

MONDAY

August 21, 2023

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

PRESENT:	Zach Deeds	Mayor
	Gary Schmidt	Commissioner
	Jeanette Siemens	Commissioner
	Kyle Farmer	Commissioner
	Doug Meyer	Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:	Bruce Pinkall	City Manager
	Brianna Garten	City Clerk
	Aleta Eastes	Finance
	Nate Humble	Police Chief
	Regina Goff	City Attorney
	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 Deeds. The mayor noted that all Commissioners were present.

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

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

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

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2023 recessed commission meeting, July 26, 2023 recessed commission meeting, August 7, 2023 regular commission meeting, and August 11, 2023 recessed commission meeting. Commissioner Siemens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**BUSINESS:**

**Consideration and/or Approval of Ordinances to Exempt Portions of Main Street from The Prohibition of Consumption of Alcoholic Liquor as well as Consideration and/or Approval of Resolution Authorizing Consumption of Alcoholic Liquor on Portions of Main Street for a Special Event:**

Mr. John Beverlin came before the Governing Body to request that the sale of alcoholic liquor be allowed on streets and public property for a Grand Opening event for his client, Lotus Aesthetics and Wellness on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. He prepared two different Ordinance options and a Resolution to be considered. The

proprietors of a mobile cocktail bar were in attendance as the potential vendor during this specific event. These changes could potentially give other businesses on main street the opportunity to obtain a special event license as well. Mr. Beverlin reminded the commission that there would still be a need for businesses to apply for a liquor license and special event license as required by the City, County, and/or State. After general discussion, it was determined that the short time frame in which this was brought to the Commission, did not allow them enough time for thoughtful and thorough consideration. Mayor Deeds moved to decline the ordinances and resolution as read. Seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

**Financial Statement Audit Report:**

Ms. Danielle Hollingshead of AdamsBrown reported on the City of Pratt's 2022 Financial Statement Audit.

**Consideration and/or Approval of Ord. 2307 Amending the Standard Traffic Ordinance:**

City Attorney Goff discussed the changes to the Standard Traffic Ordinance including the removal of the circular issue of driving while suspended due to unpaid fines. Ms. Goff asked Police Chief Nate Humble if he had any concerns after reviewing the ordinance, and he did not. Commissioner Farmer motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

**Consideration and/or Approval of Ord. 2308 Amending the Uniform Public Offense Code:**

City Attorney Goff discussed the ordinance and recommended passage. Ms. Goff asked Police Chief Nate Humble if he had any concerns after reviewing the ordinance, and he did not. Commissioner Farmer motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RECONDITIONING BEARINGS FOR UNIT 5:**

Director of Electric Utilities Huber stated that the bearings went out a month ago. Mr. Huber requested 3 bids on both new and reconditioned bearings. Lead time and costs were taken into consideration and Mr. Huber stated tax was included in the proposal. Mayor Deeds asked how often these bearings are evaluated. Mr. Huber stated that evaluations and reporting capacity is done annually. They have completed the evaluations on the other two bearings; however, they are waiting for this one to be repaired. Commissioner Farmer motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO ORD. 2.28.010 AND AMENDMENTS TO ORD. 2.24.030:**

City Attorney Goff recommended that we table both 5.7 and 5.8 as some of the particular details would be better served in an executive session.

**OPEN AGENDA:**

One citizen stepped forward to thank the commissioners for taking their time on tough decisions.

**REPORTS:**

**City Manager:**

- **Pool:**

City Manager Pinkall reported that pool attendance is going well. They had 14 private pool parties this season and the adult swim time is popular. He stated that they are looking to be available more times in the future. The humane society requested a dog swim. Mr. Pinkall asked the contractor about the possibility, but it was recommended to postpone use of the new pool for these activities with it being so new. He hopes to provide other solutions like sprinklers or utilizing the small pools. Mr. Pinkall stated that the pool sign was vandalized and the contractors were able to reinforce them. It was an isolated incident and other precautions were being made to discourage future vandal attempts.

**City Attorney:**

City Attorney Goff stated she is gathering info for our upcoming budget and audit meetings. Ms. Goff reported the health insurance enrollments and meetings were complete. Employees are thankful for the added health care with vision. She also reminded everyone that there is a joint City/County meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Electric Department:**

Director of Electric Utilities Huber was asked to run generators to help support the grid during the heat wave. Coal and natural gas are being used, very little wind currently.

**Recreation Department:**

- **Fall Sports:**

Recreation Director Eisenhauer stated they are a few weeks away from fall schedules at the 1<sup>st</sup> of September. Facility checks for upgrades and safety will be completed.

- **Building issues:**

Commissioner Meyer asked about the reported damage due to summer storms. Mr. Eisenhauer stated that there was damage to the municipal building and fire station, both having roof issues and need to be reviewed. They were still waiting on an adjuster, 2 months later and there should be no out of pocket. Attorney Goff asked Mr. Eisenhauer to forward the last correspondence.

**Police Department:**

- **Local Schools:**

Police Chief Nate Humble advised that with school starting back up, there have been some community concerns voiced over the school zones. His staff is working on identifying where signage needs to be added or replaced. He will work with the street department on findings.

Chief Humble did not yet have an update on USD 382 officer funding and is waiting on the school district's response. He believes they are planning on approving and paying their portion.

- **Staffing:**

Chief Humble advised that dispatch is allotted 7 people but is down to 4. He's reached out to surrounding agencies and will receive part time help.

Chief Humbel stated that Animal Control is losing a staff member October 1<sup>st</sup> and has reached out to a potential candidate.

**Public Works:**

City Manager Pinkall reported that the water department is struggling to staff appropriately. He also stated that the street department has some plans for curb and gutters to complete.

**Inspection Department:**

Building Inspector Blankenship stated that the garage shed that was considered in a recent resolution is down and being cleaned up. Roof replacements are continuing in the city. They're still completing 9 -10 per day and the city had a little over 600 permit requests.

Mr. Blankenship reported that there was tree removal completed on the highway that were between the sidewalk and curb. It was a big hazard. The stumps were still present as they waited for them to dry out before full removal.

**Mayor and Commission:**

Commissioner Farmer stated that he and Commissioner Siemens were hosting a day at the pool for the first 100 kids in attendance.

Commissioner Siemens stated that she attended an active shooter presentation that was very thought provoking and interesting. She recommended that others attend when presented with the opportunity.

Commissioner Schmidt asked if there is a defib in the city building. City Manager Pinkall responded that we did not have one. Recreation Director Eisenhauer stated that he had been offered an extra one from the county recently and would inquire to see if it was still available.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Deeds made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss non-elected personnel until 6:35p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

Mayor Deeds made a motion to return from executive session with nothing to report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farmer and carried unanimously.

**RECESS:**

Mayor Deeds made a motion to recess until Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 3pm to approve the budget after Mr. Scot Loyd makes the appropriate corrections that were discussed. Seconded by Commissioner Farmer and carried unanimously.

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ZACH DEEDS, Mayor

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

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BRIANNA GARTEN, City Clerk