. Have commissioned an artist from North Greene. Wanting to have it agriculture. The quote that will be listed is "Grow Where You Were Planted" hope to have done by end of October. Will need additional funds hoping the city may be able to assist.

RJ Pasley, Parks and Recreation, wanted to present the prices he has received for the basketball rims and backboards. Quotes were from Molanda Company. This is the company he has worked with in the past. It was decided to purchase the higher quality items since the basketball courts are used a lot. Will order 2 of the 42" x 72" perforated steel surface for \$1435.00 each and 2 flex rims for \$292.00 each. Since ordering these also request to order a volleyball net as well. It is \$211.00 for one.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve the purchase of 2 backboard @ \$1435.00 each; 2 rims @ \$292.00 each; a new volleyball net @ \$211.00 for total of \$3665.00 plus shipping. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Did receive quotes on a portable pickle ball system which would run \$2001.00 each. Will put this on hold. Are looking at getting a couple quotes on what it would cost to resurface the tennis and basketball courts.

Steve Doolin, Police Chief, passed out monthly report.

Animal complaint – 5; Assist EMS – 2; Assist outside agency(police) – 6; Assist motorist – 2; Burglary – 1; Building alarm – 2; Child exchange – 2; Clear roadway obstructions – 2; DCFS – 1; Fight – 1; Found property returned – 4; Harassment – 3; Interviews - 5; Investigations – 1; Juvenile – 4; Noise complaint – 2; Ordinance violations – 1; Property exchange – 1; Speak to officer – 66; Suicidal subject/mental health 11; Suspicious person – 3; Suspicious vehicle – 2; Traffic accidents – 1; Traffic control – 1; Traffic stops, Citations – 1; Traffic stops, verbal warnings – 3; Transient – 1; Vehicle complaint – 2; Weather spotting – 2; Well-Being Checks – 3.

Advised Hunter had started last week. He will begin the academy on the 18th. In the process of getting all things gathered up.

Amanda is getting close and doing very well. Instructors really like her.

Bill Jacquot, Pool Board, reported that lifeguards are limited after the 11th due to college kids moving back to school. Pool party on August 11th will be the last night for swimming and clean-up will start on August 12th.

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer, passed out financial reports.

Advised should look at moving the TIF money into a money market account and maybe a small amount in a CD to earn more interest. Currently only earning .05%. A money market is at 2.5% right now. Council agreed to move to money market and a small portion to a CD.

Loan at UCB for City Hall property is due 09/13 for \$26,198.26 plus interest. Want to know if council wants paid off or redo loan?

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Tina Brown seconded to approve paying off loan at UCB for City Hall \$26,198.26 plus interest. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried

Auditor has requested council approval interfund transfers for the pool fund (for amount of \$65,384.00) and the library fund (for amount of \$17,743.00). This is a journal entry needed to zero out the accounts to start the fiscal year.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Tina Brown seconded to approve do interfund transfer for pool and library accounts per recommendation of auditor. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried

Advised that the First National Bank will be changing over to Petefish Skiles in October

John Simmons, Supt of Public Works, monthly report:

Locate tickets – 36; Work Orders – 15; Grave openings – 3; Gas leak calls – 3; Water leaks – 2; Water service replacements/Brian Schafer – 4; Flags put up and taken down for 4th of July; Painted gas meters with corrosion; Chris King passed all gas tests and evaluations; Installed post for handicap signs around the square; Put down chip on the bleeding streets; Jeff did a lot of mowing, 2 days a week; Painted all parking lines on the square. Hill St, S Main St, and on curves as well; Monthly brush pick up plus additional 3 days for storm brush; Had to remove grinder from sewer plant and take it to St Louis for repairs; Removed gas service to Kuchy's rental house, not needed; Large sink hole on Walnut St behind house. Storm sewer is in bad condition, will need to be repaired; Lost full time employee Hunter Lawson; Monthly sniff test; Recalibrate CGI; Monthly odorant reading.

Needing a new pump for the sewer plant. It will cost \$13,100.00 to repair the one we have. He recommends a new one for \$16,023.00 with a prorated 5-year warranty.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve purchase of pump for sewer plant \$16,023.59. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Advised that the culvert on W Cross St is eroding and needing replaced. Needing a 36-inch x 36 ft polymer pipe at \$98.55 per foot for total of \$3547.80.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve purchase of culvert pipe at \$98.55 a ft. for total of \$3547.80. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Recommend removing a tree on Main St as it is in the easement and causing issues with lines. Danny Powell gave estimate of \$700.00 to remove tree.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve tree removal on Main St for total of \$700.00 by Danny Powell. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

The grinder at the sewer plant was removed to see if can be fixed. This was taken to St Louis to be looked at. If need new could cost anywhere from sixty to seventy thousand dollars. They are currently using a screen and this has to be cleaned daily.

Simmons advised that new employee, Hunter Lawson, has quit.

Rex McIntire, Mayor, the city received a letter from Callie Reichert. It was to advise the city that they have purchased the Western Auto building and plan to start renovations next week. Would like to have it as a meeting room, banquet hall facilities. Can be used for meetings, showers, receptions. She is hoping to also plan and host events as well. She is also asking for a liquor license for special events. Attorney Coonrod will look into that.

Mr. Lacy is closer to opening the restaurant in the old Buck and Jo's building. The name will be Roadside Grill. He would like a liquor license and has passed the background check.

Willow Branch store maybe closing

The mayor wants to send a letter next month to advise on the Lincoln statue. Wants to advise residents that this is being purchased by donations only no city funds are being used. By having this statue, it will help draw people to town. It will help mark the place that Lincoln gave his first Kansas/Nebraska act speech.

Received the annual West Central Cougars advertising package form. For renewal of package that we normally get every year is \$700.00. This covers all games for advertising. The boosters are a great asset to the school and have done wonderful things for the school.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Tina Brown seconded to approve WC Booster advertising package for 2024-2025 year for \$700.00. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Ron Reagan sent the National Gas Agreement Amendment. This is changing the fee per dekatherm from 7 cents to 9 cents.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve amendment to UGM and City of Winchester National Gas Agreement. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Need to look into getting a place set up with a couple dog kennels so we are able to house dogs for a few days while trying to find owners or places to house the.

There have been a few complaints of the moldy/musty smell in the lobby of city hall. A couple places have been contacted for quotes for testing. They range from \$1200.00 to \$1500.00. One company gave suggestions to help alleviate the smell. Need to ensure the air is circulating well. Set up dehumidifiers when there is moisture. We also need to get the soundproof room cleared out (carpet, paneling, etc.) from when it flooded. Will try a few of these tips and see if it helps.

John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney, presented Ordinance 979 for changes to the Solicitors Policy. There are have been a large number of solar solicitors in town lately and wanted to amend the ordinance. There will now be a \$500.00 initial fee for application and if approved an

additional \$100.00 per person per day. Once all fees are paid will only be allowed from 9 am to 4 pm on Weekdays only.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Tina Brown seconded to approve Ordinance 979. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Municipal court report July:

1. Cheyenne Lipcoman – Grass and debris, continued.
2. Carrington Mortgage Services – Fined \$500.00 lien will be filed.
3. Don Savage –Continued
4. Lloyd Camerer – Fined \$750.00
5. Thomas Kilver – Cited by posting on property, continued
6. Mike Brockhouse – Dismissed
7. Toby Hammond – called in sick-continued


There are 3 new requests to be issued.

1. Debbie Watkins 28 Arch St – fined \$1500.00 can issue lien on property. Need to recite for junk, trash, weeds inoperable vehicles.
2. Brandy Dunmire 307 W Cross St – junk, trash and weeds.
3. Mike and Debra Anslyn 126 S Maple – weeds, tall grass and general condition.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve the 3 municipal citations. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

No Public Comments

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Tina Brown second to adjourn 10:45 pm. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.



Rex McIntire, Mayor



Teri Little, City Clerk