

January 13, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Chapman City Council was held January 13, 2016 at the Chapman City Office. Mayor Phil Weishaar called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Council members present were Lee Wolf, Luan Sparks, Jeff Blixt, Tim Jury and Jim Murrison. Also in attendance were City Attorney John Purvis, City Administrator Austin St. John and City Clerk Erin Tilton. Also in attendance were Thaniel Monaco, Nichole McDaniel, Bobby Kamm, Mary Stopper, Ty Lemon, Rich Hite, Ed Wehrmeister, Emil Halfhill, Bob Diehl, Joan Atkinson and Carol Lacer.

Agenda #3 Consent Agenda

Motion by Jury to accept the consent agenda, 2nd Wolf, Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #4 City Announcements

No city announcements.

Agenda #5 Public Comments

No public comments.

Agenda #6 Employee Recognition – Rich Hite (5 Years)

Austin St. John recognized Rich Hite, City Treasurer, for his 5 years with the City of Chapman. He is a dedicated employee and his perfection is much appreciated. Mayor Weishaar remembered when someone suggested Rich Hite to be the City Treasurer. He believes it to be one of the best suggestions he has ever heard. He is a huge asset to the city.

Agenda #7 Declare Astra Bank as Official Banking Institute

Motion by Blixt to accept Astra Bank as the Official Banking Institute of the City of Chapman, 2nd Jury, Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #8 Declare Chapman Enterprise News-Times and Abilene Reflector Chronical as Official Newspapers

Motion by Sparks to accept Chapman Enterprise News-Times and Abilene Reflector Chronical as the Official Newspaper of the City of Chapman, 2nd Wolf, Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #9 Ordinance 976: **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 9, Subsection 111 Relating to and Setting Court Costs and Incarceration Fees in the Municipal Court**

Tilton explained that recently the Office of Judicial Administration authorized the education fund fee to go from \$0.50 to \$1.00 and with this change; it would make our court costs \$95.50. Since the city has to pass an ordinance to make the increase, she has been working and discussing different options with City Attorney John Purvis to increase court costs to \$110. The additional \$14.50 would be put into a fund that would help the city pay incarceration fees. Currently, if someone is sent to jail it is \$35/day and the city is billed 100% with no reimbursement. This would help the city in recouping some of the money that is being spent to incarcerate individuals going through the Chapman Municipal Court. Sparks asked if there was a way to only pass the fee along to the individuals who are actually committing the crime and being incarcerated. Purvis explained that although this can be done, we chose to do it this way so that the money doesn't have to be chased. It also covers someone who may not go to jail right away but could end up going to jail for probation violations or failure to appear as they continue through the court process. This banks the money up front so it's there when it's needed. Often times, they see that although money isn't an issue, it is still out there and can have an effect on how someone is sentenced if they know the money isn't there and there will be a sticker shock if someone has to serve a 90 day sentence in jail. Tilton didn't have the exact number but stated that over \$1000 was spent on incarceration fees in 2015.

Motion by Blixt to increase court costs to \$110.00, 2nd Jury, Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #10 CMB Renewal Application – Flo’s Place

Motion by Blixt to accept the CMB Renewal from Flo’s Place, 2nd Wolf, Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #11 Discussion of CDBG Survey

Nichole McDaniel, Grant Administrator with NCRPC, explained that in December the field representative, Linda Hunsicker, with the State Department of Commerce came out to do the initial monitoring of the CDBG portion of the street project. Linda met with herself and Tilton and everything went very well. When she left she went to drive the work site. At that time she noticed that 5th street, one of the streets that had been redone, leads directly to the post office. This activity makes this a city-wide benefit. Even though the project has already been approved and is 96% completed the entire city was not originally surveyed, only a specific target area, and this leads to the city needing to conduct a city-wide survey. Hunsicker contacted McDaniel in regards to this so that she could touch base with the city and arrangements to get the survey done by April 1, 2016 could be made. The Department of Commerce and NCRPC is very much willing to work with the city and want to make this as seamless as possible. The survey will be beneficial in more than one way, as once the survey is done, it can be used on future projects, not just this one. The survey will have to be sent out to every individual living within the city limits. Nichole will send the survey to the city and the city will be responsible in getting the survey coded and sent out. All responses must be coded with numbers so that the surveys are kept confidential. The returned surveys will be returned directly to McDaniel and her office will tabulate the results. Results are needed with a 51% LMI. Jury posed the question about what would happen if surveys weren’t sent in and the LMI wasn’t met. McDaniel explained that although there is a deadline, they will work with the city and if the city has to start going door to door, they will work with us and the project can be extended. The Department of Commerce is here to help the city succeed. Blixt also asked what would happen if the city didn’t qualify with the 51% LMI. Hunsicker was asked by McDaniel what the worst-case scenario would be if the LMI wasn’t met. There is a chance that the city would have to give money back but at this time, Hunsicker does not want to discuss this and would like to see the city move forward with the survey. Exacts will be given only if the LMI is not met. The Department of Commerce would at that time come out and meet with the council to see what needed to be done so all regulations for the CDBG funds were met. As surveys come in, results will be calculated and as soon as we get to the 51% and a bit beyond, we can stop and the guideline will be met. Sparks asked how much money it would cost to do a citywide survey now that it has to be done, where in the past the city opted out of it because of the fear of not meeting the LMI. NCRPC doesn’t charge anything to tabulate the results. The only fees that are going to be involved will be the postage, envelopes and paper to print the letters and surveys. Stamped returned envelopes are highly encouraged to get more mailed back initially. Adjusted gross income is what the Department of Commerce goes by when tabulating the survey. To show support of the project and turn a disadvantage into an advantage the council made a motion to move forward with the citywide survey. Motion by Blixt to move forward with a citywide CDBG survey, 2nd Jury, Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #12 Pay Request #1: Street Maintenance Project

Thaniel Monaco with BG Consultants made a few remarks regarding the citywide survey. He mentioned a couple other components that weren’t directly talked about with Nichole. The sidewalk project is also affected by the citywide survey. The plans with the sidewalk project will be sent in to the Department of Commerce to make sure everything is correct with the sidewalk project or what can be changed to eliminate something like this from happening again. Second, if there is a financial ramification on this, Monaco would suggest possibly holding off on a portion of the street project on the west side of town until the city knows if any financial impact is going to happen if the LMI is not met by the citywide survey. Monaco will start making phone calls to see if there are more specific impacts that we may need to account for now that the council has shown support of the citywide survey and that the city is moving

forward with it. The Department of Commerce may be more willing to talk with the city to let them know what those possible ramifications are. This is not the city's fault. The city has followed all the guidelines and everything has been approved as the project went along. Monaco has never seen anything like this happen, with the project being nearly completed.

Monaco also presented the first pay request from Bayer on the street maintenance project. Bayer has been working on the curb and gutter on Kimberly Lane and Manor Drive. Many of those items are included in the pay request. Bayer is nearly done with everything up there and will jump down to 6th and Glick to possibly work on the curb down there, weather permitting. The pay request is for \$65,932.85.

Motion by Blixt to approve pay request #1 for the street maintenance project for \$65,932.85, 2nd Jury, Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #13 Request for Proposal: City Engineering Services

No discussion was held on the proposals that the city received. A work-study was scheduled for Friday, January 15, 2016 at 5:00pm to go through these proposals.

Agenda #14 Police Vehicle Purchase Discussion

Chief Emil Halfhill presented the council a few different proposals after explaining that they opted out of spending \$1300.00 for additional repairs on the Durango. The first proposal was for a 2016 Ford Interceptor SUV from Rusty Eck Ford in the amount of \$26,456.00 with a lease purchase option from Astra Bank. There is also a proposal for a lease purchase option from Ford Motor Credit. The second proposal is for a used vehicle option that comes from the City of Enterprise and Kansas Highway Patrol. The bid from Rusty Eck Ford in the amount of \$26,456.00, financed by Astra Bank would be the recommended option. The first payment wouldn't have to be made until the vehicle was received. It would be a three-year lease. The money was put into the 2016 budget for potential vehicle purchases. Jury felt as if it was a no brainer, as we will know the value that it has when it's received. Blixt stated that he is against having new vehicles in the police vehicle force. He stated that in the budget process and his mind hasn't changed. Halfhill stated that they cut down the vehicle maintenance budget by \$6,000.00 this year, in hopes of having new vehicles to work with. He also stated that the crown victoria is not far behind in nickel and diming the city. Wolf also reinforced that he stated in the budget meeting that he is not in favor of a new vehicle, as he feels like there are quality used vehicles through the state that can be bought. Blixt stated that the council approved the number, not the approval of two new vehicles. Jury said that anytime you can limit your exposure, it's a no brainer, as opposed to opening a door to a new cancer where you don't know what to budget for potential repairs. In a police vehicle, it's not the miles on the vehicle, it's the running hours that the vehicle has on it. Jury also stated that the city has tried buying used vehicles and it hasn't worked to the benefit of the city. Blixt's recommendation is to shop more for good, used vehicles that are out there. Jury stated that he thinks the community deserves new, reliable vehicles that will be reliable when they need to respond to an emergency. Sparks also stated that the new vehicles are under warranty. Murrison said he was having a hard time approving the brand new vehicle. His question was to why the wait for a used vehicle is such a long wait. Halfhill explained that it is supply and demand and there just aren't as many SUVs available. Halfhill also explained that there are legal issues if you have a law enforcement officer in a civilian vehicle, they aren't built the same way that police vehicles are. Sparks stated that she respects Halfhill's leadership and thinks that this is an area that needs to be improved, this has been brought to the council numerous times in the past. Sparks feels as council members, we bring professionals into the city for their expertise and we have to respect their recommendations and what they feel is right for the city. St. John stated that this is a great opportunity for the city. Companies offer cities the opportunity to buy brand new vehicles at a very reasonable price. This allows our police officers to protect, serve and respond to emergencies within our community with reliable vehicles. Mayor Weishaar brought up the down time that also needs to be considered when we have vehicles that don't work and are in the repair shop. We are spending a lot of money in the shop and downtime where work can't be done when these vehicles are sitting there not being able to be driven and used. Discussion ended.

Motion by Jury to accept the proposal for the Ford Interceptor from Rusty Eck Ford in the amount of \$26,456.00, with financing through Astra Bank with a three-year payment option, 2nd by Sparks, Vote yes: 2 (Sparks and Jury) no: 3 (Wolf, Blixt and Murrison), Motion failed.

Sparks asked for the legal issues verses police model verses civilian model to be added to the work session so the city understands the ramification that it faces.

Agenda #15 Reports

Bobby Kamm reported that Christmas lights are down they have been working on more water leaks, servicing the equipment and changing out meters. The generators were serviced the beginning of January. Ty Lemon reported he has been working on some unfit structures in town and continues to work with the Division of Water Resources. He is looking at another grant that the city might possibly be able to apply for.

Mary Stopper reported that she has been working on new scorecards and advertising for the golf course. Austin St. John reported that he met with the Weblo Boy Scout troop. They asked him if they could come in and have a presentation on what all a City Administrator does. That same night the Cub Scouts also met with Officer Reynolds at the police department. St. John reminded everyone that the election filing deadline is January 26, 2016 at noon. He is also working on changing how many police officers the city can have by possibly changing the police officers we have now, excluding the chief, to hourly employees. Currently they are salary employees.

No other reports were given.

Agenda #16 Adjournment

Motion by Jury, 2nd Blixt, vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.