

MONDAY

May 03, 2021

The Governing Body of the City of Pratt met in Regular Session in the Commission Room located at City Hall.

PRESENT:	Gary Schmidt	Mayor
	Don Peters	Commissioner
	Zach Deeds	Commissioner
	Jeanette Siemens	Commissioner
	Kyle Farmer	Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:	Bruce Pinkall	City Manager
	LuAnn Kramer	City Clerk
	Regina Goff	City Attorney
	Nate Humble	Chief of Police
	Russell Rambat	Public Works Director
	Brad Blankenship	Building Inspector
	Jamie Huber	Director of Electric Utilities
	Larry Eisenhauer	Recreation Director

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Schmidt. The Mayor instructed the City Clerk to note that all Commissioners were present.

Mayor Schmidt reminded the audience that this meeting may be taped and/or recorded.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Schmidt led the audience and staff in the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

- April 19, 2021 Regular Commission Meeting

Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2021 regular Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and the motion and second carried unanimously.

BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2106 – FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT:

Ms. Lola Shumway presented Ordinance 2106, which was the floodplain management ordinance. Ms. Shumway stated that we had to renew our Community Rating System application through the ISO (Insurance Services Office) every five years and her meeting would be in August. Ms. Shumway explained that she had sent them a copy of our previous floodplain ordinance and asked them to look it over to make sure that everything was right. Ms. Shumway commented that Section B-Residential Construction-1.a. of the old ordinance stated ‘Mechanical and Hvac equipment servicing the building

must be elevated or flood protected to the same level as the lowest floor.’ Ms. Shumway continued stating that the new ordinance stated that ‘All mechanical and heating ventilation equipment to be elevated to same level of two-foot above the base flood elevation.’ Ms. Shumway clarified that they did not want mechanical and hvac to be flood protected anymore and they want them to be elevated. Ms. Shumway added that it was the same in Section C-Manufactured Homes-2.d. and 33.a. Ms. Shumway stated that she sent the ordinance to the State and they had approved it and sent it back. Mayor Schmidt asked what our rate was. Ms. Shumway stated that we were still at a seven, but she was trying to get us to a six.

After little more discussion, Ordinance 2106 was presented to the Commission for their approval: **FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO 44 CFR § 60.3 (D) - REGULATORY FLOODWAY IDENTIFIED, K.S.A.12-766, AND K.A.R. 5-44-1 THROUGH 5-44-7.** Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve Ordinance 2106 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and it carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE OF PIPE TO IMPROVE DRAINAGE AT INDUSTRIAL PARK:

Public Works Director Russell Rambat stated that there were things scattered at the Business Park when it was first built and there was never a good drainage plan. Mr. Rambat commented that they had bored 15’ to 18’ to help with the storm drainage and had put the sanitary sewer into the City sewer. Mr. Rambat explained that several different businesses had come in since then and storm events were hard to deal with and he showed on a power point where stuff pools up and prevents some businesses from getting to work. Mr. Rambat commented that, if we continued the ditch on east, the businesses agreed it would be an improvement. Mr. Rambat stated that the property owner wants to help and offered to go get the pipe and install it, so this would be a combined effort with the City and the property owner.

Commissioner Peters asked if there would be additional water going down Sandy Creek if there was a big storm. Mr. Rambat commented that he had not seen Sandy Creek come out of its banks. Mr. Rambat stated that he had talked to KDOT and we might try to turn back west on Highway 281. Mr. Rambat added that they were not looking for a perfect drain here, but there was a lot that goes on here and he had talked to Street Superintendent Sinclair and EBH and this was the only avenue they could come up with. Mayor Schmidt asked if the pipe could hold all of a real heavy long rain. Building Inspector Brad Blankenship stated that it would have to be a storm of a lifetime to fill up that pipe. With no more discussion, Commissioner Deeds made a motion to approve the purchase of the pipe to improve the drainage at the Industrial Park for \$16,500. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farmer and carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH LUTZ, DAILY AND BRAIN, LLC FOR TRANSMISSION POLE:

In the absence of Director of Electric Utilities Jamie Huber, City Manager Bruce Pinkall stated that this was a project that we had been working on and planning for some time. Mr. Pinkall stated that they were replacing two poles and guy wires straight south of the power plant and close to the substation. Mr. Pinkall stated that this was a not to exceed cost of \$40,000 and they had been putting money back yearly and it would be eighteen months before delivery. Mayor Schmidt asked if this was where the line changes direction so that there were no guy wires. Mr. Pinkall stated that it was a steel stand-alone self-supporting pole. Commissioner Peters asked if we were buying the pole and the rest was his crew. Power Plant Superintendent Bryan Evans stated that this was happening because one pole got damaged about twenty years ago and that it was the tie line from Sunflower to our substation. Mr. Evans added that our guys did not have the ability to do this, so we had to contract it out. Mr. Rambat commented that

we did the solid analysis and hit water at twelve feet. With no more discussion, Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the engineering service with Lutz, Daily and Brain, LLC for the transmission pole not to exceed \$40,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF CHRIS HIMMELWRIGHT TO AN ADDITIONAL FOUR-YEAR TERM ON THE LIBRARY BOARD:

City Manager Pinkall stated that the Library Board recommended that Ms. Chris Himmelwright be appointed to an additional four-year term. Mayor Schmidt made that recommendation and the Commissioners were all in agreement.

OPEN AGENDA:

- **Opioid Problem:**

Mr. Dewayne Bryan informed the Commission that they had retained a grant writing organization out of Washington DC to try and track some Federal money for Pratt. Mr. Bryan commented that what they discovered was that Pratt and the surrounding counties have an extremely high level of opioid prescriptions going out. Mr. Bryan stated that they received a \$200,000 grant and the first thing they did was access it and they found that 70% were going to people 55 years old and above and 85% were going to 65 and above. Mr. Bryan commented that they were investigating on how to alleviate that problem and we did not want to demonize the physicians, but we realized that people had to cope with a lot of pain. Mr. Bryan stated that pain was a very interesting thing that could not be measured and we did not know where it was going and there were very few overdoses and very few deaths. Mr. Bryan questioned where they were going and stated that the grandkids could be getting them and possibly salesmen. Mr. Bryan stated that there were different ways for doctors to be retrained on opioids.

Ms. Stacy Hanson stated that they were working with hospitals in seven counties, but they also needed to be talking to other people. Ms. Hansen commented that she had been put in contact with hospital staff, law enforcement, school counselors, people who use substance, and she was just shy of seventy focus groups. Ms. Hanson pointed out nine questions that were required, but were not all pertinent. Ms. Hanson commented that, when they compiled their data, they had three areas they needed to work on. Ms. Hanson stated that one was prevention and everyone mentioned mental health, which could be opioid use, and there were not enough mental health resources in this area. Ms. Hanson stated that another of the things they found was that many of the providers had not had pain management training. Ms. Hanson commented that only one provider had pain management training and could provide an opioid certification. Ms. Hansen questioned how often we rely on law enforcement to take care of the treatment side and that was no place for the in-patient side or the detox side. Ms. Hanson stated that stigma places were a big part on people wanting to get help and asked why should the community care. Ms. Hanson commented that 80% of the resources of law enforcement go to some sort of substances. Ms. Hanson stated that these people could have accidentally gotten addicted to opioids and they were our neighbors and this ruined their lives.

Ms. Hanson stated that they were writing a strategic plan and building work groups in the seven counties. Ms. Hanson explained that each of those groups would be creating activities for their counties that will be worked into a strategic plan and become region wide. Ms. Hanson stated that keeping those work groups motivated was high on her list of things to do and she was looking for people to sit on Pratt County's group. Ms. Hanson commented that they would also be looking for additional funding; however, they were hoping for another grant in about a year from now that could amount to about \$1 million to go throughout the seven counties.

Mr. Bryan commented that pentanol was also present and even more dangerous. Commissioner Peters asked if law enforcement saw it as a problem. Chief Humble stated that it was being reported; however, he did not think it could be judged because it was prescribed. Commissioner Peters commented that he took oxy for his hip and he was glad he had it. Chief Humble commented that they took in 40 pounds of prescription meds back on their Drug Take Back program. Ms. Hanson stated that we were between a rock and a hard place and we did not know how to deal with pain besides prescribing something. Commissioner Peters asked where he would have to go to detox. Ms. Hanson stated that he would have to go to Wichita or Hutchinson. Ms. Hanson added that jails and hospitals were not set up to deal with this.

REPORTS:

City Manager:

- **KMEA Conference:**

City Manager Pinkall stated that he saw how influential our staff was at the KMEA conference. Mr. Pinkall commented that they were known through out the state and this conference had been very educational for him.

- **New Finance Director:**

Mr. Pinkall stated that his plan was to do the release of our new Finance Director this week and he should be starting the 12th or 13th.

- **Mercury Films:**

Mr. Pinkall stated that Mercury Films had been in town and they were a filming crew who grew up in Wichita. Mr. Pinkall commented that they had a few filming scenes on Saturday night and Sunday.

- **Chamber Director:**

Mr. Pinkall commented that there had been no movement on the Chamber Director, but things were continuing on TV promotions and radio pieces.

- **Audit:**

Mr. Pinkall informed the Commission that our auditors, Adams and Brown, had graciously moved the audit back to June, which would give the new Finance Director a month to get settled in a little.

- **Filley Art Museum:**

Mr. Pinkall let the Commissioners know that the City's membership had been renewed at the Filley Art Museum and he had the cards in his office and he also had four one day passes.

- **Open Gravel Race:**

Commissioner Peters asked if Mr. Pinkall knew how many bike riders were in the Open Gravel Race. Mr. Pinkall stated that he was not sure. Commissioner Siemens stated that it was over 300.

City Attorney:

- **Working on Different Things:**

City Attorney Goff stated that she had been busy working with the department heads, Commissioners and Law Enforcement. Ms. Goff commented that she would have some amendments to the animal ordinance on the next agenda. Commissioner Peters asked if she had looked at the Urgent Care ordinance. Ms. Goff stated that she had not heard back from that city attorney, because she had been dealing with other issues and zoning issues as well.

Building Inspections:

- **Kansas Department of Labor:**

Building Inspector Blankenship showed the Commission that he had the permit for the Pilot Club Train for 2021, so they were good to go and that happened last Monday. Mr. Blankenship stated that the Kansas Department of Labor was great to work with and now he had to schedule the audit. Mr. Blankenship commented that he told them that the City and Pilot Club do a great job on their maintenance books, so the audit would go well.

- **Inspections:**

Mr. Blankenship commented that he had continued doing inspections at Urgent Care and PRMC Orthopedics at the hospital.

- **Weed notices:**

Mr. Blankenship stated that he had started sending out the notices for mowing.

Recreation Department:

- **Sports Complex:**

Recreation Director Eisenhower stated there were two fields that were done at the Sports Complex. Mr. Eisenhower commented that there had been a tournament with twenty-eight teams here last weekend and they had used three fields, two at the Complex and one at Angood. Mr. Eisenhower added that there was also a track meet going on. Mr. Eisenhower commented that there were about 250 kids at the track meet and about 400 kids for baseball.

- **40" pipe:**

Mr. Eisenhower stated that they had a 40" pipe at the Complex and it would take 5" of rain per hour. Mr. Eisenhower thought that that was information that would be helpful with Mr. Rambat's agenda item.

Public Works:

- **Pool crew:**

6 – May 03, 2021 (Regular Commission meeting)

Public Works Director Rambat stated that the pool crew pulled about 300' of joint material and they were starting to prep the skimming areas and do some spot patching and painting. Mr. Rambat commented that he hoped to know sometime next week when he could get water in it.

- **Free to the Landfill Week:**

Mr. Rambat stated that next week was free to the landfill week and that would start Monday and run until Saturday. Mr. Rambat commented that he would be sending a couple of our guys out there to help.

- **Highway Project:**

Mr. Rambat stated that there would be a pre-construction meeting for the Highway Project this Thursday.

Police Department:

- **In-house training:**

Police Chief Humble stated that they were doing some in-house training and those 40 hours were due July 1st.

- **Staff shortage:**

Chief Humble commented that he was still short two officers and dispatchers were taking applications, but there was not a lot coming in.

Mayor and Commission:

- **Agenda:**

Mayor Schmidt commented that there would be a change in when we set up the agenda so that there was more time to find out what was on the agenda. Mayor Schmidt stated that Mr. Pinkall would get the agenda to them on Wednesday, which would give them time to check with outside sources if necessary. Mayor Schmidt added that this might not be the final packet.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Schmidt made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319 b(4) to discuss data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships to last 45 minutes and to return at 7:02 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farmer and carried unanimously.

Mayor Schmidt made a motion to return from executive session at 7:05 p.m. with nothing to report. Commissioner Farmer seconded that motion and it carried unanimously.

RECESS:

Commissioner Farmer made a motion to recess until Monday, May 10th at 11:00 a.m. for the City/County Joint meeting at City Hall. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Deeds and carried unanimously.

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR:

GARY A. SCHMIDT, Mayor



ATTEST:

LUANN KRAMER, City Clerk