

Lebo City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2024
Lebo Community Building
320 N Ogden
7:00 p.m.

Mayor Eric Ferguson called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Call to
Order

Mayor Ferguson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Council members present: Will Baker, Troy Friend, Amanda Hopkins, and Nick Sanchez. Jim Jones entered the meeting during the clerk's report.

Visitors:

Neither Brooke Cathcard nor Sydney Lehnherr were able to attend the meeting, they will be moved to the March agenda.

Preston Bechtel, Steve's Trash Service, was present and asked to be recognized later in the meeting after Steve Bechtel has arrived.

Department reports:

Utility and Parks reports- Javier Muro, Scott Hein and Scott Smith provided a written report in packet

- Still having problems with lift station on 7th street lift Stat
- Christmas lights and décor removed
- Heaters running in lifts stations, Spatz Park and concession stand due to extreme cold weather
- Snow plowing and spread salt Snow
- Maintenance and cleanup of snow removal equipment and trucks
- Water leak repair and clean up at community building W. Leak CB
- Repaired city gas main leak on E. 5th G. Leak Main
- 7 utility locates for the month
- Prepared a list of city owned items to sale for Gavel Roads online auction Auction
- Working on state mandated Lead & Cooper report due at the end of this year
- All year end utility reports are completed

Friend moved and Sanchez seconded to approve the list of city owned items for sale as presented by Scott Hein. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Mayor Ferguson recognized visitors Steve and Preston Bechtel of Steve's Trash Service to discuss renewal of the annual contract and discuss trash service complaints. Trash
Service

- Bechtel said he will present a contract to renew without an increase at this time. Bechtel said they are purchasing new equipment that will require an adjustment in rates when the equipment is put in service. Sloan reminded the council and Steve's Trash Service that the 2024 budget was set using the current rates and there is very little room for an increase unless the budget is amended or the General Fund covers the additional cost.
- Steve and Preston responses to the complaint of why they open, inspect and sometimes leave the open bags of trash were: They will not take hazardous materials, chemicals or yard waste. They are subject to inspections and fines at the Coffey County Landfill. And they do not take trash that could potentially damage the truck.

PWWSD #12 – Mayor Ferguson reporting

- Ferguson reported on the major water leak just outside of the water plant. The main break resulted in cloudy water due to the air in the line. Mayor Ferguson reported on attending a meeting with Osage County Economic Development. There would be a need for a larger water plant to meet the water needs of the proposed Chips Plant. Upgrades will be determined by the projected future demands of the current water customer initiates and projected needs of the chips plant. The board is also discussing what effect the cost of upgrades would have on its other customers if the chip plant operations is not long term. W. Leak Chips

Police Report – Aaron Cathcard absent – written report in packet

- verbal warnings, assisting other agencies including medical call and multiple slide offs on interstate due to snow, slide off in town due to weather conditions, unlocked 2 vehicles

Clerks Report – Carrie Sloan reporting

- Written report in packet included: clerk's cash report, check registers, sales tax report, and income/expense report, Evergy franchise fees distributed for December, Coffey County Treasurer's January remittance of taxes, PWWDS#12 minutes and letters to county commissioners outlining the projects accomplished with the 2023 county park & recreation grant funds and 2023 county infrastructure grant funds issued to the city Finance Report

Municipal Court- Catherine Griffin reporting:

- One case
- Griffin will be attend court clerk's school in Wichita in March School

Zoning-Catherine Griffin reporting:

- Preparing for a hearing
- Amanda Hopkins moved and Friend seconded to approve Mayor Ferguson's recommendation to appoint Sam Lochmann to the zoning board to fill the open position due to the resignation of Shawn Miller. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Lochmann appoint

Utility Billing-Catherine Griffin reporting

- No report needed

Other Reports:

Park Board- Jenny Tatman and Matt Hopkins reporting

- Hopkins and Tatman presented recommendations to replace the existing playground equipment at the west park with a Playscapes Sundancer Supermax system, Ipema certified rubber mulch, 8' plastic boarder timbers and half ramp quoted at \$105,005.76. Friend moved and Jones seconded to approve a budget not to exceed \$120,000 to remove the existing equipment, prepare the area for the installation of the new equipment, purchase and installation of a playground system, and pour-in rubber mulch ground cover. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Tatman has applied for several grants to help with the cost. The only grant awarded to date is the \$30,000 from the Trusler Foundation. Other applications have been made to BNSF and KDHE waste tire grant program. The city council will provide funding for the project from the County Coffey Park and Recreation Grant funds, General Fund Park and Recreation funds, any grant funds received and the special sales tax levied for Park and Recreation Capital Improvements. Play Equip WP grants

New Business- none

Old Business-

Review of nuisance properties: Another letter will be sent to properties located at 502 W. 2nd St. and 213 E. 4th St. Nuis. Prop

Darin McBride, park and recreation board, was present to discuss the previous proposal for the city to hire a full time park and recreation director. McBride suggested the director work approximately 30 hours a week with an annual salary starting at \$25,000. Discussion included council's concerns with the timing for adding the new position due to the inability to use the parks with pending capital improvements at the parks and swimming pool. The city 2024 budgeted expenditures were approved and passed last October. The current city budget could not support the addition of the new position. Tabling the matter to gather more information about Park and Recreation directors for small towns. McBride
P&R direct

Tabled discussion on condition of sidewalk in front of bank door in order to gather more information.

Tabled discussion on replacing community building floor in order to get more bids.

Jones moved and Baker seconded to hold a special meeting on February 19, 2024 at 1 pm with the following agenda items: City Dam Rehabilitation discussion with Kramer Consulting, the sidewalk in front of the bank and replacing the community building flooring. Spec.
Meet.

Ordinances and Resolutions- none

Sanchez moved to pay bills, Friend seconded. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Pay Bills

Hopkins moved and Sanchez seconded to adjourn. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Adjourn

Attest:


Carrie J. Sloan, City Clerk

Approved: 
Eric S. Ferguson, Mayor