

City Commission of Arkansas City — Special Meeting Minutes

The Arkansas City Board of City Commissioners met in special session at **5 p.m. Tuesday, October 29, 2019**, in the City Manager's Office at City Hall, located at 118 W. Central Ave. in Arkansas City.

Mayor **Jay Warren** called the meeting to order. Commissioners also present at roll call were Commissioners **Kanyon Gingher, Duane L. Oestmann, Jim Sybrant** and **Karen Welch**.

City employees present were City Manager **Nick Hernandez**, City Clerk **Lesley Shook**, Public Information Officer **Andrew Lawson**, Management Assistant **Mike Crandall**, Finance Director **Kathy Cornwell**, Environmental Services Superintendent **Rod Philo**, and Street & Stormwater Maintenance Worker II **Chad Beeson**. City engineer **Chris Meinen** represented Smith & Oakes, Inc.

Citizens in attendance included **Brandon Every, Ken Harader, Phillip Harader, Mell Kuhn, Jim Neal, Travis Pearman**, Rep. **Bill Rhiley** and Cowley CourierTraveler reporter **John Shelman**.

Business

Emergency Water Line Repair Resolution No. 2019-10-3290

Chris Meinen presented for discussion the need to relocate a 16-inch water line that connects the south well field to the Water Treatment Facility after it was washed out earlier this year by flooding.

He explained how utility relocation had occurred away from the new West Madison Avenue bridge during the construction process. The line was relocated north, but still within the right-of-way.

Meinen passed out photos of the damage and explained how the pipe exposure led to line damage.

He said the Kansas Department of Transportation's (KDOT) plan is to dump rip-rap into the drainage ditch and he does not want to see the City's line buried beneath this heavy stone material.

Now that he has seen KDOT's plan, unveiled in September, Meinen thinks the best course of action for the City is to relocate the water line out of the right-of-way entirely onto properties to the north.

This would require a utility easement from the owners of the easternmost property, John and Lynda Neal. This latter property is under contract for a transfer of ownership to the Avocado Beach Club.

Commissioner Sybrant announced that his son-in-law, Phillip Harader, is a member of the Avocado Beach Club and as a result, Sybrant would be recusing himself from any vote on this matter.

Environmental Services Superintendent Philo said the south well field currently is shut down.

Meinen said the new alignment of the pipe will be many feet higher than the ditch and about 100 feet longer as an overall pathway. This should help to protect it from future flooding-related issues.

City Manager Hernandez said this project will be eligible for possible hazard mitigation funding.

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If approved, 75 percent of the cost would be paid for by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), 12.5 percent by the State of Kansas and 12.5 percent (about **\$18,000**) by the City.

Commissioner Gingher asked for the price of the easement. Meinen said he and the club verbally agreed on **\$2,000.00**. It is not an acquisition of property, just an easement for this particular line.

Commissioner Sybrant asked how many members the club has. Phillip Harader estimated 30 to 32.

The club said it is concerned about KDOT removing the single-wire fence separating the property from the bridge area. Mayor Warren pitched the idea of building a replacement fence for the club.

Commissioner Oestmann made a motion to authorize the City to enter into an agreement with Nowak Construction, of Goddard, for an emergency repair to the south well field water line, for an amount not to exceed **\$144,953**, plus fence replacement costs. Mayor Warren seconded the motion.

A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion, with Commissioner Sybrant recusing himself.

Mayor Warren declared the motion approved and given **Resolution No. 2019-10-3290**.

Adjournment

Commissioner Oestmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Warren seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mayor Warren declared the meeting adjourned at **5:49 p.m.**

THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS

Jay Warren, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lesley Shook, City Clerk

Prepared by:

Andrew Lawson, Public Information Officer