

M I N U T E S  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
January 17, 2023  
5:30 PM  
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor King. Council Members Paul Fischer, Laura Helle, Jason Baskin, Michael Postma, Geoff Baker and Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Council Member Joyce Poshusta

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Police Chief David McKichan, Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann, Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, Park and Rec Director Dave Merrill, City Attorney Craig Byram, Library Director Julie Clinefelter, and City Clerk Ann Kasel

APPEARING IN PERSON: Julie Champlin, Tim Sorgine

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Removals

- 4. Food: Wing Bazaar, LLC, 3401 West Oakland Avenue
- 17a. Junk removal at 909 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NW, Greene Property.

Additions

- (res) 18. Receiving an updated feasibility report and calling for a public hearing on February 21, 2023 for street improvements on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SW (20<sup>th</sup> Street to 21<sup>st</sup> SW) 21<sup>st</sup> Street SW (22<sup>nd</sup> Street to 6th Avenue SW) and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street SW (Oakland Avenue West to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SW), Project 23106.
- (res) 19. Denying the renewal of a food license for Wing Bazaar, LLC.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving the agenda as amended. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Fischer, approving Council minutes from January 3, 2023. Carried.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Mayor King recognized Julie Champlin's retirement from the Nature Center. Ms. Champlin thanked the Mayor and Council for her years at the City stating it was her dream job. Nature Center Director Luke Reese stated Julie has been a foundation for the Nature Center.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, approving the consent agenda as follows:

### Licenses:

Exempt Gambling (raffle): Mower County Habitat & Pheasants Forever on March 4, 2023  
Food: Bakereach, 1908 8<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite D  
Food: Lawlasoe Market, LLC, 208 South Main Street  
Mobile Business: Cookie Dough Bliss Twin Cities  
Mobile Business: Stage Coach BBQ & Grill, 206 W Main, Brownsdale  
Right of Way: Harty Mechanical, Inc. 1600 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE  
Right of Way: MetroFibernet, LLC, Overland Park, KS

### Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills
- b. Investment Report.

### Boards and Commissions:

Ed Schmitt to the Parks and Recreation Board – term through December 31, 2026  
Tom Stiehm to the Parks and Recreation Board – term through December 31, 2026  
Cece Kroc to the Parks and Recreation Board – term through December 31, 2025

Carried.

## PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

City Administrator Craig Clark recapped the proposal and requested \$5,000 from 2023 contingency for the continued implementation of the Velocity Group's report. The total fee for the project is \$100,000 and will be divided amongst other community stake holders. There will be work sessions and virtual speakers.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving \$5,000 for Accelerate Austin from 2023 contingency. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, approving 2023 Council boards and commissions appointments. Carried.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum stated the City's goal is to assess 40% of the construction costs to the adjacent property owners on the street reconstruction projects. In 2022, the City

assessed 28.8% of the total project costs. The Council reviewed the matter at their January 3, 2023 work session and recommended a 7% increase to the rates for 2023.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution setting 2023 street assessment rates. Carried 6-0.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council approved the mileage reimbursement rate at 65.5 cents per mile.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution setting the 2023 mileage reimbursement rate. Carried 6-0.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council approve an audit engagement letter with CliftonLarsonAllen. The proposed audit fee is \$48,458, which is a 1.9% increase over the previous year.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, approving an audit quote from CLA, LLP. Carried 6-0.

City Administrator Craig Clark requested the Council approve the City's three United Auto Worker's Union contracts. Each contract would modify health care and has wage increases for 2023 of 4%, 2024 of 3% and 2025 of 3%.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baker, adopting a resolution approving a 2023-2025 contract with the United Auto Workers Union – Street and Sewer. Carried 6-0.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution approving a 2023-2025 contract with the United Auto Workers Union – Waste Water Treatment Plant. Carried 6-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, adopting a resolution approving a 2023-2025 contract with the United Auto Workers Union – Parks. Carried 6-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution accepting donations to the City. 4-0 with Council Members Baskin and Baker abstaining.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution granting a hard on-sale liquor and Sunday on-sale liquor license to the Windrift Sports Bar & Grill, LLC. Carried 6-0.

City Administrator Craig Clark requested the Council adopt a resolution in support of bonding dollars for the Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion project.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, adopting a resolution in support of bonding for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Carried 6-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace stated the City received a US EPA Brownfield Assessment grant in the amount of \$500,000 for environmental assessments and inventories along with community outreach and redevelopment. The City received requests for qualifications in December and received 8 proposals. The City ultimately decided to use Stantec for the implementation of the grant.

Council Member Baker asked how do you measure success in the project and how will Stantec be successful.

Ms. Wallace stated the EPA will provide guidance for the grant. She stated the top three proposals were very similar and she looked at which consultant will be most supportive to staff.

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving Stantec as the consultant for the implementation of the EPA Brownfield Grant. Carried 6-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 104 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE, Rose Property. Carried.

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum requested the Council receive an updated feasibility report on project 23106. He stated that they have determined the project should be expanded to meet the original project limits from 1997.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Austin, receiving an updated feasibility report and calling for a public hearing on February 21, 2023 for street improvements on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SW (20<sup>th</sup> Street to 21<sup>st</sup> SW) 21<sup>st</sup> Street SW (22<sup>nd</sup> Street to 6th Avenue SW) and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street SW (Oakland Avenue West to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SW), Project 23106. Carried 6-0.

Police Chief David McKichan stated the police department had a complaint of unsanitary conditions at Wing Bazaar in late 2022 and the incident was reported to the State Health Department. He added on January 13, 2023 the police executed a search warrant resulting in the discovery of cocaine and fentanyl at the location. He believes the restaurant is a public health and safety risk.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, denying the renewal of a food license for Wing Bazaar, LLC. Carried 6-0.

#### CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

Tim Sorgine, requested the Council be proactive in legalizing recreational cannabis. He requested the Drug Task Force convene a special meeting to address the matter.

#### REPORTS

City Administrator Craig Clark stated Senator Dornink is working on a bill for the waste water treatment plant. He also noted legislative action day is January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Helle noted three labor contracts were approved on the agenda. She stated values employees and appreciates them. She also stated she understands the city over time is planning on picking up more of the health care costs. There will also be a public meeting for Emerald Ash Borer on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 pm at the Senior Center.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adjourning the meeting to February 6, 2023. Carried.

Adjourned: 6:04 p.m.

Approved: February 6, 2023

Mayor:

City Recorder:

