

City of Clearwater, Kansas
Sedgwick County
City Council Meeting - **MINUTES**
July 14, 2020
Clearwater City Hall – Council Chambers
129 E. Ross Avenue Clearwater, KS 67026

1. Call to Order/ Invocation and Flag Salute

Mayor Burt Ussery called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed the invocation and flag salute.

2. Roll Call

The City Clerk called the roll to confirm the presence of a quorum. The following members were present: Mayor Burt Ussery, Councilmembers; Justin Shore and Shirley Palmer-Witt, were present.

Chris Griffin, Chad Pike and Yvonne Coon were absent.

The following staff members were present:

Ron Marsh, City Administrator, Courtney Meyer, City Clerk, Chadd Posch, Jared Dinwiddie, Kirk Ives, Ernie Misak, Jennifer Hill.

Mayor Ussery took the time to introduce the new City Attorney, Jennifer Hill with McDonald Tinker.

3. Public Forum

Jan McDiffett, a resident of the County, wanted to raise awareness to Council about the importance of wearing face asks.

Chris Griffin enters at 6:33pm.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Ussery stated there were modifications to the agenda.

Mayor Ussery called for a motion to approve the agenda as modified.

Motion: *Shore* moved, *Palmer-Witt* seconded to accept the agenda as modified. Voted and passed unanimously.

5. Approve Consent Agenda

Mayor Ussery asked if there was any question on the consent agenda and if not asked for a motion to approve.

Minutes: 06/23/20

Minutes: 06/30/20

Claims and Warrants

Facility Use Agreement with API

Motion: *Palmer-Witt* moved, *Shore* seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Voted and passed unanimously.

6. Staff Reports

a. Police Department – Kirk Ives – Councilmember Griffin asked Chief Ives if he has reviewed the Emergency Preparedness plan. Chief Ives said he has started reviewing and so far it looks good but has not had the opportunity to review the whole plan yet. Council had no other questions.

b. Fire Department –Jared Dinwiddie –Council had no other questions.

- c. Public Works – Ernie Misak – Council had no other questions.
- d. Parks & Maintenance – Chadd Posch – Council had no other questions.

7. ARC 95 Project

Dan Squires, P.E. & Lynn Packer, P.E. went through the planning and vision of the ARC 95 project with City Council.

8. Business

a. Budget Discussion

Marsh stated there has been no questions or calls from anyone regarding the budget since the last meeting. Mayor Ussery asked if there was any further discussion from Council. No further discussion from Council.

b. Approve publication of Budget and Set Budget Hearing Dates

Motion: *Palmer-Witt* moved, *Shore* seconded to approve the publication of the budget and set the budget hearing for August 11th at 6:30pm. Voted and passed unanimously.

c. Fall Festival Discussion

Mayor Ussery stated that in light of the State Fair cancelling due to the pandemic he thought it would be best to discuss with the Fall Festival committee if their plans have changed due to the pandemic.

Mayor Ussery asked what the financial risk was for the Fall Festival Committee if the festival was to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

Rachel Chamber, President of the Fall Festival Committee, said there is no risk as of right now. There will not be any penalties from the carnival if the festival is cancelled due to COVID-19. The food vendors are still scheduled to show up except for 2. She stated that right now they are not planning on any events indoors but does not know yet if the Methodist Church was planning anything. She believes the inflatables will be out because there is no way to cleanse them between each use.

Mayor Ussery asked for the Fall Festival to follow up with all vendors and see what plans they have in place due to the pandemic. i.e. cleaning schedules or plans for people in lines.

Mayor Ussery also asked that Fall Festival to give council an update at each meeting so everyone is on the same page.

There was a consensus by the governing body that there was no need to cancel the Fall Festival at this time but wanted constant updates at each meeting.

d. Face Mask Ordinance Discussion

Mayor Ussery stated on July 2nd the State of Kansas mandated wearing face masks when in public. City of Wichita adopted an ordinance in support of the order and added an enforcement category. Sedgwick County has stated they endorse the State mandate for wearing face masks.

Mayor Ussery does not believe that City of Clearwater needs to adopt an ordinance to re-state what the State and County have already done. The only reason to adopt an ordinance at this time would be to make the wearing of masks enforceable by law.

Palmer-Witt believes it would be tough to enforce and it would be huge burden for the police

department to enforce.

Shore wanted to know if it would be better to adopt a Resolution in support of the order so the County knew that Clearwater was in favor of the face mask mandate. The resolution would be a formal statement to the County from City that we were in favor of their decision.

Ussery, Griffin and Palmer-Witt aren't in favor of an ordinance

Marsh suggested sending letters to businesses asking them to consider asking patrons to wear masks when in their store. Also, the City could run a face mask campaign on Facebook to make people aware of the importance of wearing a face mask.

Council agreed to run a face mask campaign but didn't feel it was necessary to send letters out. Mayor Ussery stated that Counsel could draft a resolution for next meeting for their review.

9. Administrators Report

- If you have not noticed, one of the banners advertising our housing incentives is on the Clearwater sign at K42 and 135th St. We were unable to hang the banner for the other sign at Broadway and 103rd St. The grass is too high and blocked the banner. We need to reconsider the banners: we tried to put too much info on the banner, and most is too small to read at 65 mph.
- The Governing Body Institute originally scheduled for July 31 – Aug 1 has been rescheduled for July 30-31.
- After prom committee has notified us that they have canceled their event this year.
- Certified Engineering Design will begin the pavement assessment study tomorrow.

10. Governing Body Comments

Griffin had nothing to report.

Palmer-Witt had nothing to report.

Shore commented he really like the post of the police officer playing basketball with the kids.

Ussery reported that the 2020 high school graduation will be outdoors 7/26/20 starting at 8:00 pm.

11. Adjournment

With no further discussion Mayor Ussery called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: *Palmer-Witt* moved; *Shore* seconded to adjourn the meeting. Voted and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

CERTIFICATE

State of Kansas }
County of Sedgwick }
City of Clearwater }

I, Courtney Meyer, City Clerk of the City of Clearwater, Sedgwick County, Kansas, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the July 14, 2020 City Council meeting.

Given under my hand and official seal of the City of Clearwater, Kansas, this 28th day of July 2020

Courtney Meyer, City Clerk