

November 18, 2015

A work study session was called to order by Mayor Weishaar at 5:30P.M. at the Chapman City Office. Council members present were Lee Wolf, Luan Sparks, Jeff Blixt, Tim Jury and Jim Murrison. Also in attendance were City Administrator Austin St. John and City Clerk Erin Tilton.

The purpose of the work study was to review the recodification process of the code book and to review the proposed sewer rate increase based on the review done by Kansas Rural Water Association.

St. John began the meeting by skimming through chapter four of the code book and updating the council members on the progress that has been made in going through everything. Chapters one through three have been completely gone through and the majority of chapter four has also been gone through. None of the current codes are being changed in this initial review. The codes are being brought up to date to address current standards. If there are codes that need to be changed discussion among the council will need to be done in a council meeting. St. John, city attorney John Purvis, city clerk Erin Tilton and code enforcer Ty Lemon are the primary individuals going through the code book. Other departments are being brought in to go over their specific sections. Moving forward St. John will be emailing the completed sections to the council members so they can make notes and questions on things they would like to discuss before approving the proposed changes. Review of the chapters left will continue as time allows.

St. John then presented to the council the proposed sewer rate changes from Kansas Rural Water Association's recent study on the city's current sewer rates. They did a free analysis of the city's current rates and how the rates compare to how the city is currently spending the funds. Relatively speaking, rates are low to how spending is currently being done. St. John went through three different proposed fee structures to outline different scenarios on how rates could be raised if the council voted to do so. Discussion was had and St. John will be plugging in numbers from the city's highest, middle of the road, lowest and commercial users and sending them out to the council so specific examples of how rate changes would impact all uses can be seen. Additional discussion will be made at the December council meeting after more information is gathered and sent out to the council for review St. John will also be contacting BG Consultants regarding the lift station. Council members would like to know if there are alternatives to repairing the lift station verses completely tearing it down. What are the pros and cons of each? Again, additional information will be sent to council members and discussion will be had at the December council meeting.