

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
January 3, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, and Police Officer Benjamin Kolas. City Attorney Olavee Raub attended virtually by Zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Tammy Leiker, James Bell, and Neal Younger.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on December 20, 2021 and Bills Ordinance #2132. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Financial

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve Resolution No. 580 waiving Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for financial statement reporting for 2022. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Policy

Annually, Council designates the official newspapers and official banks for the City to use. Council member John Walz moved to designate the Hays Daily News and Ellis Review as official newspapers; Equity Bank and Golden Belt Bank as official banks within the City limits; and Emprise Bank and Commerce Bank as the official banks outside the City limits. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Financial

City Clerk Amy Burton requested Council approval for incoming Clerk I Toni Jensen to have signature authority on certain bank information. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to authorize Toni Jensen to have signature authority on the safe deposit box at Golden Belt Bank and the petty cash account at Equity Bank. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented his monthly report. Employees tended to a

water leak on Sunday in the area of Cottonwood and 14th Street. Residents in that area were personally notified of a boil order advisory.

Police

Police Officer Benjamin Kolas presented the Monthly Activity Report for December. The Department handled 1,586 incidents during 2021. Officer Kolas reported that two candidates for the vacant positions have been extended conditional offers of employment and both have accepted.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton distributed various council orientation resources in lieu of additional training. Ms. Burton reminded Council of the City Christmas party on January 8th at the VFW.

Attorney

Mayor Update and Announcements

Congressman Tracey Mann will be at the Hays Public Library on January 5th at 8:00 a.m. for a Town Hall meeting.

Mayor David McDaniel asked for Council to brainstorm Council goals for 2022 to discuss at the January 17, 2022 Council meeting and also asked for Council to offer possible candidates for annual City Committee appointments.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Mayor David McDaniel asked for a motion to recess into executive session. Council member John Walz moved for City Council to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss staffing in the Police Department pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1) with City Clerk Amy Burton present. The open meeting will resume at 7:55 p.m. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. No action was taken in executive session and the open meeting resumed.

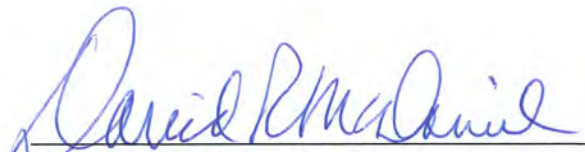
POST EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel: Position Change

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the hiring of Avery Smith as the Ellis Chief of Police effective January 4, 2022. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Mayor

City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
January 17, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, and Jolene Niernberger. Council members Tricia Pritchett and John Walz attended virtually. Also present were Public Works Foreman Joe Kreutzer, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, Fire Chief Dustin Vine, and City Attorney Olavee Raub (arrived at 7:37 p.m.). Council member Martin LaBarge was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Neal Younger, Darin Myers, Lyle Pantle, James Bell, Glen Keller, Erin Henderson, Nickole Byers, Benjamin Kolas, and Dustin Mattheyer (arrived at 7:40 p.m.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on January 3, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2133, and the Manual Journal Entries for November 2021. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

Fire: Personnel

Fire Chief Dustin Vine announced four individuals have joined the Fire Department bringing the Department to a full crew of twenty volunteers.

General Government: Special Project

Darin Myers, Ellis County Fire Chief, and Lyle Pantle, Ellis County Emergency Manager, discussed the possibility of applying for Community Development Block Grant Funds to help fund a joint City/County emergency service building in Ellis that would house Ellis County Company 6 Fire, EMS, and Ellis City Fire. The current County EMS and Company 6 buildings lack office and meeting space and are in need of repair. A joint building would allow the County and the City to share utility costs and possibly equipment and gear. The County has obtained a proposal from WSKF Architects in the amount of \$6,000.00 to conduct a needs analysis and design for the new facility. The County would pay the cost to hire the architect. Mr. Pantle plans to present the proposed project to the County Commission at a future meeting. After further discussion, Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to continue exploration of the joint City/County Emergency Service building. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Special Project

Public Works Foreman Joe Kreutzer reported that little progress has been made on the cleanup of the fire damage at 502 W. 3rd Street. In November, Council gave the owner until

February 1, 2022 to have the site cleaned up or risk forfeiture of the fire lien proceeds. The owner was issued a citation for trash and debris blowing and that violation has been cleared. The owner verbally requested an extension of time for cleanup but was not present at the Council meeting. City Attorney Olavee Raub stated the City could either grant a time extension or start condemnation proceedings. Due to the timeline outlined in State Statute, the owner would in effect still receive an extension while the City met statutory publication and hearing guidelines. The City could revoke the condemnation proceedings at any time if the owner completes cleanup. Ms. Raub further explained the condemnation procedures and suggested the public hearing be set for April 4th, granting the property owner over two more months for cleanup. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved for City Attorney Olavee Raub to prepare the notice of condemnation proceedings pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1750 et seq. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Traffic

Police Chief Avery Smith discussed recent complaints about the north truck route, including a business placing illegal "no parking" signage, trucks blocking driveways and parking on private property, and trucks idling all night. Chief Smith requested guidance on his authority to increase signage to prevent additional complaints. City Attorney Olavee Raub referenced the City's current ordinance regarding trucks not allowed to park in excess of two hours, and the Standard Traffic Ordinance prohibiting blocking driveways. Ms. Raub stated the Police Department should issue citations for violators and strictly enforce the two ordinances to lessen complaints. Council also suggested adding "strictly enforced" to any new signs for the area.

General Government: Contracts

Council considered the Tourism Committee's recommendations for 2022 advertising contracts. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve the 2022 advertising contracts for Eagle Radio (\$2,400.00); Hays Post monthly impressions (\$1,200.00), and Nex-Tech google search (\$1,460.00). Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Campground: Special Project

Council considered a donation request from the EHS Alumni Association for campground passes for the alumni golf tournament and alumni banquet. Council member John Walz moved to approve a donation of two 2-day campground passes for the Ellis Alumni Association. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Council reviewed the Comparative Water Report for the period November 10th to December 10th and the Public Works memo.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith reported he is working with Motorola on a price quote for new body cameras.

Personnel: Entry

Danielle Nelson has been hired to fill one of the vacant positions and will start January 24th. The next hiring cycle will end January 31st.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the Health Insurance Savings Report for December and the November 2021 Financial Statements. The Kansas Department of Agriculture approved the City's request to extend the Trego County well project. Ms. Burton and Chief Smith are

looking into a panic button system for the Clerk's office. The Ellis County Sheriff's department is gathering information for staff to present at the next meeting.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub reported she will be absent at the February 7th Council meeting.

Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel reviewed the Governing Body's 2021 goals. Items accomplished included maintenance of the brick streets, park improvements, continued development of the Trego County well project, improvements to the water and sewer infrastructure, revamping the employee's wage structure, continuing the street maintenance program, completion of a traffic study for the south TIF district, streaming of the Council meetings, and completing the LMI survey.

2021 goals in progress include improving downtown revitalization, implementing a trap/neuter/release program for feral cats, and addressing blighted structures downtown.

2021 goals not completed or in progress include increasing wheelchair access on City sidewalks, improving downtown sidewalks, conducting an annual community survey, development of a skate park, development of a dog park, establishing a community and youth center, finding affordable housing options, improvements to Mount Hope Cemetery, getting youth involved in government, and modernizing the pool bathhouse.

Mayor McDaniel then requested input for the Governing Body's 2022 goals. The following projects were mentioned: continuation of the Trego County well project, explore grant opportunities to widen east 10th Street, brick replacement on Washington Street, downtown building revitalization, TNR program for feral cats, hosting a weekly listening program for citizens to talk to governing body members, development of an emergency management notification system, development of a City app for smart phones, improving wheelchair access on City sidewalks, participation in the Main Street Program, the TIF housing project, address shortage of childcare, distribution of a community survey, continue water and street infrastructure improvements, park improvements, replacement of the outdated Christmas decorations, youth involvement in government, and exploring options for a community building.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Devin Henderson moved and Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.


Mayor

City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
February 7, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, and Police Chief Avery Smith. City Attorney Olavee Raub was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Danielle Nelson, Brian Shannon, and Randy Murphy.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on January 17, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2134. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Officer Danielle Nelson introduced herself to Council and stated she was proud to work for the City of Ellis.

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Special Project

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve Resolution No. 581 scheduling the condemnation hearing for 502 W. 3rd Street on April 4, 2022. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Clerk: Acquisition

Detective Brian Shannon, Ellis County Sheriff's Department, provided information regarding the proposed emergency notification system for the City Clerk's office. This is the same alert system used by the County offices. Once an alert is activated, within 1 ½ seconds emergency responders receive a pre-recorded message to respond to the location. The system also has the ability to send a text alert to other staff members or City officials. To purchase the system outright would cost close to \$14,000.00, but the County will allow the City to join their existing system if the City agrees to purchase the alarm system hardware and expansion module. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the purchase of the Centurion Gateway emergency notification system and six alert buttons from Response Technologies in the amount of \$6,445.00 with funds to come from the Special Machinery fund, contingent on Ellis County final approval. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Sewer: Acquisition

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to approve the purchase of one tote (approximately 2,300 lbs) of Fiberloc 9241 polymer from Brenntag in an amount not to exceed \$7,300.00 for

the Wastewater Treatment Plant belt press, with funds to come from the Sewer Utility fund. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Police: Acquisition

Police Chief Avery Smith presented two bids for an in-car camera system and five body cameras. The bids are identical except one bid includes a 3-year no fault warranty on the body cameras. The new patrol car already has the in-car camera system so this bid would add an in-car system to the Ford Explorer patrol vehicle. The quote also includes five charging bases and a data transfer station. Council member John Walz moved to approve the quote from Motorola Solutions/Watchguard Video for the in-car camera and body camera system with the 3-year warranty in the amount of \$13,286.00, with \$2,500.00 to come from the General-Police fund and \$10,786.00 to come from the Special Machinery fund. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Contracts

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the updated audit contract for 2021 for the City and 2021 Agreed Upon Procedure contracts for those entities the City provides significant funding. The City contract has just been updated to remove the Single Audit language since the City did not expend more than \$750,000 in Federal funds. The AUP contracts are annual contracts and this year includes a price increase to \$1,425.00 per entity. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve the contracts from AdamsBrown for audit services for 2021 for the City, the Ellis Community Foundation, Ellis Alliance, Ellis Railroad Museum, and Chrysler Foundation. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the Comparative Water Report for the period December 10, 2021 to January 10, 2022. The report indicates only 66.5% of the water pumped is accounted for, indicating numerous possible leaks underground. One large leak surfaced on 14th Street and water usage has decreased approximately 30,000 gallons per day since the leak has been repaired.

Mr. Leiker has prepared the annual letter to the Ellis County Commission requesting assistance with the annual street seal program. The area to be sealed in 2022 is the northwest part of town, from 6th Street and Washington up towards the swimming pool.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Activity Report for January. Four applications have been received for the vacant positions in the Department. The Clerk's office is in the process of conducting reference checks for the applicants. Officer Kolas recently attended Drug Conspiracy Investigation training in Hays and Officer Nelson may be able to start the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center in March.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the regular and special meetings of the Planning Commission. The annual Rabies Clinic will be February 12th from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the City shop. David Molstad shared information that the Ellis Lakeside Campground was listed in the Camper's Choice Awards Top 15 City Parks in the nation on the Campendium website.

Ms. Burton first alerted Council in November to an error on the City's final mill rate as reported by the County Clerk. Initial communication with the County Clerk's office indicated a possible software glitch. After months of continued communication with the County Clerk and the City auditor, Ms. Burton has been informed that the County is unable to correct the error.

Attorney

Council reviewed the Attorney's January billing statement for services rendered.

Mayor Update and Announcements


Mayor David McDaniel and Council members Jolene Niernberger and John Walz recently attended the League's Local Government Day in Topeka. Mayor McDaniel encouraged Council to consider attending the League's Governing Body Institute in April.

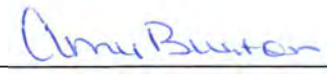
Council member Martin LaBarge was unable to attend the last Council meeting where members stated their goals for 2022. Mr. LaBarge's top four items include the Trego well project, continuing to improve the City streets and water and sewer infrastructure, timely replacement of equipment, and restoring the older buildings downtown.

Council member John Walz stated that Linda Smith has offered to help in the grant process for the Trap/Neuter/Release program for feral cats. Ms. Smith currently serves on the board at the Western Plains Animal Refuge.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.



Mayor

City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
February 21, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, Fire Chief Dustin Vine (arrived at 7:54 p.m.), and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, James Bell, Benjamin Kolas, and Nickole Byers (arrived at 7:32 p.m.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on February 7, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2135. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

Fire: Report

Fire Chief Dustin Vine presented his monthly report. The Department is preparing for Fire Prevention Week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Special Project

Council member Tricia Pritchett shared information that she researched regarding proposed ordinances for a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program for feral cats. Ellis resident and Western Plains Animal Refuge board member Linda Smith has offered to assist the City with grant writing services to help fund the program. The Council agreed that the first step in the process is to amend the current ordinance limiting five animals per residence. This will allow residents to care for the "community cats" without fear of violating City Code. The second step is to find a facility to house the trapped cats for five days at a time. The cats have a required holding period of three days prior to the procedure, in which the City must notify the public and post photos of the trapped cats. Day four, the veterinarian will spay or neuter the cat and clip its ear. The cat must be monitored for 24 hours after the procedure (day 5) before being returned to the trapping site. Ms. Pritchett suggested the Ellis Fairground buildings as an ideal location; however, the Fair Board has not been contacted yet. Depending on funding, the City may only be able to do 2-3 planned traps per year. Ms. Pritchett stressed the need for volunteers to help feed, water, and clean up after the cats for the holding periods. After further discussion, Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to draft an ordinance establishing a Trap-Neuter-Return program and to revise the current ordinance limiting the number of animals per residence. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Sanitation: Policy

Public Works Director John Leiker reported that a local farmer has agreed to take the City's grass clippings each week to avoid the City incurring additional landfill costs. Mr. Leiker would also like to start a small compost site by the concrete pile. As long as the site is less than one half of an acre, the State of Kansas only requires a berm on one side and for the site to be registered. This would provide another option for residents to dispose of grass clippings without paying for a grass cart.

NEW BUSINESS

Water: Acquisition

Mr. Leiker continued by requesting approval to purchase 85 auto-read water meters. Council budgeted \$40,000.00 for water meters in the Capital Improvement Plan in 2022. The Kansas Rural Water Association recently visited with Mr. Leiker to help the City try to determine why the percentage of water accounted for is so low. KRWA believes part of the issue could be a metering problem. The old meters tend to under-report water use; therefore, water is probably being used, but not metered. The auto-read meters will not only read more accurately, but they will also alert the Department to leaks faster. Council member John Walz moved to approve the purchase of seventy-five 3/4" meters and ten 1" meters from Metron-Farnier in the amount of \$33,026.50, with funds to come from the Water Depreciation Reserve fund. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Sanitation: Repair/Maintenance

Mr. Leiker reported that the 2014 International trash truck is in need of a new EGR cooler kit and possibly other repairs. This is the "new" truck purchased last fall. Unfortunately, there isn't a repair shop in the area so the truck will need to be taken to Dodge City or Salina. The estimate for repairs is significantly less from Dodge City. Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the repairs to the 2014 International sanitation truck in the estimated amount of \$4,344.86 with funds to come from the Sanitation fund. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

KRWA has also recommended that the City flow test each of the City's water wells to compare the water metered to actual water pumped. This might help narrow down the accountability issue to a certain well or meter. Mr. Leiker still believes that some of the water loss is due to underground leaks that haven't surfaced yet.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith reported that an altercation with a suspect resulted in an injury to an officer and damage to the Ford Explorer. Officer Nelson will start the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center on March 8th. The Department will hold interviews for applicants for the vacant officer positions on February 26th.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the Tourism Committee meetings on November 4, 2021 and January 13, 2022 and the Health Insurance Savings Report for January. The annual Rabies Clinic was a success with seventeen immunizations administered.

Attorney

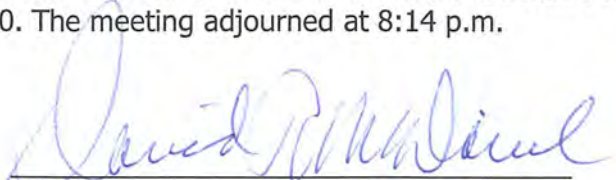
Mayor Update and Announcements

Council member John Walz suggested Council look into switching to KP&F retirement for the Police Department for consideration in the 2023 budget. Mayor David McDaniel reported that Wilson & Company has determined the route of distribution for the Trego County well

project.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.



Mayor

City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
March 7, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Steve Homburg, Neal Younger, JR Reynolds, Joe Kreutzer, Erin Henderson, Gilbert Kinderknecht, Cheryl Kinderknecht, and Ben Kolas.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on February 21, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2136. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gilbert Kinderknecht invited Council members to the Ellis Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Business Knowledge series on Tuesday, March 15th. Ellis Police Chief Avery Smith will present "Do's and Don'ts of Being Robbed".

JR Reynolds asked for Council to consider legalizing golf carts on City streets.

Neal Younger informed Council that Midwest Energy plans to rehabilitate 2000 feet of gas lines in the area of Washington to Monroe from 8th Street to 9th Street.

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Special Project

City Attorney Olavee Raub reviewed two proposed ordinances regarding community cats in the City. One ordinance provides guidelines for the Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) program and the other proposed ordinance amends Chapter 2, Animal Control, to include definitions related to the TNR program. No revisions were suggested and Council declared this review as the first reading. The ordinances will be considered for approval at the March 21st Council meeting.

General Government: Policy

Ms. Raub continued by reviewing the proposed City policy regarding the community cat Trap/Neuter/Return program. The policy provides guidelines for how the program will be administered. No revisions were suggested; however, Council tabled the item until the March 21st Council meeting for further consideration along with the ordinances.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: City Code

Ms. Raub discussed the sample floodplain management ordinance from the State of Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA). The ordinance is necessary to implement the new

floodplain maps that take effect in June 2022. Once Council approves the ordinance, it will be submitted to KDA for their approval. Council discussed the "Recommended Additional Standards" included in the sample ordinance, with City Floodplain Administrator Steve Homburg offering input. Council directed Ms. Raub to incorporate Mr. Homburg's recommendations into the proposed ordinance for further discussion at the March 21st Council meeting.

General Government: Disposal

City Clerk Amy Burton has had several individuals inquire if the City would be interested in selling 2000 Maple Street. The lot sits directly east of the South Walnut Park and is included as part of the new Tax Increment Financing project. Council discussed possible uses of the vacant lot, including a site for the water pressure station or future park expansion. It was the consensus of Council for the City to retain ownership of 2000 Maple at this time.

Public Works: Acquisition

Public Works Director John Leiker only received one bid to replace the lean-to building at the Sewer Plant that was damaged in the December 15th windstorm. The new structure will be an actual building with a 14' overhead door that would accommodate the sanitation truck. The City received \$47,018.74 in insurance proceeds to apply towards the new building. Council member John Walz moved to approve the bid from Legacy Buildings for the new building at the Sewer Plant in the amount of \$56,966.00 with funds to come from insurance proceeds and the Capital Improvement fund. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Swimming Pool: Acquisition

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the purchase of chlorine for the swimming pool from Brenntag in the amount of \$2,605.50 with funds to come from the General – Pool fund. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the Comparative Water Report for the period January 10th – February 10th. The 2014 sanitation truck has been repaired and is back in service.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Activity Report for February. Officer Nelson started at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center today. The interview committee selected one of the applicants to offer a position with the Department, and that individual has accepted. Chief Smith has had a full-time officer with another agency contact him about possible part-time employment.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the recent Planning Commission and Campground Committee meetings. The Commission is working on ordinances regarding accessory buildings, and the Campground Committee is researching grant opportunities to add a bathhouse to the expansion area and to hire a campground host.

Attorney

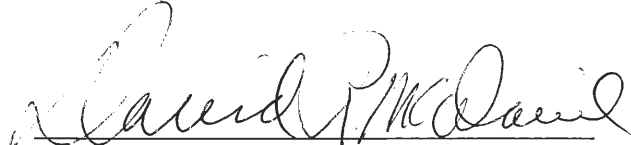
Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel reminded Council of the Governing Body Institute April 29th – 30th in Manhattan. He then read a letter from the Ellis Alumni Association thanking Council for working with the organization on improvements to the landscaping at the Railroad Museum. Council member Devin Henderson spoke to D.J. Fischer, President of the Fair Board, about housing the community cats in the fair building for the TNR program. Mr. Fischer was in


favor of allowing the City to use the building and will work with the City on drafting a contract.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
March 21, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, Fire Chief Dustin Vine, and City Attorney Olavee Raub. Council member Martin LaBarge was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Erin Henderson, Myles Vine, Westin Vine, Ben Kolas, JR Reynolds, Austin Morton, and James Bell.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on March 7, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2137, and the Manual Journal Entries for December. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

Fire: Report

Fire Chief Dustin Vine presented his monthly report. The Department recently recertified for CPR and received training on the new tablets for the fire trucks.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: City Code

Council performed a second reading on the proposed ordinance regarding community cats. No additional revisions were suggested; therefore, Council member John Walz moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1466 providing for the care and stabilization of community cats. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: City Code

Council performed a second reading on the proposed ordinance amending the definitions in Section 2, Animal Control, to include the relevant terms for the trap, neuter, return program. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1467 as presented. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Policy

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to approve the Community Cat Trap, Neuter, Return policy as presented. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Water: Policy

Council discussed the revisions made to the floodplain management ordinance suggested at the last Council meeting. Council member John Walz moved to direct City Attorney Olavee

Raub to send the proposed Floodplain Management Ordinance to the Kansas Department of Agriculture for their approval. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Policy

Council discussed legalizing golf carts on City streets. Police Chief Avery Smith was in favor of the idea as long as Council required the same safety features as the utility terrain vehicles, restricted travel to daylight hours, and only allowed the 'most direct and available route' to the golf course. City Attorney Olavee Raub provided a sample ordinance from the League of Kansas Municipalities providing for the operation of golf carts for Council to review. It was the consensus of Council to table further discussion in order for Council to review the sample ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

Sanitation: Repair/Maintenance

Public Works Director John Leiker reported the repairs to the 2014 International sanitation truck exceeded Council's motion of approval. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to ratify the invoice from Dodge City International in the amount of \$5,982.69, with funds to come from the Sanitation fund. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Mr. Leiker continued by reviewing his Council report. The Trego County wells have been tested, but no results have been received yet.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith reported that Officer Nelson is doing well at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. The patrol vehicles have been outfitted with push bumpers and the Department has had training on the new County record management system.

Personnel: Entry

The Department has hired Gregory Peterson to fill one of the vacancies in the Department. He will begin March 28, 2022.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the December and Year-End Financial Statements. Lifeguard positions for the 2022 season have been filled; however, there are still two pool house attendant positions available. Darrell Romme, Romme Agency, will be at the next Council meeting to present the 2022-2023 general insurance policy.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub discussed the dilapidated building at 1024 Washington that recently had part of the back brick wall collapse. Public Works Director John Leiker will re-issue violation notices, and if not addressed by the owner, the City has the ability to prosecute and remediate.

Mayor Update and Announcements


Mayor David McDaniel announced the ground breaking for the new A&W Restaurant on March 24, 2022 at noon. State Legislators will be in Ellis on April 5th at 8:00 a.m. at the Library for a town hall meeting.

Council members John Walz and Tricia Pritchett will work with Linda Smith and the veterinarian on possible dates for the first TNR event.

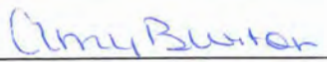
Ms. Pritchett also requested discussion at a future council meeting on possibly amending the current juvenile curfew in the City.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member John Walz moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
April 4, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz (attended through Zoom). Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub. Council member Martin LaBarge was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Darrell Romme, Ben Kolas, Mary Kay Weber, Curtis Weber, Randy Murphy, JR Reynolds, Verda Flinn (arrived at 8:20 p.m.), and Susan Werth (arrived at 8:38 p.m.).

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on March 21, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2138. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

PUBLIC HEARING ON UNFIT PROPERTIES

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to enter into the Public Hearing. The motion carried 5-0. Mayor David McDaniel declared the Public Hearing open at 7:32 p.m. The purpose of the Public Hearing is in regards to whether or not the property at 502 W. 3rd Street should or should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished. City Attorney Olavee Raub stated the Resolution regarding the Public Hearing has been published the required number of times in the Ellis Review, and notification by certified mailing was attempted to the property owner, Susan Werth, at the given forwarded address, but was returned as unclaimed. Ms. Werth was not present at the Public Hearing to explain to Council why the property should be not condemned. Council member Devin Henderson moved and Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded a motion to close the public hearing. The motion carried 5-0. There being no further comments, Mayor David McDaniel closed the public hearing at 7:35 p.m.

General Government: Violation

Council further discussed the property at 502 W. 3rd Street. Ms. Raub explained that if Council determines that the property is an unfit structure, a resolution would need to be drafted and approved with Council's determination of why the structure should be condemned. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to draft a resolution that the structure at 502 W. 3rd Street be declared dangerous and unfit, and for the owner to remedy that finding by May 16, 2022. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

SPECIAL ORDER

General Government: Insurance

Darrell Romme, Romme Agency, presented the 2022-2023 general insurance policy with EMC Insurance. Most of the increase in premiums is due to the increase of values in the property as a result of higher costs of building materials. Mr. Romme also explained the difference in claim coverage of "actual cash value" versus "replacement cost." City Clerk Amy Burton asked Council to consider purchasing cybersecurity coverage. Mr. Romme explained how that policy would benefit the City and the different coverage limits available. After further discussion, Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve the general insurance policy with EMC Insurance in the amount of \$167,415.00, and to add cybersecurity coverage with a limit of \$300,000. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Policy

Council again discussed legalizing golf carts on city streets. Police Chief Avery Smith reiterated his support as long as the golf carts were only allowed on the most direct route to the golf course, only allowed during daylight hours, and the cart must be outfitted with specific safety features. Council members expressed concerns over safety and feasibility, especially those travelling from the north hill or west side of town where carts would have to travel on the truck route and main arterial streets. After further discussion, Council decided not to take action or entertain further consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: City Code

Council discussed amending the City Code on juvenile curfew. Currently, juveniles are allowed in public places until midnight every night of the week. Council member John Walz moved to amend City Code 11-302 to prohibit any person under the age of 18 years to be or remain in a public place within the City of Ellis during the period ending at 5:00 a.m. and beginning at 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and beginning at 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Financial

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to approve Resolution No. 582 authorizing City employees and officials to use the City-issued credit cards. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Streets: Event Request

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the Public Property Permit Application and the Event Request for Traffic Control for the Ellis Alumni Association for the parade and car-truck-tractor show on May 28, 2022. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: City Code

The Planning Commission has recommended Council amend the current ordinance on accessory buildings. The amendment will allow accessory buildings on vacant and adjacent lots from a primary structure and sets compliance provisions for construction of the buildings. Council considered this a first reading of the ordinance and will consider for approval at the April 18, 2022 meeting.

General Government: City Code

In addition, the Planning Commission recommends Council amend the Zoning Ordinance for each residential district to allow grandfathered buildings to be altered for improvements. Council considered this a first reading of the ordinance and will consider for approval at the April 18, 2022 meeting.

Campground: Personnel

The Campground Committee presented a campground host program for the Ellis Lakeside

Campground. In exchange for a complimentary campsite for the season, the host would provide light maintenance, ensure payments for nightly stays, and greet and assist patrons with questions. Verda Flinn, Campground Committee member, reviewed the proposed campground host program, application, and sample agreement. Council member John Walz moved to approve the Campground Host documents as presented. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Contract

The Planning Commission conducted a search for a new City planning consultant after the unexpected passing of previous consultant John Riggs, Riggs & Associates. The Planning Commission recommends Keith Marvin, Marvin Planning Consultants, to help with the Zoning Ordinance recodification and updating of the City Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Marvin currently works with Ellis County and the City of Victoria also. The proposed contract includes the fee for the primary project of updating the Zoning Ordinance. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the contract with Marvin Planning Consultants for regular planning consultant services at a rate of \$80.00 per hour, and an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for recodification of the Zoning Ordinance with funds for the recodification to come from Old Electric funds. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker updated Council on new lead and copper regulations that could affect homeowners and municipalities.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Incident Report for March. The new body cameras are in service. Officer Ben Kolas is now a certified Taser instructor and Officer Danielle Nelson continues to do well at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. Chief Smith reminded citizens that the police gun range is for law enforcement use only.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the Health Insurance Savings Report for February, the 2021 Safety Committee incident report, and the minutes from the recent Campground, Planning Commission, and Tourism committee meetings.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub reported that the State has approved the City's proposed floodplain ordinance. The next step is to hold a public hearing to review the floodplain revisions. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to set the Public Hearing to consider revisions to the Floodplain Regulations on May 2nd at 7:30 p.m. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

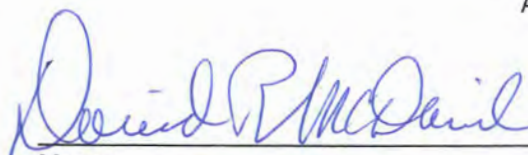
Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel reminded everyone of the Legislative coffee on April 5th at 8:00 a.m. at the Library meeting room.

Council member Tricia Pritchett will hold a meeting on April 11th at 7:00 p.m. in Council chambers for volunteers wanting to help with the community cat trap-neuter-return program.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Devin Henderson moved and Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
April 18, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, Fire Chief Dustin Vine, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Consideration of the ordinance amending the juvenile curfew will be tabled until the May 2, 2022 Council meeting.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Ben Kolas, Greg Peterson, Glen Keller, Neal Younger, Mary Kay Weber, Curtis Weber, Nickole Byers, Randy Murphy, and Kyle Weber.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on April 4, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2139. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Officer Greg Peterson introduced himself to the Governing Body and thanked them for the opportunity to serve in the community.

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

Fire: Report

Fire Chief Dustin Vine reported that another weather spotter training class is scheduled for April 21st in Hays. He reminded the public not to leave outdoor fire pits or other open burns unattended in the current dry conditions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: City Code

Council member John Walz moved to approve Ordinance No. 1468 amending the current ordinance regarding placement and character of accessory buildings on residential lots. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1469 amending regulations for accessory buildings in Section 2 of the R-1 "Single Family Dwelling District" zoning ordinance. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1470 amending regulations for accessory buildings in Section 2 of the R-2 "Two-Family Dwelling District" zoning ordinance. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1471 amending regulations for accessory buildings in Section 2 of the R-3 "Multiple Family Dwelling District" zoning ordinance. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1472 amending regulations for accessory buildings in Section 2 of the R-S "Residential Suburban District" zoning ordinance. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Violation

City Attorney Olavee Raub presented a resolution declaring the property at 502 W. 3rd Street dangerous, unsafe, and unfit for human habitation. The resolution calls for corrective action to be taken by May 15, 2022. Council member John Walz moved to approve Resolution No. 583 as presented. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Tourism: Contract

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the renewal contract for the City's five billboards. The renewal represents a 3% increase in cost. The City is not charged when a board is out of commission for repair. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the contract with Lamar for billboard advertising in the amount of \$10,335.00 with funds to come from the Tourism Fund. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Committees

Mayor David McDaniel presented the annual list of committee appointments. The Cemetery Committee and the Water Advisory Committee each still have one vacant position. Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the Roster of Appointments as presented. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Police: Acquisition

Police Chief Avery Smith presented a quote for the purchase of tasers for the department. The current tasers are at the end of their life cycle and either need to be replaced or refurbished. Chief Smith recommended replacement over a five-year payment plan. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the five-year contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. in the amount of \$14,158.01 for the purchase of five Taser 7 tasers and accessories with funds to come from the Special Machinery fund. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the Comparative Water Report for the period February 10th to March 10th. Well #2 has been shut down temporarily due to a metering issue. The Kansas Rural Water Association will be in town to help flow test the wells to ensure the meters are recording gallons pumped accurately.

Mr. Leiker still has not received the results for the water samples submitted for the Trego well project. Wilson and Co. are in the process of designing the water lines.

Police

Chief Smith presented the Mid-Month Incident Report. Officer Peterson will start at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center on May 9th. The department plans to reopen the application process for the last full-time vacancy in the department.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the Health Insurance Savings Report for March. Adams Brown has submitted an audit pre-communication letter for Council review. The audit was conducted virtually this year and is in the final review stage. Ms. Burton reminded elected officials to submit their annual Statement of Substantial Interests to the Ellis County Clerk by April 30th.

SJ Singh has approached the City about a possible tax abatement for the new A&W Restaurant. It was the consensus of Council to have Mr. Singh attend the next Council meeting for further discussion.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub reported the public hearing for the new floodplain ordinance will be May 16th.

Mayor Update and Announcements

It was the consensus of Council to have Ms. Burton continue drafting sample motions on the New Business Synopsis in the Council packets.

Council members John Walz and Tricia Pritchett reported on the meeting held with volunteers for the Trap, Neuter, Return program. The program has a few hurdles to work through, but continues to move forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.



City Clerk


Mayor

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
May 2, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Ben Kolas, SJ Singh, Robert Herl, Mike Downing, David Clingan, Sam Polifka (arrived at 7:33 p.m.) and Nickole Byers (arrived at 7:36 p.m.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on April 18, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2140, and the Manual Journal Entries for January, February and March. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

Mayor David McDaniel read a proclamation in observance of the 53rd Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week from May 1 – May 7, 2022.

SPECIAL ORDER

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

City Attorney Olavee Raub reviewed the proposed ordinance amending juvenile curfew. The ordinance imposes a juvenile curfew at 10:00 p.m. for children under the age of eighteen from Sunday through Thursday, and 11:00 p.m. for children under the age of eighteen Friday and Saturday. Council considered this a first reading of the ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

Industrial Development: Financial

SJ Singh requested Council consideration to grant a tax abatement for the new A&W Restaurant. Mr. Singh stated he has additional development plans west of the restaurant in hopes to bring growth and job opportunities to Ellis. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to prepare the Resolution of Intent to pursue Industrial Revenue Bonds for the A&W Restaurant and to contact bond counsel on the City's behalf. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Financial

City Clerk Amy Burton requested Council approval to increase the City Visa credit card spending limit from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00. The Public Works Department now has to rely on online ordering for many equipment parts, and the current credit limit is sometimes restrictive. Council member John Walz moved to authorize City Clerk Amy Burton to increase the credit limit on the Visa credit card to \$10,000.00. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Special Machinery: Acquisition

City Clerk Amy Burton presented a proposal from Tri-Central Office Supply, Inc. for the purchase of eleven high-back office chairs for the Council room. Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the purchase of eleven Lorell office chairs from Tri-Central Office Supply in the amount of \$2,859.89 with \$2,500.00 to come from Special Machinery and \$359.89 to come from the General-Administration budget. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Special Machinery: Acquisition

Public Works Director John Leiker presented two bids for the purchase of a new sanitation truck. The truck from Elliott Equipment is available right away, while the truck from Key Equipment could take up to 12 months. Elliott Equipment will allow \$6,000.00 for trade-in of the 2008 International truck. After discussion, Council member John Walz moved to approve the purchase of the 2023 Freightliner sanitation truck from Elliott Equipment in the amount of \$181,100.00 with Special Machinery to fund \$100,205.00 and the remaining \$80,895.00 to come from Old Electric. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Special Machinery: Acquisition

Mr. Leiker continued by presenting three bids for a new mower for the Parks Department. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the bid from Gottschalk Equipment for a Hustler Super Z HyperDrive mower in the amount of \$14,177.26 with funds to come from Special Machinery. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Sewer: Contract

Mr. Leiker reported that it is time to haul off sludge from the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The last removal was in April 2020. Council member John Walz moved to approve hiring Geist Spreading & Hauling to remove the sludge from the Wastewater Treatment Plant at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00 with funds to come from the Sewer Utility Fund. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Mr. Leiker presented his department report. Crews have been preparing the swimming pool and parks for the summer season.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Incident Report for April. Officer Nelson continues to do well at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center and Officer Peterson will start his training at KLETC on May 9th.

Personnel: Position Change

Chief Smith announced the promotion of Officer Ben Kolas to Corporal.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the recent Planning Commission meeting and the January, February, and March financial statements. Ms. Burton encouraged Council members to reach out to Secretary Toland regarding proposed changes to the Community Development Block Grant program that would negatively impact Ellis.

Attorney

Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel provided an update from the monthly Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission meeting. Mayor McDaniel and Council members Devin Henderson, John Walz, and Jolene Niernberger recently attended the League's Governing Body Institute in Manhattan. Council members John Walz and Tricia Pritchett provided an update on the

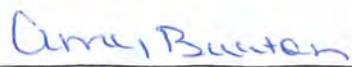
Trap/Neuter/Return program for community cats. Volunteers hope to conduct the first event by the end of May.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
May 16, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, and Jolene Niernberger. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub. Council members Martin LaBarge, Tricia Pritchett and John Walz were absent.

Due to not meeting quorum requirements, Mayor David McDaniel announced the regular meeting would be adjourned and reconvened on May 17, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Under the advice of legal counsel, the public hearing scheduled for May 16th at 7:30 p.m. will proceed as published, as a quorum is not required to hold a public hearing.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Melvin Kinderknecht, Alan Scheuerman, Martin Weimer, Karla Weimer, Glen Keller, David Clingan, and Steve Homburg.

PUBLIC HEARING – Consider Revisions to Floodplain Regulations in Ordinance No. 1022

General Government: Policy

Mayor David McDaniel opened the public hearing at 7:30 p.m. to hear comments from the public regarding revisions to floodplain regulations in Ordinance No. 1022. City Attorney Olavee Raub explained the proposed regulations are in accordance with State recommendations. The Department of Agriculture reviewed and approved the proposed ordinance prior to the public hearing. Public Works Director John Leiker and Floodplain Administrator Steve Homburg entertained questions from the public and explained the differences in building regulations for properties located in the floodplain versus the floodway. There being no further comments from the public, Mayor David McDaniel declared the public hearing closed at 7:47 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting reconvened on May 17, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Jolene Niernberger, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub (attended virtually through Zoom). Council members Martin LaBarge and Tricia Pritchett were absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Fire Chief Dustin Vine has requested to postpone his monthly report to the June 6th Council meeting.

Mayor David McDaniel will read Proclamations for National Police Week and National Public Works Week.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Steve Homburg, Melvin Kinderknecht, Meagan Wellbrock, Lynae Benychek, Steve Arthur, Jim Carthew, Ben Kolas, Akos Bencze, Tracy Andrews, Angie Ward, Mary Jo Walz, Adrienne Gaschler, David Clingan, Ann Leiker, and Lori Miller.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the

Minutes from the Regular Meeting on May 2, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2141. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Melvin Kinderknecht thanked the City for opening a compost site. Mr. Kinderknecht then spoke against Council offering new businesses a tax abatement and encouraged Council to consider offering financial incentives to existing Ellis businesses.

PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS (HEARINGS)

Mayor David McDaniel read a proclamation in observance of National Police Officer's Week from May 11 – 17, 2022.

Mayor David McDaniel read a proclamation in observance of the 62nd Annual National Public Works Week from May 15 – 21, 2022.

SPECIAL ORDER

General Government: Financial

Meagan Wellbrock, Adams Brown LLC, presented the City's 2021 audit report. The City had no audit findings and received an unmodified opinion, meaning that the 2021 financial statements are fairly stated in all material respects. There were also no cash or budget violations noted. The audit report will be considered for approval at the next Council meeting.

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Steve Arthur, Director of the Ellis Public Library, presented the Library's 2023 budget request of four mills of the assessed valuation, \$2,500.00 for employee benefits, and \$2,000.00 for library programming. The Library also requests additional funds for capital improvements, personnel, and additional programming and project funding totaling \$12,000.00. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Ann Leiker, Executive Director for the Center for Life Experience, provided information about the organization's four core grief support groups for individuals seeking support and educational resources after experiencing a loss of a loved one. Ms. Leiker explained the community-based non-profit organization relies on grants and donations for funding and requested consideration from the City for funding in the 2023 budget. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

Personnel: Benefits

Lori Miller, Heartland Retirement & Benefits Consulting, presented the 2022 renewal of the City employee health insurance policies. Ms. Miller recommends staying with Blue Cross Blue Shield for the umbrella policy as the rates are more favorable than going back with United Health Care. There are no increases to the premiums for the Vision Care Direct or Advance Life Insurance plans and an approximate 4.6% increase in the dental premiums. Council member John Walz moved to approve the employee's health and dental insurance plans with Blue Cross & Blue Shield, the employee's vision plan with Vision Care Direct, and the employee's life insurance plan with Advance Insurance Company of Kansas, all for the period July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: City Code

Council considered the proposed ordinance revising the floodplain management zoning regulations. The Public Hearing was held May 16th with no proposed changes to the regulations. The Department of Agriculture has reviewed and approved the proposed floodplain management ordinance. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to adopt

Ordinance No. 1473 updating the floodplain management zoning regulations. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

General Government: Violation

Public Works Director John Leiker updated Council on the status of the condemned property at 502 W. 3rd Street. The house has been completely demolished and the site cleaned up. Mr. Leiker believes it would be appropriate to release the fire lien funds to the property owner. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to authorize City Clerk Amy Burton to release payment of fire lien funds to Sue Werth in the amount of \$21,915.00. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

General Government: City Code

Council performed a second reading of the proposed ordinance amending juvenile curfew. The ordinance imposes a juvenile curfew at 10:00 p.m. for children under the age of eighteen from Sunday through Thursday, and 11:00 p.m. for children under the age of eighteen Friday and Saturday. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve Ordinance No. 1474 amending juvenile curfew as presented. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Industrial Development: Financial

City Attorney Olavee Raub reviewed the proposed resolution stating the City's intent to pursue the issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds for the A&W Restaurant. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve Resolution No. 584 stating the City's intent to pursue a tax abatement for the A&W Restaurant through the issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: License/Permit

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the Fireworks Permit Application for the Ellis Baptist Youth Group at 808 Washington Street, contingent on submission of proper proof of liability insurance. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Streets: Acquisition

Council member John Walz moved to approve the purchase of 420 tons of 3/8" chip seal rock from Flatlander for street maintenance in the amount of \$20,966.40 with funds to come from the Capital Improvement – Street fund. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker encouraged Council to start earmarking funds in the Capital Improvement Fund for replacement of lead waterlines. Driggs Design Group has started design and cost estimates for Phase III of the Waterline Improvement Project.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith reviewed the Department's Mid-Month Incident Report. Officer Nelson will graduate from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center on June 10th.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the Health Insurance Savings Report for April. Ms. Burton reminded everyone that the filing deadline for elected office is noon on June 1st. Gigi's Café has graciously offered to sponsor free admission for the opening day of the pool. The City received the 2021 dividend check from EMC Insurance in the amount of \$23,994.32.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub requested an Executive Session to discuss a potential claim against the City.

Mayor Update and Announcements

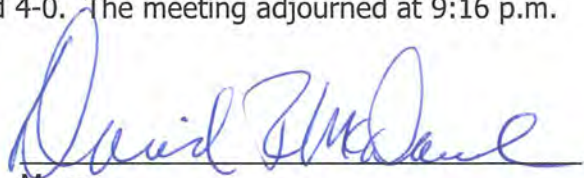
Mayor David McDaniel encouraged Council members to review the Economic Development flyer from the League of Kansas Municipalities.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS


Mayor David McDaniel asked for a motion to recess into executive session at the request of City Attorney Olavee Raub. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved for City Council to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss a potential claim against the City pursuant to the attorney-client privilege exception, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(2) with City Attorney Olavee Raub, City Clerk Amy Burton and Public Works Director John Leiker present. The open meeting will resume at 9:15 p.m. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0. No action was taken in executive session and the open meeting resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Devin Henderson moved and Council member John Walz seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
June 6, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Corporal Benjamin Kolas, Police Chief Avery Smith (attended virtually through Zoom), and City Prosecutor Heidi Farnsworth.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor David McDaniel requested consideration of the Fireworks Permit Application from the Ellis Softball Baseball Association be added under New Business.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Taft Yates Jr., Brandon Tippy, Glen Keller, Chad Pritchett, Sarah Kolas, Cheryl Kinderknecht, Gilbert Kinderknecht, Karen Day, Pat Bieker, Adeline Henderson, Tawnya Rohr, Terry Zerfas, Vernie Pritchett, Pamela Dietrich, Freda Fisher, Jason Colby, Jennifer Colby, Kaiden Colby, Doug Williams, David Clingan, Cory Eberle, Macy Eberle, Jim Pfeifer, Nickole Byers (arrived at 7:39 p.m.), and Doug Dinkel (arrived at 7:39 p.m.).

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on May 16, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2142, and the Manual Journal Entries for April. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gilbert Kinderknecht invited Council to attend the Quarterly Business Knowledge segment on June 14th regarding Workplace Mental Awareness presented by Ellis United Methodist Church Pastor Scott Tempero. Mr. Kinderknecht also encouraged residents to attend the annual Art Walk on June 11th.

Jim Pfeifer introduced himself as an Ellis County Commissioner candidate for District 1.

Terry Zerfas thanked the Council for not allowing the discharge of fireworks on July 5th and encouraged Council to do the same for 2022. He encouraged Council to perform regular maintenance on the 11th Street bridge and to consider sprucing up the Old Power Plant facility.

Jason Colby encouraged Council to rescind Ordinance No. 1474 modifying the City curfew from midnight every night to 10:00 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday, and 11:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturdays. Mr. Colby offered to hold a town hall meeting with interested parties to find a better solution than modifying the previous midnight curfew.

Brandon Tippy spoke against Ordinance No. 1474 modifying the City curfew as well. He added that businesses should police their own patrons through store regulations. Mr. Tippy also encouraged Council to put back the boat docks on Big Creek.

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Tawnya Rohr, Director for the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs, offered information and statistics for each of the programs. The programs are still re-building from the impacts of COVID-19 and volunteer numbers are down considerably, therefore, the

programs are not requesting funding from the City in the 2023 budget.

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Doug Williams and David Clingan presented the 2023 budget request from Grow Hays. The organization's mission for Ellis County is business creation, business growth, business retention and business recruitment. The representatives praised Ellis for its positive momentum with the development projects planned near I-70 and the housing development on the south end of town. Grow Hays requests consideration of \$4,000.00 from the City in the 2023 budget. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Karen Day, Director, presented the 2023 budget request from the Walter P. Chrysler Boyhood Home & Museum. Ms. Day has submitted several grants to various agencies to help fund improvements to the exterior of both the home and the museum. To help fund operations, the Chrysler Museum requests consideration in the amount of \$15,000.00 from the City in the 2023 budget. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

SPECIAL ORDER

Taft Yates Jr. challenged Council to consider what the future of Ellis should look like for generations to come. He stated that Ellis needs something for kids to do to gainfully occupy their time. He encouraged Council to directly involve the kids and to let them dictate the discussions to give them ownership in the decisions made. Council member Martin LaBarge encouraged Mr. Yates to also talk with the Ellis Recreation Board and the School Board to ensure a collaborative effort.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Financial

Council member John Walz moved to accept the 2021 financial audit report from Adams Brown as presented at the May 16th Council meeting. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: License

Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the Application for License to Sell Cereal Malt Beverages for the Ellis Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Tourism: Contract

Tourism Committee Chair Glen Keller presented an advertising opportunity with KSN Television for their "Summer Road Trip" segment. The campground and three museums would be featured through social media, commercials, and live broadcasts during the period June – August. Council member John Walz moved to approve the contract with KSN Television for participation in the "Summer Road Trip" segment at a cost of \$1,000.00, with funds to come from the Tourism funds. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Policy

Council discussed allowable discharge dates for fireworks. Council member John Walz moved to approve Resolution No. 585 allowing the discharge of fireworks on July 3rd and 4th between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: License/Permit

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the Fireworks Permit Application for the Ellis Softball Baseball Association at the Ellis fairgrounds, contingent on the applicant

submitting proof of liability insurance. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the Comparative Water Report for the period March 10th – April 10th. The new mower and sanitation truck have arrived. The new pickup approved in December 2021 has still not been put into production. Mr. Leiker would like permission to look for a used pickup that might be available sooner.

Special Machinery: Acquisition

Council member John Walz moved to rescind the motion from December 6, 2021 authorizing the purchase of a 2022 Ford F-150 from Lewis Ford in the amount of \$28,950.00. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion to rescind carried 6-0.

Council member Martin LaBarge then moved to authorize Public Works Director John Leiker and Mayor David McDaniel to purchase a pickup for the Public Works Department not to exceed \$28,810.00. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Incident Report for May. Officer Nelson will graduate from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center on June 10th. Chief Smith reported that the Ford Explorer may be totaled due to a drunk driver hitting the parked vehicle. Unfortunately, General Motors, Ford and Dodge are not producing police vehicles until 2023. Corporal Kolas is researching used SUV patrol cars to replace the damaged vehicle.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the May Planning Commission meeting and the April Financial Statements. The swimming pool opened on May 31st with record opening day attendance. 119 patrons enjoyed free admission courtesy of Gigi's Café. The Ellis County Election office will be removing the election drop box at City Hall due to lack of staff to monitor the box during election periods.

Attorney

Mayor Update and Announcements

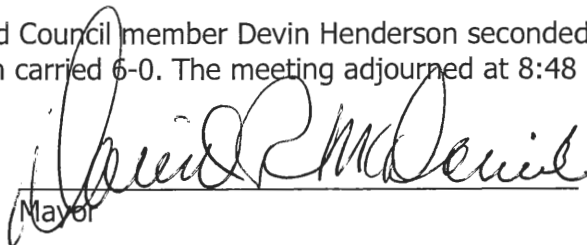
Wilson and Company will be at the June 20th Council meeting to provide an update on the Trego Well project.

Mayor David McDaniel would like to conduct tours of the museums prior to the 2023 budget preparation. The Council will plan to tour the Chrysler Museum at the June 20th Council meeting.

Council member Tricia Pritchett stated that she received many more comments in favor of the new curfew times than opposed. Council member Martin LaBarge added that the City Code Book is on the City's website for residents to read the entire curfew codes.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
June 20, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub. Council member Devin Henderson was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

The 2023 budget request for Options, the presentation of Citizen's Awards, and the discussion regarding placement of benches in Memorial Park will be moved to the July 5th Council meeting.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Brian Spano, Nickole Byers, Chad Pritchett, Pauleen Edmonds, David Clingan, Alan Scheuerman, Dean Yanda, Dan Pyle, Tracy Andrews, Jenny Bates, Benjamin Kolas, and Michael Berges.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on June 6, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2143, and the Manual Journal Entries for May. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Jenny Bates and Tracey Andrews presented the 2023 budget request from Big Brothers Big Sisters. Currently, there are 13 matches in Ellis and 150 in Ellis County. The organization requests \$5,000.00 in consideration from the City through the 2023 budget. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Dan Pyle, Director, presented the Ellis Recreation Commission's 2023 Budget Request. The Commission requests \$10,000.00 to replace the outfield chain link fencing at the Creekside north field. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Pauleen Edmonds presented the 2023 budget request from the Community Foundation of Ellis. The Foundation requests consideration in the amount of \$12,000.00 for unrestricted funds and \$8,000.00 to reroof the train depot in Railroad Park. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Ms. Edmonds continued by presenting the 2023 budget request from the Ellis Alliance. The Alliance is requesting \$10,000, the same amount as last year. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Glen Keller, Chairman of the Ellis Railroad Museum, presented the 2023 budget request of \$16,000 for consideration, the same amount as last year. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

SPECIAL ORDER

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Water Exploration: Special Project

Brian Spano, Wilson & Company, provided an update on the Water Supply System Improvement Project. Engineers have determined the path of alignment for the 21 miles of pipe. Mayor David McDaniel and Public Works Director John Leiker will begin the process of contacting landowners and acquiring easements. Well tests have confirmed good water quality and quantity of water available. Wilson & Company will begin the process of surveying the alignment and the City will continue to work with Northwest Kansas Planning & Development Commission on funding. Once surveying is complete, Mr. Spano will start on the permitting process and design of the wells.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Contract

Mark Augustine has asked Council to consider increasing the daily municipal pound fee due to increasing fuel prices. The current rate is \$12.00 per day, per animal. Council discussed an increase in the daily rates and/or adding a temporary fuel surcharge. After further discussion, Council member Martin LaBarge moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to modify the existing municipal pound services contract to include a \$5.00 fuel surcharge per day, per animal whenever fuel prices are at, or in excess of, \$3.75 per gallon. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Museum: Contract

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to amend the Lease Agreement between the Walter P. Chrysler Foundation and the City to modify the corporation's registered office to 102 W. 10th, Ellis, Kansas. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Personnel: Policy

Council discussed the City's current requirement for Public Works employees to obtain their Commercial Driver's License within 30 days of hire. On February 7, 2022, the Department of Federal Motor Carriers changed the regulations to now require an Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) Theory course and ELDT Behind the Wheel training program. The multi-week course offered through NCK Technical College costs \$2,250.00, plus college application fees. Council could either require applicants to already have their CDL prior to employment, or pay for the course upfront for the new hire and then have the employee reimburse the City through payroll reductions. City Attorney Olavee Raub will research possible reimbursement contracts for further consideration at the next meeting.

Streets: Repair/Maintenance

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve the purchase of 14,500 gallons of chip seal oil from Ergon in the amount of \$39,875.00 for the annual street maintenance project. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Special Machinery: Acquisition

Police Chief Avery Smith presented five bids for SUV's to replace the 2018 Ford Explorer that was totaled by insurance. Chief Smith expects to receive approximately \$24,000.00 from EMC Insurance for the vehicle. All salvageable equipment has been removed from the Explorer and the Department will donate the light bar to the Fire Department. All of the vehicles proposed will need some equipment and outfitting to current specifications. After

discussion, Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the purchase of the new 2021 Durango from JR Audio in the amount of \$48,620.00 with funds to come from the Special Machinery fund. If the Durango is no longer available, then Chief Smith is authorized to purchase the 2016 Ford Explorer from Chicago Motors, Inc. in the amount of \$17,995.00. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Committees

Council member John Walz moved to approve the following committee appointments as recommended by Mayor David McDaniel: Cemetery Committee – Paulette Harp and Mark Kelly; Water Advisory Committee – Martin LaBarge; and Senior Advisory Committee – Leonard Schoenberger. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker reported the annual street maintenance project will start on June 27th. Ellis County Public Works will assist with the project again. Crews have repaired four water leaks in the last two weeks.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith would like to recognize the pool staff and patrons that assisted with the serious incident at the pool at the next Council meeting. The hiring committee will interview a candidate for the last vacancy in the department on June 25th. When asked by Council members, Chief Smith reported that he has not received any complaints against the changes in the curfew.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the Tourism Committee meetings on March 31st and May 19th, the Health Insurance Savings Report for May, and the May financial statements. The billboard at mile marker 144 has finally been repaired. The City has received its second tranche of American Rescue Plan proceeds in the amount of \$153,448.50. Assistant City Clerk Verda Flinn has been in contact with Justine Benoit at Northwest Kansas Planning & Development Commission about a possible CDBG application to help fund the additional campground bathhouse and play equipment. The City's estimated assessed valuation for budget purposes increased \$834,746 from last year. Hearing Solutions is interested in sponsoring a free swim day at the pool.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub reported that effective July 1, 2022, Raub & Zeigler, LLC will be dissolved. She will continue her work as City Attorney and will once again take over as City Prosecutor. Council member John Walz moved for City Attorney Olavee Raub to create a contract between the City and Olavee Raub, LLC for city attorney and prosecutor services with the same terms as the current contract with Raub & Zeigler, LLC. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0. The city will consider the contract at the July 5th council meeting.

Mayor Update and Announcements


Council member Jolene Niernberger expressed concerns about the Ellis County Clerk authorizing the removal of the ballot box at City Hall. Ms. Niernberger stated that voters should have the same options to submit ballots as Hays.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
July 5, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Jason Colby will be removed from the agenda as he is unable to attend.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Ashley Rohleder, Chad Pritchett, Kerry Bittel, Becky Rorabaugh, Verda Flinn, Benjamin Kolas, Marvin Honas, Vernie Pritchett, Gilbert Kinderknecht, Cheryl Kinderknecht, Easton Burton, Monty Cox, Jonathan Cox, Gina Cox, Grace Brull, Sarah Gabel, Matt Gabel, Hannah Schiel, Madelyn Russell, Janeen Cox, Elliott Cox, Kaden Solorio, Sylvia Deutscher, Jim Pfeifer, Neal Younger, and Dawn Gabel.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on June 20, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2144. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

Swimming Pool: Awards

Mayor David McDaniel presented Citizen's Awards to Matt Gabel, Jonathan Cox, Ashley Rohleder, Grace Brull, Easton Burton, Madelyn Russell, Hannah Schiel, and Kaden Solorio for their actions in response to a threatening patron at the Ellis Municipal Pool on June 11, 2022. Also recognized, but unable to attend, were Kurt Tschanz, Maverick Gnad, and Taylor Seibel.

General Government: Financial – Budget Request

Dawn Gabel, Options – Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, provided information regarding the specialized services and programs that Options provides and requested consideration of funding in the amount of \$1,500.00 from the City through the 2023 Budget. The Council took no action and will consider the request during budget preparation.

SPECIAL ORDER

Parks: Special Project

Becky Rorabaugh and Kerry Bittel requested Council approval to place memorial benches in Memorial Park. The benches were purchased as a donation through the Community Foundation of Ellis Railroad Park Improvement project. Placement of the benches are at the discretion of the Foundation; however, before the request is made to the Foundation, the ladies wanted to see if Council would even allow the benches to be placed in the park. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve placement of memorial benches in Memorial Park contingent on the Foundation's approval. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Museum: Special Project

Marvin Honas and Sylvia Deutscher reported that the Ellis Alumni Association would like to apply for grants to purchase and install a chairlift at the north entrance of the Railroad Museum down to the Alumni Room. Council encouraged the Alumni Association to verify that the project would meet all ADA regulations. Also, the project would be contingent on approval from the Railroad Museum, and may be subject to additional restrictions if classified as a historical site. No action was taken by Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Contract

Council reviewed the amended Municipal Pound Services contract with Mark Augustine. The amended contract includes a provision that adds a \$5.00 fuel surcharge per animal, per day when the average price of fuel exceeds \$3.75 per gallon in the City limits. Council member John Walz moved to approve the amended Municipal Pound Services Contract as presented. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Personnel: Policy

City Attorney Olavee Raub prepared a memo for Council with suggestions on how the City should proceed with new hires in the Public Works Department that need their commercial driver's license. Public Works Director John Leiker added that he has submitted an application to the Federal Motor Carrier's Association for the City to administer their own training. It is unknown yet if the City's application will be approved. If approved, City employees could train in-house and not incur large costs to participate in the multi-week courses available in Hays. Mr. Leiker will keep Council informed on the status of the City's application.

General Government: Contract

City Attorney Olavee Raub presented proposed contract terms with her new firm, Olavee Raub, LLC. The terms are identical to the previous contract with Raub & Zeigler, LLC. Ms. Raub did clarify that any future unused hours will roll forward; however, the unused hours with Raub & Zeigler, LLC will be lost. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve the contract terms with Olavee Raub, LLC as presented. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Special Machinery: Acquisition

City Clerk Amy Burton presented a revised quote for the purchase of high-back chairs for the Council room. The salesman accidentally quoted and delivered a different model of chair from the chair Council demonstrated and approved. There is a substantial cost difference between the two chairs. Council member John Walz moved to rescind the motion from May 2, 2022 authorizing the purchase of eleven Lorell 81803 high-back chairs from Tri-Central Office Supply in the amount of \$2,859.89. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Council member Jolene Niernberger then moved to approve the purchase of eleven Lorell 47921 high-back chairs from Tri-Central Office Supply in the amount of \$4,000.00, from the Special Machinery fund. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Park: Event Request

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the Public Property Permit Application and Traffic Control Application for Event Request from the Tourism Committee and Chamber of Commerce for the use of Memorial Park on July 20, 2022 for the KSN Summer Road Trip. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Event Request

Council considered a Noise Permit Application for Clint Amrein for an event on August 13,

2022 at 1310 Washington. Police Chief Avery Smith noted the Department has been called to the residence numerous times for noise complaints, with verbal confrontation by Mr. Amrein the last two visits. Chief Smith requested that if Council approves the noise permit application and the Department continues to have problems with Mr. Amrein, that Council refrain from approving any future noise permit applications submitted by Mr. Amrein. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the Noise Permit Application for Clint Amrein for August 13, 2022. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Contract

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to approve the 2023 budget contract with AdamsBrown, LLC in the amount of \$4,000.00. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Committee

Council member John Walz moved to approve Resolution No. 586 pledging support and participation in the Kansas PRIDE Program for the years 2022 through 2025. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Committee

Glen Keller, Chair of the Planning Commission, presented the updated Goals and Objectives in the City Comprehensive Plan as recommended by the Commission. The document is used to help Council prioritize community improvements. Council member John Walz moved to approve the Goals and Objectives as recommended by the Planning Commission. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS**Public Works**

Public Works Director John Leiker thanked Ellis County Public Works for their assistance in the annual chip seal project. Mr. Leiker purchased a 2013 Ford F150 from Auto World for the Department.

Personnel: Entry

Mr. Leiker announced the hiring of Ronald Julian for the vacant position in the Department, effective July 25, 2022.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Incident Report for June. The 2021 Dodge Durango has been ordered. This vehicle will replace the 2018 Ford Explorer possibly totaled after being hit by a drunk driver as it was parked on the street. The last vacant position has been offered and accepted by a certified officer. The officer's name will be withheld for the time being in that the officer is currently working for another agency. Chief Smith reported there were no major issues with fireworks this year.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the recent Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals meeting. A draft copy of the 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Plan was distributed for review. Ms. Burton asked if Council would be interested in hosting a swimming pool party for City officials and staff. It was the consensus of Council to allow Ms. Burton to schedule a pool party.

Attorney**Mayor Update and Announcements**


Council member John Walz updated Council on the Trap/Neuter/Return program for community cats, and also provided a report from David Spalsbury, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, regarding the stocking of fish at Big Creek.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

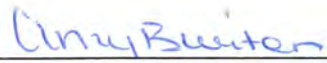
Mayor David McDaniel asked for a motion to recess into executive session. Council member John Walz moved for City Council to recess into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss a Police Department personnel issue pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1) with City Attorney Olavee Raub, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Clerk Amy Burton present. The open meeting will resume at 9:08 p.m. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. No action was taken in executive session and the open meeting resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
July 18, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, Fire Chief Dustin Vine, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

City Clerk Amy Burton requested consideration of two additional items under New Business - action to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate and a Noise Permit Application and Traffic Control Application for the Ellis Jr. Free Fair.

PUBLIC PRESENT

James Bell, Myles Vine, David Clingan, Karen Day, Glen Keller, Jim Pfeifer, and Michael Berges.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on July 5, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2145, and the Manual Journal Entries for June. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

Fire: Report

Fire Chief Dustin Vine presented his monthly report. Chief Vine thanked the area farmers for their willingness to help move cattle from a broken-down hauler in the sweltering heat. The Fire Department was able to hose down the cattle to keep them cool during the repair.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Museum: Repair/Maintenance

Karen Day, Director of the Chrysler Museum, asked for Council to consider replacing the heating and air conditioning system at the museum. The current system is 30 years old and has had many problems. Public Works Director John Leiker has solicited bids and will present to Council at a future meeting.

Tourism: Special Event

Council member John Walz moved to approve one campground pass, two adult swim passes, and two child swim passes for the raffle baskets for the KSN Summer Road Trip promotion on July 20th. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Budget

Council member John Walz moved to notify the Ellis County Clerk that the City of Ellis intends to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2023 budget with the public hearing to

be held on August 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Licenses/Permits

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve the Noise Permit Application and Traffic Control Application for the Ellis Jr. Free Fair for the events scheduled July 27th – 30th. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented a current well depth chart and the Comparative Water Reports for the periods April 10th – May 10th and from May 10th – June 10th. The wells have declined and if it continues, Council may need to revisit water restrictions. Mr. Leiker has had a citizen approach him about possibly buying some of the City's excess bricks from the streets. It was the consensus of Council not to sell any materials at this time.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Mid-Month Incident Report for July. Chief Smith reported the Durango with the VIN originally assigned to the Department has 4,000 miles and is not considered "new". The Department has now been assigned a different Durango with only 40 miles on it. The vehicle will be shipped soon and may be operational in the Department by mid-August. The Department will host active shooter training at Ellis High School on August 6th.

Personnel: Entry

Chief Smith announced that Officer Alanna Woods will join the department July 25th. Officer Woods completed certification training earlier this year.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the Health Insurance Savings Report for June, the minutes from the recent Campground Committee meeting, and the June financial statements. The City will host a swim party for staff and officials on August 13th from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Attorney

Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel asked for Chief Smith to have his officers hand deliver council packets whenever possible.

Council member John Walz reported PRIDE will not be painting the sunflowers this week due to the extreme temperatures.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
August 1, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President John Walz called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, and Tricia Pritchett. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub. Mayor David McDaniel was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Jason Colby, Neal Younger, David Clingan, Glen Keller, Nickole Byers, Braden Parke, and Jim Pfeifer.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on July 18, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2146. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

General Government: Policy

Jason Colby expressed his disagreement with the current curfew provisions. Mr. Colby feels the earlier curfew punishes kids and asked for Council to reconsider the previous curfew times.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker reported he is still waiting on bids for repair of the alley south of City Hall, 13th Street from Washington to Dorrance, and the HVAC system at the Chrysler Museum. The City is now licensed as a training facility for employees to obtain their commercial driver's license. Mr. Leiker thanked Ellis County for their assistance in improving the drainage on 10th Street from Spruce to Washington. The County Public Works Department is scheduled to come out this week for the project.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Incident Report for July. The Dodge Durango is in transit from New York and should be equipped and placed into service within the next 3-5 weeks. Council member Tricia Pritchett inquired about the Department's thoughts on the current curfew provisions. Chief Smith replied that it's working fantastically with no issues. The Ford Explorer has been stripped of all equipment and is ready for

insurance to pick up.

Personnel: Financial

Chief Smith then discussed a letter the City received from Fort Hays State University requesting reimbursement for Officer Alanna Woods' salary and travel expenses incurred by the University while Officer Woods attended the Kansas law Enforcement Training Center. K.S.A. 74-5609a states that the City is required to reimburse these expenses since Officer Woods was hired within one year of graduating KLETC. Council member John Walz moved to approve reimbursement to Fort Hays State University in the amount of \$13,244.19 for Officer Woods' salary and travel expenses during KLETC. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton reminded Council of the City official/staff swim party on August 13th from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Attorney

Mayor Update and Announcements

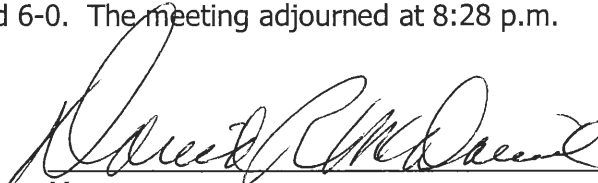
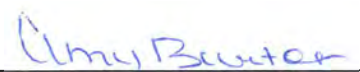
Council member Devin Henderson stated that he has had several residents inquire about a community daycare facility.

General Government: Financial

City Clerk Amy Burton facilitated 2023 budget discussions regarding equipment and capital projects. The revenue neutral rate hearing and budget hearing will be held August 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.


Mayor

City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
August 15, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, Fire Chief Dustin Vine, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor David McDaniel added that Fire Chief Dustin Vine will present his monthly Fire Department report.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Chad Pritchett, Nickole Byers, James Bell, Verda Flinn and Braden Parke.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 1, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2147. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

General Government: Financial

Meagan Wellbrock, Adams Brown, LLC, presented the Agreed Upon Procedure report for the Ellis Alliance. Ms. Wellbrock recommended the Alliance only have one entity complete the payroll process for the year to reduce errors. Currently, the Alliance prepares a portion and their accountant prepares a portion.

Fire: Report

Fire Chief Dustin Vine presented his monthly report. Captain Tim Kohlrus participated in the collaborative active shooter training for emergency responders held at Ellis High School.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Museum: Repair/Maintenance

Public Works Director John Leiker presented three bids to replace the current HVAC system at the Walter P. Chrysler Boyhood Home & Museum. After reviewing each of the bids, Council member John Walz moved to approve the low bid from City Plumbing in the amount of \$7,891.80 to replace the HVAC system at the Chrysler Boyhood Home with funds to come from the Capital Improvement Fund. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Financial

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to approve Resolution No. 587 authorizing City employees to use the City credit cards. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Council member John Walz moved to approve Ordinance No. 1475 adopting the 2022 edition

of the Uniform Public Offense Code. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve Ordinance No. 1476 adopting the 2022 edition of the Standard Traffic Ordinance. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Campground: Special Project

Campground Committee member Verda Flinn provided an update on the proposed improvements to the expansion side of the Ellis Lakeside Campground. The Committee would like to apply for state, regional, and local grants to purchase and install a bathhouse on the south side. Preliminary plans also include 2-3 pieces of new playground equipment to add qualification points for Department of Commerce Community Development Block Grant funds. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to authorize the Campground Committee to work with Buck Driggs, Driggs Design Group, and Justine Benoit, Northwest Kansas Planning & Development Commission, to start grant applications for the proposed campground improvements. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Clerk: Contract

Council member John Walz moved to approve the contract with Imaging Office Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$3,055.35 to scan and later destroy nine boxes of documents in accordance with the City's record retention policy. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Capital Improvement: Repair/Maintenance

Public Works Director John Leiker presented two bids for replacement of the alley south of City Hall. However, Mr. Leiker recently received a call from one of the bidders that he has decided to go out of business due to lack of help, leaving a single bid for consideration. Council member John Walz moved to approve the bid from Morgan Brothers Construction in the amount of \$34,200.00 to replace the alley south of City Hall with funds to come from the Capital Improvement-Street fund. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Police: Disposal

Police Chief Avery Smith requested permission to donate bulletproof vests to the Valley Falls Police Department. That department's Chief resigned and took all of the agency's gear and equipment. The vests are outdated and no longer of use to the Ellis Police Department. City Attorney Olavee Raub suggested adding a disclaimer to the donation that the vests are offered "as is" and that the City of Ellis has no responsibility for the condition of the vests. Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the donation of three used bulletproof vests to the Valley Falls Police Department. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Public Works: Violation

City Attorney Olavee Raub reviewed a proposed resolution setting a public hearing for possible condemnation of 1024 Washington Street. The property has had several violation notices, with the last violation as a result of a portion of the rear brick wall collapsing. The property is an immediate hazard to the public's safety. If the resolution is approved, the owner will have to appear at the hearing to show cause as to why the building should not be condemned. After further discussion, Council member John Walz moved to approve Resolution No. 588 setting the public hearing for 1024 Washington Street for October 3, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works: Disposal

Public Works Director John Leiker requested permission to advertise for sale old fire hydrants no longer of use to the City. Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to authorize Mr. Leiker to sell the old fire hydrants for \$100.00 each. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Leiker also presented the current water well levels. Without rain, the City may need to revisit watering restrictions for residents.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Mid-Month Incident Report for August. The wrecked Ford Explorer has been picked up by EMC Insurance. Officers participated in a joint active shooter training held at Ellis High School.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the Health Insurance Savings Report for July. The Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing and Budget Hearing will be held August 22nd at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Burton thanked Gigi's Café and Hearing Solutions, LLC for sponsoring free swim events this summer.

Attorney

Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel announced that the City will host the League of Kansas Municipalities Governing Body meeting in Ellis on September 9th at the Library meeting room. Mayor McDaniel distributed the community comments from the Town Hall Meeting on April 7th and encouraged Council members to review for future discussion. Council member Tricia Pritchett reported there will be a meeting on September 12th at 7:00 p.m. for those interested in volunteering with the Trap/Neuter/Return program for community cats.

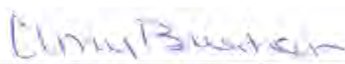
EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Mayor David McDaniel asked for a motion to recess into executive session at the request of Police Chief Avery Smith. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved for City Council to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss staffing in the Police Department pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1) with City Attorney Olavee Raub, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Clerk Amy Burton present. The open meeting will resume at 8:35 p.m. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. No action was taken in executive session and the open meeting resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.



Mayor

City Clerk

CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING

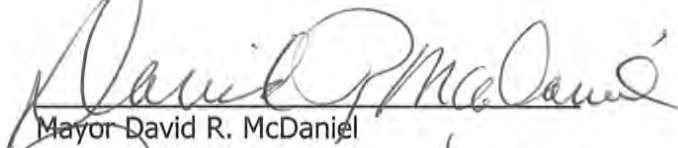
TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ELLIS, KANSAS:

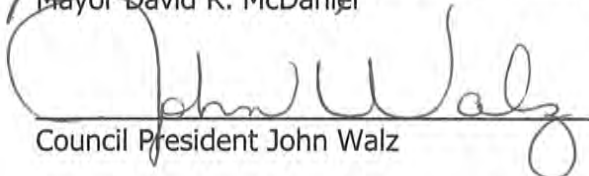
A SPECIAL MEETING of the City Council is hereby called to be held at City Hall, 815 Jefferson, in Ellis, Kansas, on August 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of holding the Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing and 2023 Budget Hearing.

- **Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing and Consider Resolution to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate**
- **2023 Budget Hearing and Consider Adoption of Budget Document**

At a special meeting of the Governing Body the only business that can be discussed is that for which the meeting was called.

SIGNED:

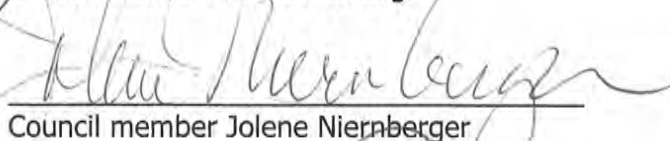

Mayor David R. McDaniel


Council President John Walz


Council member Kellie Crnkovich


Council member Devin Henderson


Council member Martin LaBarge


Council member Jolene Niernberger


Council member Tricia Pritchett

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
Minutes
August 22, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present was City Clerk Amy Burton.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

PURPOSE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Mayor David McDaniel stated the purpose of the special meeting is to hold the Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing and the 2023 Budget Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING – REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE

General Government: Financial

Mayor David McDaniel requested a motion to open the public hearing to discuss the Revenue Neutral Rate. Council member Martin LaBarge moved to open the Revenue Neutral Rate hearing. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The public hearing opened at 6:02 p.m.

City Clerk Amy Burton explained that the Revenue Neutral Rate hearing is required under Senate Bill 13 and the Tax Transparency Act. The City plans to adopt a budget in excess of the Revenue Neutral Rate, but maintain the same mill levy as the 2022 adopted budget. There being no public present to comment, Mayor McDaniel asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Council member John Walz moved and Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded a motion to close the Revenue Neutral Rate hearing. The motion carried 6-0. The public hearing closed at 6:03 p.m.

General Government: Financial

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve Resolution No. 589 authorizing the City of Ellis to levy a property tax exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz all voting in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2023 BUDGET DOCUMENT

General Government: Financial

Mayor David McDaniel requested a motion to open the public hearing to discuss the 2023 Budget Document. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to open the 2023 budget hearing. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The public hearing opened at 6:05 p.m.

City Clerk Amy Burton stated the proposed budget has been published the required amount of time and that tonight is an opportunity for the citizens of Ellis to comment on the proposed budget for 2023.

There being no public present to comment, Mayor McDaniel asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Council member John Walz moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to close the 2023 budget hearing. The motion carried 6-0. The public hearing closed at 6:06 p.m.

General Government: Financial

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the 2023 City of Ellis budget document

as presented. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member John Walz moved and Council member Martin LaBarge seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
September 6, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub. Council member Martin LaBarge was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

City Clerk Amy Burton requested Council consideration of the Event Request applications for the annual EHS homecoming activities. The item will be added under New Business.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Sylvia Deutscher, and Nickole Byers.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 15, 2022, Minutes from the Special Meeting on August 22, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2148, and the Manual Journal Entries for July. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nickole Byers, Ellis Chamber of Commerce, distributed flyers on the upcoming Quarterly Business Knowledge segment on counterfeit money. The event will be held September 13th at 6:30 p.m. at the Ellis Alliance office.

Sylvia Deutscher addressed Council about a high-water usage letter she received and also questioned City procedures on new meter applications.

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Committee

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to designate John Walz as the voting delegate and Kellie Crnkovich as the alternate voting delegate at the League of Kansas Municipalities Annual Conference. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Licenses/Permits

Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the Application for Permit to Drill Private Water Well from Justin Wichert at 406 E. 14th Street contingent on approval of the site and valid State license for the drilling contractor. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Parks: Event Request

Council discussed the event request and traffic control applications for the annual Ellis Polar

Express event held in December. Police Chief Avery Smith stressed that the Police department will not monitor street barricades and stated that the campground road must remain open for travelers. Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to approve the Traffic Control Application and Event Request Application for Public Property for the Ellis Polar Express event held December 2nd – 4th. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. Upon a call for discussion, Council expressed concerns over the placement of barricades at several locations on the application. It was the consensus of Council to table approval of the Traffic Control Application until Chief Smith can discuss barricade placement with the applicant. Council member Tricia Pritchett amended her motion to only approve the Event Request Application for use of Playworld Park and Railroad Park for the Ellis Polar Express event held December 2nd – 4th. Council member John Walz again seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Parks: Event Request

Council member John Walz moved to approve the Event Request Application for Public Property and the Traffic Control Application from the Ellis High School STUCO for the annual homecoming activities on September 16th. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Financial

City Clerk Amy Burton requested authorization to apply leftover USDA Waterline Project funds to the outstanding debt balance. The City had been holding on to the funds in hopes to apply to a future project; however, USDA has since recommended the City apply the outstanding funds to the current debt in order to keep USDA funded projects separate. Council member John Walz moved to authorize City Clerk Amy Burton to apply remaining USDA project funds in the amount of \$160,694.90 to the USDA Series 2016 General Obligation bonds. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Police: Special Project

Police Chief Avery Smith stated the St. Mary's Auction Committee approached him about donating a ride to school in the patrol car for the annual fundraising auction. Council members expressed concerns about separation of church of state and the perception of "buying" a city service. After further discussion, it was the consensus of Council to not take action.

Water: Acquisition

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to ratify the invoice from Municipal Supply in the amount of \$2,522.78 with funds to come from the Water Utility Fund. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the Comparative Water Reports for the periods June 10th – July 10th and July 10th – August 10th. The water well levels have only small fluctuations and the average daily usage has decreased from 200,000 gallons/day to 180,000 gallons/day. Council requests voluntary water conservation measures in order to avoid stricter conservation restrictions.

Public Works: Violation

Mr. Leiker informed Council of a shed on 12th Street that has been cited several times for violations. The shed is now leaning even more and as a public safety hazard warrants immediate action. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to authorize Public Works Director John Leiker to remediate the shed structure at 103 E. 12th Street, with notice to be sent to the property owner that expenses to remediate will be assessed to the property tax

roll. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Incident Report for August. The Dodge Durango has been picked up; however, on the way back to Ellis the check engine light came on and the engine was misfiring. The vehicle is currently at Lewis Automotive being looked over. The City received the insurance proceeds from totaling the Ford Explorer in the amount of \$22,520.14.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the July Financial Statements and the minutes from the June Tourism Committee meeting. Ms. Burton enclosed a copy of the Water Conservation Plan due to Council talks about possibly needing to revisit water conservation measures. Ms. Burton, Mayor David McDaniel, Mr. Leiker, Chief Smith, Joe Kreutzer, and Officer Kolas all met with Brandon Scott, Enterprise Leasing, about their leasing program for municipalities. The program would allow the City to retain equity in the fleet, while rotating in newer vehicles, which could reduce maintenance costs and down time. Mr. Scott will present virtually to Council when he has the proposed replacement plan completed. Ms. Burton then addressed Ms. Deutscher's comments during Public Comment. Ms. Burton explained that the City office does not have the resources or current phone numbers to personally call everyone that is sent a courtesy letter regarding high water usage. Also, new utility service applications must be complete prior to starting service in order to protect the City in the case of a bad debt.

Attorney

Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel distributed invitations to City officials for the A&W soft opening on September 10th.

City officials from across the State of Kansas will be in Ellis September 8th and 9th for the League's Governing Body meeting.

Council member John Walz gave an update on the PRIDE Committee. The painting of the street sunflowers will be delayed until next spring. The committee has plans to apply for grants to improve and enclose the entrance to the Alumni Room at the Ellis Railroad Museum. The committee plans to volunteer time for the Ellis Polar Express event in December, and they are exploring a community garden in cooperation with the school district.

Council member Tricia Pritchett reminded everyone about the meeting on September 12th at 7:00 p.m. for volunteers helping with the Trap/Neuter/Return program for community cats. The first trapping is scheduled for late September.


Council member Jolene Niernberger expressed concerns over community comments made about Council not listening to the public and feeling like they don't have a voice. Mayor McDaniel encouraged Council members to make eye contact with the speaker during Public Comment, but to remember that Council is not allowed to interact with the speaker during that time.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Devin Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
September 19, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, Fire Chief Dustin Vine, and City Attorney Olavee Raub. Council member Martin LaBarge was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, James Bell, Cheryl Kinderknecht, David Clingan, Diana Staab (attended virtually), and Randy Murphy (arrived at 7:44 p.m.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on September 6, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2149. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

Campground: Event Request

Diana Staab, representing the Girl Scouts, requested a waiver of camping fees for the Girl Scout troop to camp at Ellis Lakeside Campground in October. The Girl Scouts have visited the campground every other year for the last 10 years. Council member John Walz moved to approve the Event Request Application/Permit for Public Property for the Girl Scouts to camp at Ellis Lakeside Campground on October 1st and to waive the camping fees. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

SPECIAL ORDER

Fire: Report

Fire Chief Dustin Vine presented his monthly report. The Department participated in several training opportunities, and also helped with the annual homecoming activities. Chief Vine praised the Council for supporting improvements to the City's waterlines as it proved beneficial in fighting a recent residential fire.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Policy

Public Works Director John Leiker reported that the City has been certified to perform the "driving" portion of the Commercial Driver's License examination, but employees will still need to attend the "theory" portion elsewhere. Council reviewed the memo from City Attorney Olavee Raub from June where Ms. Raub provided sample policy language for employee reimbursement of the CDL training fees. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to prepare an employee contract with the provisions outlined in the memo for employee reimbursement of CDL training fees, and to add an option for wage assignment as a method of repayment. Council member Jolene Niernberger

seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Financial

Gurkirpa Real Estate, DBA A&W of Ellis, submitted applications for New Retail Business Incentives and also Local Utility Service Incentives. City policy is to only allow participation in one of the incentive programs. Owner Sarbjit Singh has also requested a 10-year property tax abatement, to which the City passed a Resolution of Intent to issue Industrial Revenue Bonds in May 2022. Council asked City Attorney Olavee Raub to contact bond counsel for a status update on the IRB's before considering additional approval of the incentive applications. This item will be tabled until Ms. Raub is able to provide a status on the bond issuance.

Cemetery: Policy

Public Works Director John Leiker presented a recommendation from the Cemetery Committee to revise Code Section 12-122 to restrict who is able to be buried in the same cemetery plot. Current City Code allows one burial and one cremation, or two cremations, in the same space. The Committee recommends limiting the dual burials to spouse/spouse or parent/minor child. After further discussion, Council member John Walz moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to modify Code Section 12-122 to restrict dual burials to spouse/spouse or parent/minor child. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. Upon a call for discussion, Ms. Raub suggested allowing individuals to also designate additional person/persons, if desired. Council member John Walz amended his motion to reflect the suggestion. Council member Tricia Pritchett amended her second. Upon a call for the vote, the amended motion passed 5-0.

General Government: Disposal

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to approve the Certificate of Destruction of Public Records as presented. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Special Machinery: Acquisition

Council member Devin Henderson moved to ratify the invoice from JR Audio in the amount of \$10,340.00 to outfit the 2021 Dodge Durango, with funds to come from the Special Machinery fund. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Financial

Council member John Walz moved to approve Resolution No. 590 authorizing City employees to use the City credit cards. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Policy

Council member Tricia Pritchett, and community cat volunteer, updated Council on the Trap/Neuter/Return program. The volunteers performed the first trapping with an adult female and four kittens. The cats were trapped at 11th and Monroe and pictures taken and posted at City Hall and the Ellis Police Department Facebook page for over 72 hours. The cats were released and then re-trapped the day before and taken to the vet to be spayed or neutered. Ms. Pritchett suggested several modifications to the procedures originally approved. Ellis Police Department will verify and document that the cats posted are the same cats taken to the vet, trap dates and locations will be approved by Council, the posting time period will be changed from three business days to 72 hours, and the cats won't be taken from the location they were trapped. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to modify Ordinance No. 1466 and the TNR Policy to reflect the changes suggested. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried

5-0.

Council member Kellie Crnkovich then moved to ratify the trapping procedures performed on September 15th in that due to the extreme heat the cats were not held in the traps for the 72 hours. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Special Project

Council entered into a discussion regarding downtown revitalization and what the City can do to bring dilapidated downtown buildings back to life. City Attorney Olavee Raub stated the City can go through the condemnation procedures and either demolish the building or take the building over for public use. However, there are specific procedures the City must follow in order to take possession of the building, including identifying the specific use of the building, obtaining at least three appraisals, and paying fair market value for the property. There are revitalization grants available, however, most require the property owner to apply and the applicant must provide matching funds. Council discussed ways to get the property owners on board with help from the Ellis Economic Development Corporation, the Chamber of Commerce, the Ellis Alliance, and the Ellis Community Foundation.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the current water well level chart. The current well levels are approximately at the mid-point between the high of 2018 and the low of 2016. The city-wide cleanup is scheduled for the week of October 3rd.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Mid-Month Incident Report for September. No date has been set yet for Trunk or Treat. Officer Peterson started back at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center today and applications are being accepted for the vacant position.

Personnel: Exit

Officer Danielle Nelson resigned her position with the Ellis Police Department effective September 15, 2022 due to her moving outside of the 30-mile response radius for employment eligibility.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the Health Insurance Savings Report for August and the minutes from the recent Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals and Cemetery Committee meetings. Ms. Burton reported she is working on scouting companies for texting programs for community alerts. Mayor David McDaniel, Council member Jolene Niernberger, Mr. Leiker and Ms. Burton attended the recent KDHE Lead and Copper public meeting. The City is required to submit a complete inventory of its water service lines by 2024.

Attorney

Mayor Update and Announcements


Mayor David McDaniel thanked the Clerk's office and Public Works Department for their help behind the scenes at the LKM Governing Body meeting held at the Library meeting room September 9th. There were many positive comments from participants about the hotel, restaurant, and caterer.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Devin Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
October 3, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Consideration of amendments to the TNR policy and Ordinance No. 1466 regarding care for community cats will be tabled until the October 17th meeting.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Austin McGaughey, Glen Keller, Neal Younger, Ron Hallagin, Kelly Stewart, James Bell, and Cheryl Kinderknecht.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on September 19, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2150, and the Manual Journal Entries for August. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Officer Alanna Woods introduced herself to the Governing Body. Officer Woods is the newest officer in the department.

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

PUBLIC HEARING: CODE VIOLATION 1024 WASHINGTON STREET

Public Works: Violation

Mayor David McDaniel requested a motion to open the public hearing to discuss possible condemnation of 1024 Washington Street, owned by Thomas Grubb. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved and Council member John Walz seconded a motion to open the public hearing. The motion carried 6-0. The public hearing opened at 7:33 p.m.

City Attorney Olavee Raub stated the hearing was an opportunity for the public to comment on whether the structure at 1024 Washington should be found to be unfit and dangerous for human use and habitation.

Mr. Grubb was not present at the hearing.

There being no further public comments, Mayor McDaniel asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to close the public hearing regarding possible condemnation of 1024 Washington Street. The motion carried 6-0. The public hearing closed at 7:37 p.m.

Public Works: Violation

Council discussed the property at 1024 Washington Street. It was the consensus of the Council to have a structural engineer inspect the building to determine the integrity of the adjoining walls. Council would like the opinion of the structural engineer before setting a deadline for repairs by the owner. Mayor McDaniel suggested forming a downtown building committee to study the deteriorating downtown buildings and research solutions. He suggested an eight-person committee comprised of two individuals each from the Ellis Industrial Development Corporation, the Ellis Alliance, the Ellis Community Foundation, and

the Ellis Chamber of Commerce. Council member John Walz moved to determine the property at 1024 Washington Street as unsafe and unfit for human use and habitation and to revisit the resolution of findings pending the evaluation by the structural engineer and the proposed downtown building committee. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Council member Kellie Crnkovich then moved to authorize Public Works Director John Leiker to solicit bids for a structural engineer to determine the state of 1024 Washington Street. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

SPECIAL ORDER

Campground: Event Request

Chris Byer, representing Cub Scout Pack 111, requested a waiver of camping fees for the Cub Scout troop to camp in tent spaces at Ellis Lakeside Campground. Council member John Walz moved to approve the Event Request Application/Permit for Public Property for the Cub Scouts to camp at Ellis Lakeside Campground October 7th – 8th and to waive the camping fees. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Water: Special Project

Ron Hallagin, representing the Ellis Golf Club, discussed with Council the need for a dependable water source in order for the golf course to remain viable. Mr. Hallagin asked for Council to consider allowing the EGC to have access to the City's nearby water well or to drill another well on the golf course. Kelly Stewart, Division of Water Resources, reported that the City would be allowed to supply water under the City's existing water rights; however, the City would not be allowed to drill another well on the Big Creek Alluvial Aquifer. Public Works Director John Leiker reported the City currently supplies the EGC with an average of 139,000 gallons of effluent water per day. The course also has several metered water sources around the course available. No action was taken.

General Government: Financial

Rachel Harlow, Enterprise Leasing, gave a presentation on their fleet management system. The program would allow the City to eventually maintain an updated vehicle fleet, which would reduce maintenance costs and down time. Enterprise will track mileage, maintenance schedules, and market conditions to determine the optimal selling time for each vehicle in the program. Most vehicles will be initially set up as a five-year lease, with police vehicles set at a four-year lease. Ms. Harlow recommends replacing ten of the City's vehicles soon, with five vehicles selected as priority, to maximize resale value and minimize repair costs. Even though the program is a leasing setup, the City maintains equity in the vehicles at the end of the lease term to roll into the replacement vehicles. No action was taken. Council will further discuss the leasing program at the October 17th meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Cemetery: City Code

Council members performed a first reading on proposed amendments to Code Section 12-122, use of cemetery spaces. Dual burials would be limited to spouse/spouse, parent/child, or the plot owner's designee. After further discussion, Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to revise the proposed ordinance further by limiting the parent/child provision to a minor child, and also clarifying that the provisions only apply to Mount Hope Cemetery. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-1, with Council member Kellie Crnkovich voting opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Financial

City Clerk Amy Burton presented a draft of the comprehensive fee schedule for the City. The schedule has not been updated in entirety for several years. Ms. Burton polled cities of the

second class for comparison of fees charged. Council will review the fee comparisons and discuss further at the October 17th meeting.

Streets: Acquisition

Council member John Walz moved to approve the purchase of 4,500 lbs. of crack sealing material from Crafco in the amount of \$4,005.00 with funds to come from the Capital Improvement – Street fund. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker reported that he was included on correspondence regarding the possible start of sewer infrastructure at the Highland Addition. The Cemetery Committee approved clearing out the overgrowth surrounding the G.A.R. statue at the cemetery and to landscape a rose garden around it. The area will be maintained by Cemetery Committee members.

Council discussed the Ellis Golf Club's request to drill a new well or to tap into the City's wells around the golf course. Mr. Leiker expressed concerns of the City's water wells already decreasing and the creek noticeably drying up. The wells in the area of the golf course have traditionally been the City's lower producing wells, and Mr. Stewart stated the City is unable to drill a new well in that area. Council noted that the City may have the water rights available, but not an adequate water source to use those water rights. Council also noted that the City already supplies EGC with free effluent water. It was the consensus of Council to not allow the golf course to use the City's wells with the current water supply uncertainty. Ellis Golf Club is still able to use the metered water sources at the course.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Incident Report for September. Trunk or Treat will be held October 29th.

Chief Smith would like to explore the option of adopting dogs out of the City's animal pound if the Humane Society isn't able to accommodate the animal. City Attorney Olavee Raub will review State Statutes to determine what would need to be considered.

Chief Smith reported that the police cell phone is no longer in service. The department now has an unlisted number. Residents are encouraged to call the non-emergency dispatch at 785.625.1011 for an Ellis police officer to contact them.

Pittsburg State University and Fort Hays State University students have asked permission to enter City property to study the prairie spotted skunk population.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the recent Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals, Cemetery Committee, and Tourism Committee meetings and the August financial statements. Ms. Burton has scheduled several demonstrations on texting software for community alerts and hopes to have a recommendation by the next Council meeting. The annual flu shot clinic will be October 12th from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. in Council chambers.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub reported that Gilmore & Bell has not returned her call to discuss the status of the IRB Issuance for A&W of Ellis.


Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel announced the annual League Legislative Dinner will be in Colby on October 25th.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.



Mayor

City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
October 17, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Officer Benjamin Kolas, Fire Chief Dustin Vine, and City Attorney Olavee Raub. Council member Tricia Pritchett was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Brad Deines, Tava Deines, Christian Cline, Myles Vine, Brian Spano, and Doug Goetz.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on October 3, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2151. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

Personnel: Award

Mayor David McDaniel presented the annual Service Awards to employees who reached milestone anniversaries with the City. Awards were presented to Fire Chief Dustin Vine (25 years), Fire Lieutenant Christian Cline (15 years), City Clerk Amy Burton (10 years), and Fireman Bradley Deines (5 years).

SPECIAL ORDER

Fire: Report

Fire Chief Dustin Vine presented his monthly department report. Firefighters presented fire prevention information to St. Mary's and Washington Grade School students.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Water: Special Project

Brian Spano and Doug Goetz, Wilson & Company, updated Council on the Water Supply System Improvement Project. A preliminary alignment for the twenty-one miles of waterline pipe has been determined and the surveyor is currently working on the land surveys for those properties. Once the easement descriptions are available from the surveyor, land acquisition contract documents can be drawn up and discussed with land owners. The project design is projected to be completed by summer 2023, with approval from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment that fall. Once KDHE approves the project, the project can be put out for bids with construction projected to start early 2024. Council expressed support for holding a public meeting to provide information to the public regarding the project.

Personnel: Contract

City Attorney Olavee Raub presented the proposed CDL training reimbursement contract for Public Works employees. The City is registered to teach the "behind-the-wheel" portion of

the licensing requirements, but the theory portion is taught by Kansas Municipal Utilities. The one-day class is currently \$800.00. The employee contract provides for decreasing reimbursement percentages based on employment longevity; however, it was suggested to change the decreasing provision to upon the issuance of the full CDL. Council member John Walz moved to approve the Training Reimbursement Contract modifying the reimbursement provision to upon issuance of the full commercial driver's license. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Cemetery: City Code

Council performed a second reading of the proposed ordinance amending Code Section 12-122, use of cemetery spaces. The amendment restricts dual burials to the plot owner's designee, spouse, or minor child. Council member John Walz moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1477 amending use of cemetery spaces, as presented. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-1, with Council member Kellie Crnkovich opposed.

General Government: City Code

Council discussed proposed revisions to the ordinance providing for the care and stability of the community cat population. Section 1(c) has been revised allowing the City to simply advertise the cats for 72 hours instead of holding and caring for trapped cats for three business days. Council member Martin LaBarge moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1478 as presented amending the ordinance regarding the care of community cats. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Council then discussed proposed revisions to the Trap/Neuter/Return policy. The revisions allow the cats to be advertised without being physically trapped until the day of the procedure. The Ellis Police Department will verify that the cats advertised for 72 hours are the same cats transported to the veterinarian for the TNR procedures. It was the consensus of Council to have the Ellis Police Department document TNR activity in the record management system instead of the City Clerk's office. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the TNR Procedure Policy with the revision for the Police Department to maintain the record keeping of the animals. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Council member John Walz then presented a sample TNR caretaker application/contract. Council will further discuss the form at the next Council meeting.

General Government: Financial

The City received a statement from Big Creek Veterinary Services for TNR expenses; however, there is a previous balance on the statement that was in question. Council member John Walz attempted to contact Big Creek for clarification, but had not heard back by the Council meeting. This item will be tabled until the next Council meeting.

General Government: Financial

Council further discussed the proposed fleet leasing program introduced at the last Council meeting by Rachel Harlow with Enterprise Leasing. City Clerk Amy Burton presented projected budget numbers for the next ten years. After considerable discussion, including expressed concerns on future budget burdens and increased insurance premiums for newer vehicles, it was the consensus of Council to not take action at this time. Council will revisit the program during the 2024 budget preparation.

General Government: Fine/Fees

Council reviewed in detail the comprehensive schedule of fees charged for various permits, licenses, and services. City Clerk Amy Burton will make the recommended changes to the schedule for consideration of approval at the next Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Streets: Event Request

Council member John Walz moved to approve the Event Request Application and Traffic Control Application for the annual Trunk or Treat event to be held October 29, 2022 in the City parking lot at 9th and Jefferson Streets. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Licenses/Permits

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the Application for Permit to Drill Private Water Well from Paul Fisher at 1305 Maple Street. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Financial

Council considered a donation request from the Ellis United Methodist Church Fifth Quarter. The Ellis Police Department recently volunteered time during their post-game gathering for high school students. City Attorney Olavee Raub reviewed the criteria for eligible applicants. The City's donation policy states that "religious organizations are not eligible for donations"; therefore, no action was taken.

Public Works: Violation

Public Works Director John Leiker presented two quotes for a structural engineer to inspect the building subject to condemnation located at 1024 Washington. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the low bid from Manley Structural Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00 to inspect 1024 Washington Street, with funds to come from General-Inspection. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

General Government: Contract

City Clerk Amy Burton presented several quotes for text messaging alert software. Ms. Burton briefly explained features of each company's software and her recommendation for the three-year contract with Everbridge for their Nixle 360 software. Ms. Burton would like to have information to send out to residents with the December 1st quarterly newsletter. After further discussion, Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the three-year contract with Everbridge for the Nixle 360 text messaging software in the total amount of \$10,164.00, with the cost to be split between General-Admin, General-Police, and Water Utility. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the Comparative Water Report for the period August 10th – September 10th. Crews trimmed trees at the cemetery and worked the city wide clean up.

Police

Police Officer Benjamin Kolas presented the Mid-Month Incident Report for October. The Department has received three applications for the vacant position.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the Health Insurance Savings Report for September. City staff met with Driggs Design Group and Northwest Kansas Planning & Development Corporation regarding the Community Development Block Grant for the campground project. Assistant City Clerk Verda Flinn is working on a grant application to Dane G. Hansen to supplement the City's required matching funds.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub reported she is still working on a policy to allow the City to adopt dogs out of the city shelter. Ms. Raub has still not heard from Gilmore & Bell regarding an update on the IRB issuance for the A&W of Ellis. Sarbjit Singh has submitted a consent for

annexation for property on the north end of town. Ms. Raub has reached out to Mr. Singh to explain the process and provide him with the correct submission documents, but he has not responded.

Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel invited Council members to attend the LKM Legislative Supper to be held in Colby on October 25th.

Council member John Walz gave an update from the LKM Annual Conference that he, Mayor McDaniel, Council member Jolene Niernberger, and City Clerk Amy Burton recently attended.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.


Mayor


City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
November 7, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Joleen Fisher, Nickole Byers, Neal Younger, and Monica Befort.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on October 17, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2152, and the Manual Journal Entries for September. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

Parks: Special Project

Joleen Fisher, representing the Wonder Woman League, proposed an educational walking trail for Creekside Park. The organization operates under the umbrella of the United Way of Ellis County. The "Born Learning Trail" in Sunrise Park in Hays has been a huge success. The organization is asking for approval from Council to proceed with the project so they can start fundraising and soliciting volunteers to help. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to allow the Wonder Woman League to proceed with the Born Learning Trail in Creekside Park. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Special Project

Monica Befort requested consideration from Council to allow her to paint a mural representative of Ellis on a City building. After discussing several possible locations, Council agreed on the bathhouse at the Ellis Lakeside Campground. Ms. Befort will return to the Council meeting on December 5th with suggestions for the mural.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Licenses/Permits

Council performed another review of the proposed comprehensive fee schedule for City licenses, permits, and miscellaneous fees. Several proposed fee increases are established by ordinance; therefore, the applicable ordinance will need to be amended before that fee can be revised. Council member John Walz moved to approve Resolution No. 591 as presented, and to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to amend the relevant ordinances, as proposed. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Contract

Council discussed a proposed Trap/Neuter/Return contract for community caretakers.

Council member Tricia Pritchett expressed concerns that asking caretakers to sign a contract claiming responsibility for community cats could cause reduced participation in a program that relies on public cooperation. City Attorney Olavee Raub added that the City's ordinance already authorizes the City to take action under the TNR program; therefore, the contract is not needed. No action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Special Project

Council member John Walz moved to authorize Mayor David McDaniel to sign a letter of support for ACCESS Public Transportation. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Contract

Council considered continuing the Preventative Maintenance Agreement with Glassman Corporation for the HVAC system at City Hall. Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to accept the three-year contract from Glassman Corporation for preventative maintenance on the HVAC system at City Hall in the amount of \$1,580.00 per year, with funds to come from General - Administration. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Licenses/Permits

Council considered an application to drill a private water well at 1308 Cottonwood Street. Public Works Director John Leiker expressed concern that the proposed well location is within the City's easement. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the Application for Permit to Drill Private Water Well from Ron Hallagin at 1308 Cottonwood Street, contingent on the well being moved outside of the City's easement and verification of a valid State license for the drilling contractor. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Clerk: Disposal

City Clerk Amy Burton presented a list of records ready to be destroyed per the City's record retention policy. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the Certificate of Destruction of Public Records as presented. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Water: Contract

The City's application for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's loan program requires an archeological survey for the project area in order to grant historical clearance. Two companies in Kansas provided proposals to conduct the survey. Council member John Walz moved to accept the low bid from Buried Past Consulting to conduct an archeologist survey for the Water System Improvement Project area in the amount of \$3,950.00 with funds to come from the Capital Improvement – Water Exploration fund. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Contract

With the approval of revisions to the Comprehensive Fee Schedule, the contract with Mark Augustine needs amended to reflect the increased daily dog pound fee. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve revisions to the Municipal Pound Services Contract with Mark Augustine. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Campground: Contract

Driggs Design Group has submitted a proposal to prepare the Preliminary Engineering Report for the campground bathhouse project. Approving the contract will award "readiness" points in the City's Community Development Block Grant application. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the proposal for engineering services from Driggs Design

Group in the amount of \$5,500.00 for the Campground Improvement Project, with funds to come from the Campground fund. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Streets: Acquisition

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to approve the purchase of crushed white rock (\$1,840.00), asphalt millings (\$2,000.00), and road sand (\$900.00) from Flatlander in the total amount of \$4,740.00 with funds to come from the Capital Improvement – Street fund. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented an invoice from Flatlander Dirt Works in the amount of \$4,125.00 to remediate the shed at 103 E. 12th Street. The property owner has been invoiced for the bill. If not paid directly by the property owner, the invoice will be assessed to the real estate taxes of the property.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Incident Report for October. Two applicants will be interviewed on November 19th for the vacant position. Council members are invited to attend the DARE graduation at St. Mary's Grade School on November 10th.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the recent Cemetery Committee and Planning Commission meetings, the Health Insurance Savings Report for October and the September Financial Statements. Ms. Burton inquired of Council's willingness to participate in the Ellis County "Got Waste" magnet project again. The magnet provides information about recycling centers and compost sites in the county. It was the consensus of Council to proceed with the project. Ms. Burton reported City crews hauled off 37.79 tons of waste during the City-wide Cleanup.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub reported she still has not heard from Gilmore & Bell regarding the status of the IRB issuance for A&W of Ellis.

Public Works: Violation

Ms. Raub reported on the cited violations at 1024 Washington. The loose bricks have been removed and the property owner will spray adhesive foam to prevent bricks from falling in the future. Two separate individuals have approached the owner about purchasing the property. It was the consensus of Council to delay having the structural engineer inspect the property until it's known if either individual proceeds with purchasing the property.

General Government: Policy

Ms. Raub then discussed adopting unclaimed dogs from the City Shelter. State Statutes require a deposit if the dog is not sterilized, with the deposit forfeited if the dog is not sterilized within six months. The application to adopt would be sent to the Police Department for a background check and the Clerk's office would process the adoption paperwork and accept fees. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to draft the necessary adoption forms and to amend the current ordinance to allow adoption of dogs out of the City Shelter. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel reported that he and Brian Spano, Wilson & Company, met with two of the land owners that expressed concerns about the route of the Water System Improvement Project. The waterlines will be re-routed to accommodate the land owners. Several Governing Body members attended the League of Kansas Municipalities Legislative

Supper in Colby. A graphic depicting the value of Kansas cities will be included with the December 1st quarterly newsletter.

Council member John Walz reported that the PRIDE committee would like to restore the jail in the basement of the current Railroad Museum. The northeast corner of the entrance needs fixed to prevent water from coming into the building.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Cathy Burton

City Clerk

David McDaniel

Mayor

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
November 21, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, Fire Chief Dustin Vine, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller and Westin Vine.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on November 7, 2022, Bills Ordinance #2153, and the Manual Journal Entries for October. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

Fire: Report

Fire Chief Dustin Vine presented his monthly report and thanked the Governing Body for their continued support of the Fire Department.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Street: Event Request

Council reconsidered an application for traffic control from the Ellis Polar Express Committee. Council had deferred approval of the application in September in order for the Police Department to work with the Committee on street barricade placement. Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to approve the revised Traffic Control Application for Event Request for the Ellis Polar Express event held December 2nd – 4th. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Licenses

Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to approve the 2023 Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses for Casey's Retail Company and Love's Travel Stops. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Special Event

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to continue the tradition of holding a City Holiday Party for staff, elected officials, and their guests. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. City Clerk Amy Burton will keep Council informed of plans.

Industrial Development: Petition

City Attorney Olavee Raub presented a Petition for Annexation from Sarbjit Singh for a parcel

of land on the north side of 2nd Street. If Council would like to proceed, a resolution would need to be drafted calling for a public hearing. The public hearing would be held 60 days after publication, but not later than 70 days. Once the public hearing is held, the petition is reviewed by the Planning Commission before additional consideration by Council. Council member John Walz moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to prepare a resolution calling for a public hearing for potential annexation of a parcel of land. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the Comparative Water Report for the period September 10th to October 10th. The Christmas stars will be put up tomorrow with the help of Midwest Energy. Council member John Walz asked Mr. Leiker to get estimates to repair the northeast entrance to the Railroad Museum. Council member Jolene Niernberger inquired of the status of the violations cited at 1024 Washington. The front windows have now been boarded up, and the property owner is to update City Attorney Olavee Raub in December regarding possible sale of the property.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Mid-Month Incident Report for November. Officer Peterson is set to graduate the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center in January. Interviews for the vacant position were conducted November 19th. A candidate has been offered the position contingent on required pre-employment testing. The first Cocoa with Cops will be held November 22nd at Washington Grade School. Additional dates have been scheduled for St. Mary's grade school and Ellis Junior High/High School.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the Senior Advisory Committee and the October financial statements. The City's final assessed valuation increased \$34,912, which reduced the City's mill levy rate from 75.235 to 74.945.

Attorney

City Attorney Olavee Raub spoke with Gilmore & Bell regarding the issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds for the A&W of Ellis. Attorney Kevin Cowan requested additional information from Mr. Singh several months ago without any response. Ms. Raub emailed Mr. Singh on November 11th regarding the update from Gilmore & Bell, but Mr. Singh has not responded to Ms. Raub as well.

Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel relayed comments from the public about the appeared abundance of City regulations. Council stated the rules and regulations are in place to protect the residents and property.

Council member John Walz spoke on the mural on the south side of City Hall. Alex Begler is gathering pictures representing Ellis history and Rick Rupp, Victoria, Kansas, has been contacted to provide bids on the mural.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.



City Clerk



Mayor

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
December 5, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Personnel: Entry

City Clerk Amy Burton administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Martin LaBarge, and Jolene Niernberger.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Verda Flinn, Monica Befort, and Neal Younger.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on November 21, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2154.

Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

None

SPECIAL ORDER

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Campground: Special Project

The Campground Committee discussed the request by local artist Monica Befort to paint a mural on the Campground bathhouse. It was the consensus of the Committee to have Ms. Befort paint the mural on the south side of the bathhouse. Ms. Befort shared her idea for the mural with the Governing Body. The mural will be completed in Spring 2023. Ms. Befort will donate her time to paint the mural, and the City will furnish the paint and supplies.

Council member John Walz moved to allow Monica Befort to paint a mural on the south side of the Campground bathhouse with a materials allowance not to exceed \$500.00. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Policy

City Attorney Olavee Raub presented a draft dog pound adoption application for review. The City's current ordinance already allows for adoptions from the City dog pound. Council discussed current pound fees and City registration fees, and potential sterilization deposits and adoption fees. The sterilization deposit is refunded if the procedure is done within six months of adoption. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to approve the adoption form and to allow adoption of an animal out of the City pound with an adoption fee of \$50.00 for an adult dog, and \$75.00 for a puppy. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the

motion. Upon a call for discussion, Council questioned if background checks should be performed on adoption applicants. Council again discussed fees and decided it may be helpful to list out the fees on the adoption form for clarification. After further discussion, Ms. Crnkovich amended her motion to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to make additional changes to the adoption application form. Mr. Henderson seconded the amended motion. Upon a call for discussion, the motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Special Project

City Attorney Olavee Raub presented the resolution setting the date and time for the required public hearing for the potential annexation of land on 2nd Street. The resolution states the City must have a written plan for the extension of utility services, and Council will review that at the next meeting. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve Resolution No. 592 providing notice for the public hearing on February 6, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. for possible annexation of land. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Special Project

Council member John Walz presented the idea of exploring grants to replace the mural on the south side of City Hall. Rick Rupp, Victoria, KS, has proposed picture panels that would be anchored into the wall. Public Works Director John Leiker expressed concerns on the current condition of the wall. Considerable repair work will need to be done before a mural could be painted or anchored on the wall. The wall has numerous cracks to seal and the stucco is falling off in several places. It was the consensus of the Council to look into repairing the wall first, then to further consider a mural. Council member John Walz moved to direct Mr. Leiker to solicit bids to repair the south wall of City Hall in preparation for a potential mural. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Museum: Repair/Maintenance

Council member John Walz reported on needed repairs to the northeast entrance of the Railroad Museum building. The sidewalk drains to the building allowing water to enter and flood an area of the basement. It is imperative to improve that entrance to divert any water away from the building. Council member John Walz moved to direct Public Works Director John Leiker to solicit bids to replace the sidewalk on the north side of the City-owned building and to repair, enclose and roof the northeast entrance. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel: Position Change

Mayor David McDaniel asked for nominations for Council President. The Council President acts in the capacity of the Mayor, if the Mayor is temporarily unable to perform his duties. Council member John Walz moved to elect Devin Henderson as Council President. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. There being no other nominations, Mayor McDaniel called for the vote. The motion carried 6-0, with Council member Devin Henderson abstaining.

Personnel: Benefits

Council member John Walz moved to approve a Christmas bonus for each full-time and part-time employee in the net amount of \$300.00. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

City Attorney Olavee Raub presented several amended ordinances for consideration. All of the ordinances were amended to remove the stated fee and replace with wording that the fee will be set by resolution. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to adopt Ordinance No.

1479 amending City Code 2-202 regarding fees for City dog tags. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1480 amending City Code 4-1002 regarding fees charged for fence permits. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Council member Martin LaBarge moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1481 amending City Code 4-405 regarding fees charged to move buildings within the City. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Council member Devin Henderson moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1482 amending City Code 5-602 regarding fees charged for private water well permits. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Licenses

Council member John Walz moved to approve the 2023 Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses for Rich's IGA and Arthur's Pizza and Mexican Foods. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Accounting/Billing

City Clerk Amy Burton presented a request for the City to join the Emergency Water Assistance Program (EWAP). The federally funded program administered by the Kansas Department of Children and Families offers financial assistance to low-income families through payments for water and/or wastewater utility bills. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to authorize Mayor David McDaniel to sign the Agreement for Providing Water/Wastewater Assistance Payments with the Kansas Department for Children and Families. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Special Project

Mayor David McDaniel requested thoughts on possibly replacing the City's Christmas stars on the light poles. The decorations need considerable repair work after this season. Public Works Director John Leiker reported that almost all of them need rewelded, re-anchored and restrung with garland and lights. It was the consensus of Council to have the PRIDE Committee research ideas for next season.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the Comparative Water Report for the period October 10th to November 10th. Mr. Leiker also thanked Midwest Energy for their help in hanging the Christmas stars.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Monthly Incident Report for November. The department has seen a slight decrease in call volume since Thanksgiving.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the minutes from the recent Planning Commission and Campground Committee meetings and the letter submitted to the Kansas Department of Agriculture requesting an extension to complete construction on the Water System Improvement Project. The City was notified that the Dane G. Hansen Foundation has awarded \$45,000 towards the Campground Bathhouse project. Ms. Burton met with an insurance representative about applying to Midwest Public Risk for property and liability insurance. The City is currently with EMC Insurance.

General Government: Contract

Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to direct Meagan Wellbrock with AdamsBrown to draft the 2022 agreed-upon procedure contracts for the Community Foundation of Ellis, the Ellis Alliance, the Railroad Museum and the Chrysler Boyhood Home and Museum. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Attorney

General Government: Financial

City Attorney Olavee Raub reported that Gilmore & Bell would like to hold the public hearing for the issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds for the Ellis A&W at the next meeting in order to issue the bonds by year-end. Council member Devin Henderson moved to publish the Notice of Public Hearing for the issuance of IRBs for the Ellis A&W. The public hearing to be held December 19th at 7:30 p.m. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Update and Announcements

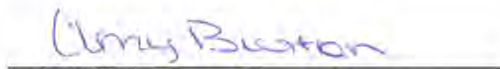
Council member John Walz asked Public Works Director John Leiker about crack sealing Cedar Lane. Council would like to set up a work session in the spring to tour all of the City buildings in time for budget. Mr. Walz then inquired about moving the meeting time for City Council to 6:30 p.m. from 7:30 p.m. Council will discuss at the next meeting.

Council member Jolene Niernberger thanked Assistant City Clerk Verda Flinn for her work on the Campground Bathhouse grant.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin Labarge moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.



Mayor

City Clerk

**ELLIS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
December 19, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Council members Kellie Crnkovich, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, Tricia Pritchett, and John Walz. Also present were Public Works Director John Leiker, City Clerk Amy Burton, Police Chief Avery Smith, and City Attorney Olavee Raub.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Colin Pritchett, Benjamin Kolas, Travis Kohlrus, David Clingan, Mike Downing, SJ Singh, Robert Herl, and Michael Berges.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on December 5, 2022 and Bills Ordinance #2155. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The Council approved the consent agenda 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Representing the Ellis Development Corporation, Travis Kohlrus spoke in favor of the City issuing Industrial Revenue Bonds for the Ellis A&W Restaurant.

County Commissioner-Elect Michael Berges introduced himself to Council and said he looked forward to working with the City of Ellis as our County representative.

Officer Colin Pritchett introduced himself as the newest hire in the Police Department. He thanked the Governing Body for the opportunity to serve our community.

**PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS, PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS & PETITIONS
(HEARINGS)**

Industrial Development: Financial

Mayor David McDaniel requested a motion to open the public hearing to discuss the possible issuance of taxable industrial revenue bonds for the Ellis A&W Restaurant. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to open the public hearing. The motion carried 6-0. The public hearing opened at 7:35 p.m.

Kevin Cowan, Gilmore and Bell, stated the public hearing is required by statute prior to the issuance of industrial revenue bonds. The principal purpose of the bonds is tax abatement for the project. Mr. Cowan reviewed the cost/benefit analysis with Council. Mr. Cowan stressed that by statute, the City is simply a conduit for the transaction. The City is not financially responsible for the bonds if the owner defaults and the City is not involved in the financing negotiations.

There being no further questions and comments, Council member Martin LaBarge moved to close the public hearing. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The public hearing adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

General Government: Financial

Mr. Cowan continued by reviewing the documents necessary to issue the Industrial Revenue Bonds for the Ellis A&W Restaurant. The ordinance is the only thing that needs Council approval, as it authorizes the Bond Agreement, Project Lease, Site Lease and other closing documents within the document. The bonds are set to close December 28th. Council member Jolene Niernberger moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1483 authorizing the issuance of

Industrial Revenue Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,925,204.01. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

SPECIAL ORDER

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Contract

City Attorney Olavee Raub presented the revised adoption application and suggested adoption contract for adoptions from the City dog pound. Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to approve the Adoption Application and accompanying Adoption Contract as presented. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Ms. Raub continued by reviewing a proposed ordinance amending the regulations for unclaimed dogs to include adoption from the City. Council member Kellie Crnkovich moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1484 as presented. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Sewer/Sanitation: Accounting/Billing

Council member John Walz moved to approve the Application for Local Utility Service Incentives for the Ellis A&W Restaurant. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Policy

Council discussed amending the current ordinance to allow the Council to hold regular meetings at an earlier time. Council member John Walz moved to direct City Attorney Olavee Raub to amend Ordinance No. 1442 to reflect that regular meetings of the Governing Body will start at 6:30 p.m. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Special Project

Public Works Director John Leiker presented his plan for extension of utility service if the City approves the petition for annexation of property north of 2nd Street. The plan is required to be on file per the Resolution adopted at the last meeting. Streets would need to be installed from 2nd and Dorrance to Taylor and 2nd Street Terrace. New waterlines would mimic the proposed street installation plan. A sewer line would be installed at the corner of West 2nd Street and extend west 500 ft. Mr. Leiker stated the estimated cost could run close to \$1,000,000.00. The Developer is responsible for 100% of the costs, unless the City agrees to a percentage cost-share. The public hearing for the potential annexation is scheduled for February 6, 2023. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the plan for extension of services for potential annexation of property on 2nd Street. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Financial

Council member John Walz moved to approve the engagement letters with Adams Brown for agreed-upon procedures for the Community Foundation of Ellis, Ellis Alliance, Chrysler Boyhood Home & Museum, and Railroad Museum in the amount of \$1,575.00 each for the year ended December 31, 2022. Council member Devin Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Water: Acquisition

Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve the purchase of eleven auto-read meters from Metron-Farnier in the amount of \$6,050.00 with funds to come from the Water Depreciation Reserve fund. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

City Clerk: Financial

Council member Tricia Pritchett moved to authorize the City Clerk's office to pay any outstanding vendor invoices due and payable at year-end. Council member Kellie Crnkovich seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The vendor invoices paid will be reviewed at the January 3rd Council meeting.

General Government: Financial

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the list of utility bad debts to be written off in 2022. Writing off the bad debts is an annual accounting procedure and does not affect the City's ability to collect these debts. The amount to be written off represents approximately 0.38% of the City's 2022 total receivables. Most of the debts listed have already been submitted to the State Setoff program and a private collection agency. Per auditor recommendation, prior to the Council meeting Council member Devin Henderson reviewed the individual names of the accounts to be written off. Council member John Walz moved to approve the write-off of the utility bad debts in the amount of \$5,748.39 as presented. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: Financial

Each year, Council considers transferring excess budget funds from several of the General Fund departments into the Special Machinery fund. City Clerk Amy Burton discussed the benefits and drawbacks of authorizing such transfer. By transferring the money to the Special Machinery Fund, those funds can be held for future equipment purchases, thus possibly reducing a future transfer or mill levy increase to help fund those needs. On the other hand, the transfer moves "unrestricted" monies in the General Fund to a "restricted" status within the Special Machinery Fund. Ms. Burton presented estimated transfer amounts with illustrative percentages for consideration. The Police Department and Swimming Pool departments exceeded their budget allotments; therefore, no funds are eligible to transfer. After further discussion, Council member John Walz moved to transfer \$7,500.00 from the General Government department and 100% of excess budget funds from the Police, Fire, Parks and Swimming Pool Departments to the Special Machinery Fund. Council member Tricia Pritchett seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Police: Acquisition

City Clerk Amy Burton reviewed the County's breakdown of costs for the new County-wide records management system. The City's portion for the Police Department and Fire Department is \$2,949.68, of which \$1,900.00 had already been encumbered in 2021. Council member Devin Henderson moved to ratify and authorize payment for the City's portion of the County-wide records management system from Tyler Technologies in the amount of \$2,949.68, with \$2,556.55 coming from General-Police and \$393.13 coming from General-Fire departments. Council member John Walz seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Water: Financial

The City has finally received the final loan documents for the Water System Improvement Project. Council member John Walz moved to authorize Mayor David McDaniel to sign the Loan Agreement with KDHE in the amount of \$5,729,620.00. Council member Martin LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker has solicited bids for the Railroad Museum entry and the City Hall south wall. To date, he has only received one bid for each project. The trucks are ready to go if the projected storm this week materializes, however, both graders are broken down.

Police

Police Chief Avery Smith presented the Mid-Month Incident Report for December. There are no updates on the recent graffiti downtown. Surveillance cameras in the area provided a rough make and model of car, but there are no leads at this time. Officer Peterson continues to do well at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center and will graduate January 13, 2023.

Personnel: Entry

Chief Smith has hired Colin Pritchett for the final vacancy in the Department. Officer Pritchett started with the Department on December 12th and is scheduled to start the KLETC in February 2023.

City Clerk

City Clerk Amy Burton presented the Health Insurance Savings Report for November and the minutes from the recent special meeting of the Planning Commission. The League of Kansas Municipalities 2023 training calendar was distributed. Ms. Burton then addressed the recent "Thumbs Down" in the Ellis Review. The anonymous contributor questioned the City's decision to allow the drilling of private wells if the City isn't going to regulate them. The contributor stated the City has the authority to do so from the State. Ms. Burton clarified that the City only has authority from the State to regulate private wells if Council declares a Water Warning (Stage 2) or Water Emergency (Stage 3). Currently, the City is not operating under any water conservation declarations and therefore, does not have the authority to regulate private wells at this time.

Ms. Burton then provided an update on the building at 1024 Washington. She has spoken to the potential buyer and found out that there are numerous encumbrances against the property, so the sale will be delayed while the current owner addresses those issues.

Attorney

Mayor Update and Announcements

Council member Martin LaBarge provided an update from the recent Northwest Kansas Planning & Development Commission Annual Meeting. Mr. LaBarge suggested the City look to expand elected terms to staggered 4-year terms.

Mayor David McDaniel encouraged Council to review the League's training schedule and make plans to attend the Local Government Day in Topeka and the Leadership Summit in Hays.

Council member John Walz has researched purchasing new Christmas decorations for the light poles. The City currently hangs 62 stars. He suggested adding replacement of the aging decorations into the Capital Improvement Plan since the cost could be upwards to \$50,000.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Martin LaBarge moved and Council member Devin Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk