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ELLIS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

January 6, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David McDaniel called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Council Members Dava Gaschler, Devin Henderson, Martin LaBarge, Jolene Niernberger, John Walz, and Terry Zerfas. Also present were, Public Works Director John Leiker, Police Sergeant Benjamin Kolas, Assistant City Clerk Verda Flinn, and City Attorney Olavee Raub. Police Chief Avery Smith and City Clerk Ashley Scheibler were absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Glen Keller, Nickole Byers, JR Reynolds, Nicole Morton, Austin Morton, Adley Davis, and Paul Fisher.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Devin Henderson moved to approve the consent agenda containing the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on December 16, 2024 and Bills Ordinance #2204. 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

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

General Government: Contract

The Council discussed the sale of city-owned property at 2000 Maple Street and reached a consensus to forgo the sale at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

General Government: Financial

Council member John Walz moved to approve Resolution No. 615 waiving Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for financial statement reporting for 2025. Council member Dava Gaschler 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 Terry Zerfas moved to designate the Ellis Review and Hays Daily News 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: Licenses/Permits

Assistant City Clerk Verda Flinn informed Council that the Ellis County Solid Waste/Transfer Station has increased their 2025 Rates. Adjustments were made to the municipal waste and tires section of the comprehensive fee schedule. Council member Devin Henderson moved to approve Resolution No. 616 as presented. Council member Jolene Niernberger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

General Government: City Code

Police Chief Avery Smith and City Clerk Ashley Scheibler compiled a summary of ordinances from other Kansas Municipalities and a pros and cons of golf cart usage within city limits for Council to consider. Council directed City Attorney Olavee Raub to provide the League of Municipalities standard ordinance at the next City Council meeting.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Public Works

Public Works Director John Leiker presented the department's monthly report. John reported Public Works has been working diligently to clear snow routes.

Police

Police Sergeant Benjamin Kolas presented the monthly Incident Report for December.

City Clerk

Assistant City Clerk Verda Flinn presented the November Financial Statements.

Attorney

None

Mayor Update and Announcements

Mayor David McDaniel informed the Council about a free webinar on Legislative Policy and Review scheduled for January 9, 2025. He also reminded Council about the City Christmas Party on January 11, 2025 at JR's Brickhouse Diner and mentioned Government Day in Topeka, taking place on January 22, 2025.

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 7:18 p.m.

David R. McDaniel, Mayor

Ashley Scheibler, City Clerk