

TUESDAY

JULY 05, 2022

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

PRESENT:	Gary Schmidt	Vice-Mayor
	Don Peters	Commissioner
	Jeanette Siemens	Commissioner
	Kyle Farmer	Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:	Bruce Pinkall	City Manager
	LuAnn Kramer	City Clerk
	Regina Goff	City Attorney
	Brent Carver	Finance Director
	Larry Eisenhower	Recreation Director
	Nate Humble	Chief of Police

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting was called to order by Vice-Mayor Schmidt. The Vice-Mayor instructed the Clerk to note that all Commissioners were present with the exception of Mayor Deeds.

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Peters led the audience and staff in the invocation and Vice-Mayor Schmidt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2022 regular City Commission meeting. Commissioner Siemens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BUSINESS:

INTRODUCTION OF NEW CHAMBER DIRECTOR:

Chamber President John Keller introduced the new Chamber Director Ashley Smith. Mr. Keller stated that Ms. Smith started today. Ms. Smith informed the Commission that she had grown up on a farm around Cunningham and had 4-H'd here and went to church at the Methodist Church in Pratt. Ms. Smith commented that she had moved back to Pratt about a year ago with her husband and had started their family. Ms. Smith stated that she had received a degree from Fort Hays State University and Kansas State University and working at the Chamber would be a new role for her as she had been working in agriculture. Ms. Smith commented that she had a passion for the community and would be able to meet the needs of Pratt and wanted it to grow and thrive so that kids would want to bring their families back as she had.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL FOR THE USE OF CITY FACILITIES FOR OKTOBERFEST:

Ms. Jamie Mundt informed the Commission that the community was excited about the Oktoberfest coming back and that it gave back to the community as well. Ms. Mundt commented that they had held the event at the Green Sport Complex the first four years, but there was not opportunity to go bigger. Ms. Mundt stated that they had had issues with the sprinkler system last year and had to think where else they could go in the City. Ms. Mundt commented that they had thought about Lemon Park and had brought a map of the layout they had come up with. Ms. Mundt explained that they could spread out and have room for food trucks, bigger stage area and games. Ms. Mundt added that there would be two options for parking with the llama area and south of the railroad tracks. Ms. Mundt commented that they had thought about having VIP parking for table sponsors.

Ms. Mundt stated that they had the paper work in order and would love to move forward. Commissioner Peters commented that it was easy to control who came in at the Sports Complex with only one entrance, but he questioned how they would control that at Lemon Park. Ms. Mundt stated that it would be more of a challenge and they had talked about using wrist bands and anticipated needing more volunteers. Mr. Dakota Holtgrieve stated that they would be closing the gate for the event. Commissioner Peters asked if they would have to walk around to get in if they parked in the llama area. Mr. Holtgrieve stated that they would funnel everybody to a check-in point. Ms. Mundt added that there would be temporary fencing. Commissioner Siemens stated that who could come in would be the biggest concern. Ms. Mundt stated that they had not had any issues in the past and they had off duty officers there in the past.

Mr. Holtgrieve commented that they had grossed \$35,000 last year and donated \$10,000 to \$20,000 to local charities; therefore, it was a quality event. Mr. Holtgrieve added that Lemon Park would give them the space to grow and they wanted to work with officials to do it the right way. Ms. Mundt stated that there were challenges with getting better sound equipment and bringing in bigger named polka bands. Mr. Holtgrieve explained that bands could cost anywhere from \$6,000 to \$10,000. Ms. Mundt stated that they had not done much advertising until they had a firm location.

City Attorney Goff reminded them that the beer garden had to have a fence around it and that was required by law. Mr. Holtgrieve stated that the entire park had a fence around it and they had a pink ribbon around it last year, but they would make sure they complied. Commissioner Farmer asked if Police Chief Humble had any concerns about boundaries. Chief Humble stated that they were fine. Ms. Mundt stated that they could keep the gate closed for the first hour for VIP parking. Mr. Holtgrieve added that they could lock the gate and run a golf cart.

Vice-Mayor Schmidt stated that City Attorney Goff had been reviewing the ordinances and resolutions from the past Oktoberfest's and Pratt Jam and Lemon Park had not been approved for alcohol. Ms. Mundt stated that Mr. John Beverlin had the paper work ready for submission. Commissioner Siemens asked what the date was for the event. Ms. Mundt stated that it was September 24th from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. With no more discussion, Commissioner Siemens made a motion to approve the use of Lemon Park for Oktoberfest activities on September 24th from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and to move forward in getting documents to the Commission contemplating alcohol consumption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and carried unanimously. Commissioner Farmer asked about liability insurance being on them. Mr. Holtgrieve stated that they have a million dollar policy from American Family.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF 2022 HOT & COLD CLASSIC DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT:

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Mr. Jason Winkel informed the Commission that there was to be a benefit disc golf tournament this coming weekend called Kev's Kids. Mr. Winkel explained that it was to benefit Kevin Biles't girls and he would like approval to use the park for that. Mr. Winkel stated that he would need extra trash carts at May Dennis Park on July 9th and he expected a decent turnout and it would be from noon to around 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the use of May Dennis Park for the benefit disc golf tournament on July 9th for Kevin Biles. Commissioner Siemens seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Winkel also asked for permission to use May Dennis for the 2022 Hot and Cold Classic on August 20th. Mr. Winkel stated that it was the same type of tournament and they would need extra trash carts and the use of the restroom and benches for lunch break. Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the use of May Dennis Park for the 2022 Hot and Cold Classic Disc Golf Tournament on August 20th. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and it carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD:

City Manager Pinkall stated that Library Director Killough had sent a memo stating that Ms. Kandace Bitts-Nicolay's term on the Library Board had expired on April 30th; however, she was willing to serve an additional four years. Vice-Mayor Schmidt made the recommendation that Ms. Bitts-Nicolay serve an additional four years on the Library Board. The Commissioners were all in agreement.

SALES TAX INFORMATION CAMPAIGN DISCUSSION:

City Manager Pinkall commented that the last pool meeting was three weeks ago and Mr. Kyle McCawley had been there. Mr. Pinkall stated that they did not have an actual pool drawing with distances, pool depths, etc.; however, they were working on it. Mr. Pinkall commented that the pool committee would be reconvening and they would be giving their approval or suggestions. Mr. Pinkall explained that he planned on a community meeting two weeks from now at the City Commission meeting so that we could get public input, then Wednesday the 20th or Thursday the 21st at the Municipal Building and the third on July 31st. Mr. Pinkall commented that we would also reach out to service clubs after that and present the pool process.

Mr. Pinkall stated that the bonds would be sold on July 18th and the mailers would go out and they would try to do something on 93.1, social media and yard signs to promote the sales tax election. Commissioner Siemens asked if Mr. McCawley knew the time frame. Mr. Pinkall stated that he did. Mr. Pinkall stated that he would like an executive session at the end of this meeting to discuss some financial pieces of the pool that should not last more than fifteen minutes. Vice-Mayor Schmidt stated that the meeting on the 18th would be recessed until the 20th and that one would be recessed until the 30th and that one would be adjourned. Vice-Mayor Schmidt added that all Commissioners were welcome to those meetings. Vice-Mayor Schmidt commented that we did not want to violate any rules and they did hope to have Mr. McCawley at one of those meetings. Commissioner Peters asked if there was a chairperson of the pool committee. Mr. Pinkall stated that there was not.

OPEN AGENDA:

No one in the audience wished to address the Commission.

REPORTS:

Building Inspections:

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- **Zoning Change:**

Building Inspector Blankenship stated that the Planning and Zoning Board had approved a zoning change and he was waiting for the probation period to end before he brought it to the Commission. Mr. Blankenship commented that it was changing from agriculture to heavy industrial and it was within the three-mile territory and they would be coming back for a conditional use permit later.

Recreation Department:

- **State Baseball:**

Recreation Director Eisenhower stated that they would be hosting the State baseball tournament a week from tomorrow and it would be Thursday through Sunday. Mr. Eisenhower commented that it would be the last scheduled tournament of the summer.

Police Department:

- **Graduate:**

Police Chief Humble stated that Officer Noah Tatro graduated from the academy and he was still looking for two more officers. Chief Humble commented that he was at training and this was happening all over.

- **4th of July:**

Chief Humble stated that July 4th went well within the City.

- **Time of Stops:**

Commissioner Peters asked about traffic stops that took over a half an hour and if they asked for back-up and why some only took three minutes. Chief Humble stated that they did ask for back-up on the longer stops and the shorter ones were educational stops.

Finance Department:

- **Budget Calendar:**

Finance Director Carver stated that July 20th was when he had to turn the proposed mill levy over to the County Clerk and he informed the Commission that it was better to turn over a higher mill levy because you could not raise it later. Commissioner Farmer asked if they were still planning on the budget workshop on August 1st and 2nd. Mr. Carver stated that they were.

Executive Session:

Vice-Mayor Schmidt made a motion to go into executive session at 6:00 p.m. and return at 6:10 p.m. to discuss data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of second parties as found in K.S.A. 75-4319(b). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farmer and carried unanimously.

Vice-Mayor Schmidt made a motion to return from executive session at 6:10 p.m. with nothing to report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

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ADJOURN:

Commissioner Peters made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded Commissioner Farmer and carried unanimously.

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR:

GARY A. SCHMIDT, Vice-Mayor



ATTEST:

LUANN KRAMER, City Clerk