

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Russell City Council Meeting - Minutes

City Hall

Russell, KS

Present: Mayor Jim Cross, Councilmember Dustin Madden, Councilmember Michelle Wagner Schneider, Councilmember Andrea Garland, Councilmember Lisa Anstaett, Councilmember Brad Wagner, Councilmember Luke Brandenburg

Absent: Councilmember Blaine Stoppel, Councilmember Lonnie Whitten

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jim Cross called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with the following staff members in attendance: City Manager Jon Quinday, Deputy City Manager Kayla Schneider, City Attorney Ken Cole, City Clerk Ashley Mai, Public Works Director Rich Krause, Water Utility Director Randy Baker, Electric Utility Director Dave Sturgeon, Police Chief Jordan Harrison, Fire Chief Dylan Riedel, Building Official Roger Sells, Building Inspector Garrett Berry, 911 Director Alese Hageman, and Deines Cultural Center Director Shannon Trevethan

2. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Jim Cross led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Dustin Madden made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Michelle Wagner Schneider seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS I

None

5. PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

5.a City Council Youth Representative

Deputy City Manager Kayla Schneider presented the partnership with Russell High School's JAG-K program. Council is interested in moving forward with the development of the program to support a City Council Youth Representative.

5.b Water Source, Production, and Conservation Recommendation

Water Utility Director Randy Baker presented the water status and project updates.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6.a Consent Agenda Items

Councilmember Luke Brandenburg made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Dustin Madden seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.a Resolution to Submit to the Qualified Electors of the City of Russell, the Proposition of Levying a Retailers Sales Tax for the Purpose of Funding Water Projects

Councilmember Luke Brandenburg made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing and Providing for the Submitting to the Qualified Electors of the City of Russell, the Proposition of Levying ½ percent (.50%) Retailers' Sales Tax in the City for the Purpose of Paying the Cost of Infrastructure Improvements to the Municipal Water System. Councilmember Lisa Anstaett seconded. The motion failed 3-4-0 with Councilmembers Michelle Wagner Schneider, Dustin Madden, Brad Wagner and Mayor Jim Cross voting in opposition.

Councilmember Dustin Madden made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing and Providing for the Submitting to the Qualified Electors of the City of Russell, the Proposition of Levying a ¾ percent (.75 %) Retailers' Sales Tax in the City for the Purpose of Paying the Cost of Infrastructure Improvements to the Municipal Water System. Councilmember Luke Brandenburg seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

7.b Medicaid Expansion

Councilmember Luke Brandenburg made a motion to authorize staff to prepare written testimony to HB 2556 and SB 355. Councilmember Lisa Anstaett seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.a Consider Bids for Well Rehabilitation

Councilmember Luke Brandenburg made a motion to approve the low bid from Downey Drilling to include option 1, for the rehabilitation of well #2 and #3 in

the amount of \$20,900.00. Councilmember Dustin Madden seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

8.b Deines Cultural Center Elevator Repair

Councilmember Dustin Madden made a motion to approve the low bid from Kone, Inc in the amount of \$25,007.00 for the elevator repairs. Councilmember Lisa Anstaett seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

8.c Assistance to Firefighters Grant Application

Councilmember Luke Brandenburg made a motion to approve the Fire Chief to apply for AFG Grant Funding for the replacement of Ladder 1. Councilmember Michelle Wagner Schneider seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

8.d Annual Community Clean-Up Day

Councilmember Dustin Madden made a motion to approve the Annual Community Clean-Up Day for April 20, 2024, from 9:00 am to 11:30 am for public drop-off. Councilmember Michelle Wagner Schneider seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

9. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Deputy City Manager Kayla Schneider announced the full award of \$250,000 for the Commercial Rehabilitation grant through the CDBG Grant Program for 621 N. Main Street

9.a Board Meeting Minutes of City Appointed Boards

City Appointed Board Minutes are included in the council packet.

9.b City Projects Tracking and Grant Funds Awarded

The City Projects and Grant Funds Awarded Reports are included in the council packet.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS II

None

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

12. GOVERNING BODY/CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The pre-construction meeting for the Electric Distribution Rebuild for phase 1 East Res 1 & 2 is Thursday March 7th at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers

13. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Dustin Madden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Councilmember Luke Brandenburg seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ashley Mai, City Clerk

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