

MONDAY

MARCH 20, 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 (Zoom)
	LuAnn Kramer	City Clerk
	Brent Carver	Finance Director
	Nate Humble	Police Chief
	Regina Goff	City Attorney
	Russell Rambat	Public Works Director
	Brad Blankenship	Building Inspector
	Jamie Huber	Director of Electric Utilities

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Deeds. The Mayor instructed the Clerk to note 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 Siemens made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 06, 2023 regular Commission meeting. Commissioner Farmer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RE-APPOINTMENTS OF DEB KENDALL AND GARY TRIMPE TO THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD:

Mayor Deeds stated that the Airport Authority Board was asking for the reappointment of Mr. Gary Trimpe and Ms. Deb Kendall. With little discussion, Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the reappointments of Ms. Deb Kendall and Mr. Gary Trimpe to the Airport Authority Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schmidt and carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO USE FEDERAL FUND EXCHANGE FUNDS FOR CITY PROJECTS:

Public Works Director Rambat stated that the State allocates Federal funding each year and it was determined by the number of lanes you had. Mr. Rambat explained that there was a lot of red tape because it was Federal money; however, with the State's Federal Fund Exchange Program, it removed the red tape and allowed a much broader use of the funds. Mr. Rambat added that cities get to keep \$.90 of every dollar and this year we would receive \$89,411.84.

Mr. Rambat stated that he had a couple of projects for that money and, if we participate in the program, we would receive \$80,470.66 and have a broader use of the fund to work with. Mr. Rambat commented that he would initially take the money out of street reserves and then submit an invoice for reimbursement. Mr. Rambat stated that he was looking to use the money for the first block of alley replacement on Main Street. With no more discussion, Commissioner Meyer made a motion to approve the Federal Fund Exchange funds as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schmidt and carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE APPLICATION FOR THE 2025/2026 KDOT PAVEMENT RESTORATION FUNDING REQUEST FOR SOUTH MAIN:

Public Works Director Rambat stated that the City had already been approved for four blocks of South Main Street from Sixth Street to Tenth Street and had the funding in place; however, he was submitting for the remaining four blocks. Mr. Rambat commented that he had visited with Mr. Joel Krosschell with EBH Engineering and he had suggested splitting it up. Mr. Rambat added that this would not happen until late 2024 or 2025. Mr. Rambat explained that this project would tear out the middle 26' and go all the way up to the railroad tracks. Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve moving forward with the application for the 2025/2026 KDOT Pavement Restoration Funding Request for South Main Street. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICY REGARDING SEXUAL HARASSMENT:

City Attorney Goff stated that the State had tied this sexual harassment policy resolution to State funding. Ms. Goff commented that it was a requirement that complies with State and Federal laws. Commissioner Meyer asked if we did not already have a policy as part of our personnel manual. Ms. Goff stated that there would be a lot of changes to that policy that compliments this. Commissioner Meyer questioned if there would be training. Ms. Goff stated that there was someone at the State level that would provide that and she would get that scheduled. With little more discussion, Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the policy regarding sexual harassment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

OPEN AGENDA:

No one in the audience wished to address the Commission.

REPORTS:

City Manager:

- **Pool:**

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City Manager Pinkall reported via zoom that the pool pictures of the pool were being updated regularly on the website. Mr. Pinkall commented that the block structure of the bath house should be completed next week.

- **Disc Golf:**

Mr. Pinkall stated that there had been some concerns with disc golf after the tournaments in the park. Mr. Pinkall commented that there were some people that were playing after the tournament was over; however, Park Superintendent Quint was being pro-active and taking the baskets down and putting them in the compound. Mr. Pinkall stated that he would have a discussion with them if that continues.

- **KRWA Conference:**

Mr. Pinkall stated that he would be at the KRWA conference a couple of days next week in Wichita.

- **Baymont Hotel:**

Mr. Pinkall informed the Commission that the open house for the Baymont Hotel was April 4th.

City Attorney:

- **Travel and Tourism:**

City Attorney Goff stated that she had been doing some training with Travel and Tourism and thought that it went well.

- **Attorney Forum:**

Ms. Goff commented that she would also be at the KRWA Conference for the attorney forum. Ms. Goff stated that there were some complicated things when it came to water.

Public Works:

- **Cameras in Lemon Park:**

Public Works Director Rambat stated that he was moving forward with a quote he had gotten from Q-Tech for cameras for Lemon Park. Mr. Rambat commented that they suggested having two cameras with one for incoming traffic and one for the traffic leaving the park. Mr. Rambat added that it would have the ability to retain the recordings for two weeks.

- **KRWA Conference:**

Mr. Rambat stated that he would also be attending the KRWA Conference over the three days to keep his certification.

Building Inspections:

- **Pool:**

Building Inspector Blankenship informed the Commission that he had been gone for eleven days so he had three inspections waiting for him at the pool today.

- **Front door:**

Mr. Blankenship stated that he had taken bids for a new front door before he had left on vacation. Mr. Blankenship explained that the current door leaked air and snow was coming in during the last snow we had. Mr. Blankenship commented that they would be getting a new handicap mechanism also because this one did not meet specifications.

- **South Jackson:**

Mayor Deeds asked if he had heard anything about the house on South Jackson. Mr. Blankenship stated that we had gotten the ribbon around it, but he had not heard anything else.

Electric Department:

- **New Truck:**

Director of Electric Utilities Huber stated that the new truck that was to be here last week should be here in three weeks now. Mr. Huber commented that, if we order one now, it might be here in 2027.

Police Department:

- **Patrol cars:**

Police Chief Humble stated that they were in the same shape with patrol cars. Chief Humble commented that they had looked at buying vehicles at the Kansas Highway Patrol, but you had to get put on a two-year waiting list. Chief Humble stated that he went ahead and had them put us on the list.

- **Quarterly meeting:**

Chief Humble stated that they had had their quarterly meeting with dispatch and it went well. Chief Humble commented that they went over the budget with all that were there. Chief Humble stated that City and County rescue had not come to an agreement yet, but they were working on it.

- **Academy:**

Chief Humble stated that he got one back from the academy and that helped by not having the numbers stretched so far.

Finance Department:

- **911 Budget:**

Finance Director Carver stated that he had given the 911 Budget to the County and the City Commissioners.

- **Financials:**

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Mr. Carver commented that the 2022 financials had been completed and he would be moving on to the next project.

Mayor and Commission:

- **Economic Development:**

Mayor Deeds stated that he had been going to the Economic Development meetings and thought they went very well. Mayor Deeds commented that he was encouraged with the Commission's appointees. Mayor Deeds informed the Commission that they were going to reach out to other boards to get some ideas of what they were doing to create some excitement and see what they could come up with.

- **Executive Session:**

Mayor Deeds stated that he would be asking for an executive session at the end of the regular meeting.

- **Legislative Bills:**

Commissioner Farmer stated that he had mentioned at the last meeting about the legislative bill coming thorough concerning eliminating food sales tax beginning January 2024. Commissioner Farmer commented that he was happy to report that that died in committee. Commissioner Farmer stated that we had to be vigilant on watching those home rule bills. Commissioner Farmer thanked those legislatures for killing Bill 248.

Executive Session:

Mayor Deeds made a motion to go into executive session for thirty minutes to discuss non-elected personnel and to return at 6:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to return from executive session at 6:00 p.m. with nothing to report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and it carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

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

ZACH DEEDS, Mayor

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

LUANN KRAMER, City Clerk

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