

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

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

PRESENT:	Gary Schmidt	Mayor
	Doug Meyer	Commissioner
	Don Peters	Commissioner
	Jason Leslie	Commissioner
	Zach Deeds	Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:	Bruce Pinkall	City Manager
	LuAnn Kramer	City Clerk
	Regina Probst	City Attorney
	Diana Garten	Finance Director
	Nate Humble	Chief of Police
	Russell Rambat	Public Works Director
	Jamie Huber	Dir. of Electric Utilities

**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:**

- September 08, 2020 Regular Commission Meeting

Commissioner Leslie made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 08, 2020 regular Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and carried unanimously.

**BUSINESS:**

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A SANITATION TRUCK:**

Public Works Director Rambat stated that the need to upgrade the fleet in the sanitation department had been discussed during budget and he had gone out for bids a few weeks ago. Mr. Rambat commented that parts were eating into the budget items and that was not sufficient. Mr. Rambat explained that he had sent bid requests out to three vendors and had gotten one back, which was the same as it had been in 2018. Mr. Rambat stated that he had made it clear in the bid specs that this truck would not be purchased until 2021, but it was usually took about eight months to get it.

Mr. Rambat explained that the one bid was from Truck Center out of Wichita and it came in at

\$149,784 and that was almost identical to the last one. Mr. Rambat commented that it was important to keep the guys in good equipment, because they run them six days a week and provide a good service to the customers. Commissioner Meyer asked how it was going to be paid for. Finance Director Garten stated that they had the money in their reserve funds. Ms. Garten reminded the Commission that their last truck was a lease/purchase. Ms. Garten added that they put \$50,000 in capital reserves each year, so they would have enough to pay for this at the end of 2021. Mr. Rambat stated that there was one truck that they were wanting to do away with that was throwing codes and constantly in the shop and a local vendor quoted them \$6,000 to swap and upgrade the chassis to another truck. Mr. Rambat commented that you did not get anything on a trade-in; therefore, we would just put it on Purple Wave.

Mr. Rambat stated that the warranty was two years on the cab and chassis and the packer was twelve months or 2,000 hours. Mayor Schmidt questioned if the mechanics were about the same. Mr. Rambat stated that the smaller hydraulic cylinders were something we work over, but the top cylinders we had to use a local mechanic for. Mayor Schmidt commented that a lot could happen from now to the end of the year and asked if we could take advantage of the lease/purchase if we approve this purchase tonight. Ms. Garten stated that we would not have to pay for this until it was ready, so we could if we had to.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Deeds made a motion to approve the purchase of a sanitation truck from Truck Center out of Wichita for \$149,784 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leslie and carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A USED TRACTOR WITH ACCESSORIES FOR THE STREET DEPARTMENT:**

Public Works Director Rambat stated that the street department's tractor was being used by another department when the engine blew out, so that piece of equipment got moved up on the priority list in the budget. Mr. Rambat commented that there was money being put back and the tractor was not usable in its current state and it was a 1979. Mr. Rambat explained that Street Superintendent Sinclair had done some checking around and found a used tractor that had a cab and had air control and a front loader bucket along with attachments that we had not had in the past. Mr. Rambat added that they would be able to use this one in the winter since it had a cab and it would be able to be used to load trucks with sand.

Mr. Rambat stated that they went out for bids even though Mr. Sinclair had found this used one at Murphy Tractor in Park City for \$67,934.26. Mr. Rambat commented that they asked for bids on new ones to see where they were at and Murphy Tractor had bid a new one at \$99,253.91, Victor L Philips bid \$80,510.73 and Wichita Tractor did not submit a bid. Mr. Rambat stated that it did not make sense for us to buy new. Mr. Sinclair stated that he had gone over to test the used tractor at Murphy and they had put a new box blade on it, new tires, a new grill and repaired little stuff they did not have to. Mr. Sinclair commented that the machine looks new and this was a really good deal. Mr. Rambat stated that this got moved up in the budget and something else got moved down, but this was a piece of equipment that was used by other departments. Commissioner Leslie asked what the value of the tires were. Mr. Rambat estimated that they were probably around \$4,000 to \$5,000. Mr. Sinclair added that the blade was around \$2,000 to \$3,000. Commissioner Peters asked if it still had some warranty. Mr. Rambat stated that it did and it only had 1600 hours on it.

Mr. Rambat stated that the age of Mr. Sinclair's fleet proved that he gets the 'goody' out of what he has. Mr. Rambat added that the alleys were a big thing and he asked that the Commission consider the purchase of the used tractor from Murphy Tractor. Mr. Sinclair stated that this tractor would pull

a mower and could pull the alley drag. With no more discussion, Commissioner Meyer made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2016 used tractor from Murphy Tractor in the amount of \$67,934.26. The motion was seconded by Mayor Schmidt and carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF BID FOR AUDITING SERVICES FOR 2020, 2021 AND 2022:**

Finance Director Garten stated that she had sent out proposals for auditing services to seven firms and three responded; however, one of those was just letting her know they were declining due to a shortage in staff. Ms. Garten informed the Commission that the two firms that did return bids were Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball and their bid was \$15,200 for 2020 and BKD bid \$17,450 for 2020. Ms. Garten reminded the Commission that ABBB had worked with us for nine years and BKD had been our auditor the past three years and both were knowledgeable firms. Ms. Garten stated that ABBB had the lesser of the two bids, but she had no preference. Commissioner Meyer stated that ABBB had done a good job and it was impressive that they came in lower than previously. Ms. Garten commented that we were an easy audit for them to work with.

Commissioner Peters asked about the cyber security savings that BKD had in their bid. Ms. Garten stated that they look at our set-up and see if all things were in place. Ms. Garten added that, if we wanted an extended look, they would charge more. City Manager Pinkall added that we keep this on the forefront and people were more and more at risk. Commissioner Meyer commented that we did have insurance. Ms. Garten stated that we did and Mr. Greg Garrison with Quality Tech Computer had also looked into it. Commissioner Peters commented that ABBB had in their bid that they would answer questions if we called them. Ms. Garten stated that they never stopped doing that; however, BKD did that also.

Mayor Schmidt asked Ms. Garten to explain a single audit. Ms. Garten explained that if you had received \$750,000 in federal funds, they require a single audit to make sure it was being spent correctly. Ms. Garten stated that the wastewater treatment plant project was federally funded in 2014; therefore, we had to do a single audit and they charge extra for that.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Meyer made a motion to approve the bid from Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball Chtd. for three years as described. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and carried unanimously.

**OPEN AGENDA:**

No one in the audience wished to address the agenda.

**REPORTS:**

**City Manager:**

- **Thanks to staff:**

City Manager Pinkall thanked the staff for working through things that were planned or not planned. Mr. Pinkall commented that they think about the budget funds as being the community's money and they did not always have to have the newest equipment and tonight was proof of that.

- **SPARKS funds:**

Mr. Pinkall stated that he had gotten notification that the SPARK funds were available. Mr. Pinkall commented that Ms. Garten would be handling how we would apply for that and get reimbursed. Mr. Pinkall added that we had to get the funds spent before December 31<sup>st</sup> and we had already spent about \$20,000 or \$30,000 by ordering laptops, looking at a phone system, networking amongst departments and business, like the Community Center, Municipal Building, tennis court, swimming pool and scout cabin.

- **Security system:**

Mr. Pinkall stated that the security system for City Hall was in progress and there were cameras in place, but they were not activated yet. Mr. Pinkall commented that they should be in the next two weeks and we would have a demonstration on how to arm and disarm it. Mr. Pinkall stated that it was user friendly and used internet explorer and did have a battery back-up. Commissioner Leslie asked if the police department had access. Mr. Pinkall stated that they did and each person would have their own individual pin.

- **Airport waterline:**

Mr. Pinkall stated that the airport waterline project was moving along. Mr. Pinkall commented that the pump station was impressive and was much bigger inside than it looked like from the outside. Mayor Schmidt asked if there would be security out there. Public Works Director Rambat stated that there would be. Mr. Rambat added that he thought that the electricians had about another two weeks and then they would start getting stuff put online. Commissioner Peters asked if we were within the budget. Mr. Rambat stated that we had some contingency money left and we were well past any big ticket items. Mr. Pinkall added that once the project was completed, we would be able to lease water rights and create some revenue for us. Mr. Pinkall added that there were a couple of businesses that were interested in that. Mayor Schmidt asked when or how we receive the grant money. Finance Director Garten commented that it was actually loan funds and the forgiven portion had already been done. Ms. Garten stated that we had twenty-four draw downs and that was about 59% of the money. Ms. Garten added that we draw the funds as the bills come in.

- **Waterline & ED:**

Commissioner Peters asked about the waterline behind the motels discussed at the last meeting and the meeting with Economic Development. Mr. Pinkall stated that he had met with the ED board, because Mr. Dale Withers wanted to put another business in there for changing oil and doing repair work. Mr. Pinkall commented that it would be just straight north of Casey's and we had water that dead ends at the hotel coming south. Mr. Pinkall explained that if we brought the line south to Dale Street and connect to Fincham Street we would end the loop and he could get water going north. Mr. Pinkall stated that he went to the ED Board to see what they would do in assisting us in doing that and to see if they had any capabilities of other businesses coming in. Mr. Pinkall commented that it was an interesting meeting and there was some concern about other entities having to pay for their water that was going to have to be put in shortly and ED not helping them. Mr. Pinkall stated that, if he could get Mr. Withers to give us the water rights going further east on Dale Street, they might be interested in paying for that. Mr. Pinkall added that, if we could get another interest in there, they might be an easier thought to say they would help.

- **Lemon Park:**

Commissioner Peters stated that the railing looks nice at the Lemon Park bathroom. Commissioner Peters asked if there would be about seven or eight ADA parking spots. Mr. Pinkall stated that he thought there

might be four by that bathroom because of the spacing needed.

- **Angood Field:**

Commissioner Peters asked if the college was helping with what Younie Lawnscape was doing at Angood Field. Mr. Pinkall stated that he did not think so. Commissioner Peters asked if they were wanting fescue in there. Mr. Pinkall stated that they were not trying to fix Angood. Mr. Pinkall commented that, after the flood, they had tried to over-seed and Bermuda got in there.

**City Attorney:**

- **Working on different projects:**

City Attorney Probst stated that she had been working with departments on different projects, such as job descriptions, franchise fees and working on training for law enforcement this week. Ms. Probst commented that she was also staying updated on legislative items.

**Public Works:**

- **Meeting with KDOT:**

Public Works Director Rambat stated that City Manager Pinkall, Finance Director Garten and he had met with KDOT concerning a cost share program where there were some share funds available to Cities and Counties. Mr. Rambat commented that there was a 15% match and this share program was a lot looser on how you could use the money. Mr. Rambat explained that he had a green list of what would benefit the community and he had to do a fast stream application, because there were only two times a year we could apply. Mr. Rambat stated that he would like to get the alleys from downtown to Sixth Street replaced. Mr. Rambat commented that he cringes on doing that with street money after he got an estimate from a local contractor of \$250,000 to \$260,000. Mr. Rambat stated that he would be talking to a couple of businesses to get letters of support.

- **Mill and overlay:**

Mr. Rambat stated that the mill and overlay project should start this week or next.

- **Email to railroad:**

Mr. Rambat commented that he had sent an email to the railroad about how rough the tracks were on south Main Street. Mr. Rambat explained that they had said that they would send someone out to look at them.

**Electric Department:**

- **Equipment breakdowns:**

Director of Electric Utilities Huber stated that it had been a long couple of weeks trying to keep equipment running. Mr. Huber added that he had four pieces of equipment quit running.

- **Lemon Park:**

Mr. Huber stated that the guys had all the conduit underground at Lemon Park and they would be pulling wire tomorrow

- **Parkwood Village:**

Mr. Huber stated that they had gotten the transformer moved at Parkwood Village, so they had been out of power half of the morning. Mr. Huber added that Integreen Services' transformer did not show up until after noon, but the project had gone pretty well.

**Police Department:**

- **In-house training:**

Police Chief Humble stated that they would be getting more in-house training for the officers and training on records management. Chief Humble commented that they would also have CAD training for dispatch and we would be hosting that at the library with about twenty-five people in attendance.

- **K-9 and Officer training:**

Chief Humble stated that Officer Gimpel would start with the school on October 25<sup>th</sup> and he also had had his first training with the Dodge City K-9 trainer. Chief Humble reported that the trainer's first report was that it would not take as much time as anticipated, because the connection between the officer and the dog were far ahead of what he had thought it would be.

- **911 calls:**

Commissioner Peters asked about the 911 calls last month that were wrong numbers or hang-ups. Chief Humble stated that those could be cell phone pocket dials. Commissioner Peters questioned how they know if it was a real emergency or not. Chief Humble stated that they listen and can pin point the location and they respond to it.

- **Thefts:**

Commissioner Leslie asked if there was any more news on the thefts and if there were any vehicles. Chief Humble stated that there had been vehicles involved and they had recovered one vehicle. Chief Humble commented that the County had more than the City, but had recovered two. Chief Humble added that one suspect had been apprehended and he might be the connection to others.

**ADJOURN:**

Mayor Schmidt made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leslie and carried unanimously.

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR:

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GARY A. SCHMIDT, Mayor

7 – September 21, 2020 (Regular Commission meeting)



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ATTEST:

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LUANN KRAMER, City Clerk