

Regular City Council Meeting
July 10, 2012
7:30 PM

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order by Mayor Scott Snow.

Council Members Present: Rick Weber, Mary Harris, Verlin Springer and Claire Blackburn.

Staff present: Marla Gadelman, Jake Strobel and Doyle Sobba.

Guests Present: Betty Bowlby, Rita Clary, Deputy Jared Fredericks, Connie Weber, Donna Thompson and Ed Taylor.

Public Comment: Betty Bowlby stated that she is glad to see Jake Strobel is back from his recent illness.

Connie Weber stated that the picnic tables in the park look really nice.

Approval of Minutes of Meetings: Rick Weber made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 12, 2012, Regular Meeting. Mary Harris seconded the motion. Vote 4-0, motion passed.

Verlin Springer made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 19, 2012, Special Meeting. Mary Harris seconded the motion. Vote 4-0, motion passed.

Approval of Monthly Expenses: After discussion, Rick Weber made a motion to approve the bills paid since the June 12, 2012 meeting. Verlin Springer seconded the motion. Vote 4-0, motion passed.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

1. Rita Clary, Kansas Rural Water Association Presentation. Rita Clary presented funding options currently available for city projects such as water distribution improvements. Options include: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, SRF (State Revolving Loan Program), CDBG Program, and Kan-Step Program which is a sweat equity program, with labor and equipment being donated by volunteers and materials provided through the program. A Low to Moderate Income Survey (LMI Survey) will need to be completed and the LMI Survey will remain valid for 10 years.

The Kan Step Project, if qualified, could pay \$2,000 per person, up to \$400,000. Kan Step would provide the materials and the City would provide the labor, on a 60/40 cost effective project. Volunteers would provide labor and equipment which would equal 40% of the cost of the project. The project would need to be completed within two years from the beginning of the project. All materials, fuel and engineering would be paid by the project. A Kan-Step brochure will be provided by KRWA for review.

KDHE SRF Revolving Loan Programs are available with interest rates down to 2.33%, for a 20 year loan. This program does not require you to raise our rates to get the money, but you need to meet the debt ratio of 1.25 which means for every \$1.00 you pay out you have to make \$1.25 back.

CDBG funds must be matched with KDHE or USDA monies and must have water rates up to at least state level.

The first step for funding would be to complete a LMI Survey to make sure the City would qualify for Kan Step program or CDBG money. KRWA will assist with any loan application and LMI Survey at no charge to the City. The LMI survey will begin in August. Rita will provide survey and additional information to be mailed out with the August water bills.

A town meeting will be scheduled after mailing the survey to assist residents and answer any questions.

2. Any other city business: The Mayor announced that we sent out a notice on the water bill for the vacant council seat so we will wait to make any decisions in filling the position.

A special meeting concerning the 2013 budget was scheduled for July 23, 2012, at 7:30 PM at City Hall.

A special meeting concerning the Kan Step project and LMI Survey was scheduled for August 14, 2012, at 6:30 PM to answer any additional questions from the public. Rita Clary will be available to meet with citizens attending the Senior Citizen lunch and activities during the afternoon and will attend the regular meeting that evening.

STAFF REPORTS:

Marla Gadelman reported on the IRS audit. The amounts assessed including penalties for failure to file and failure to provide 1099 statements in 2010 were approved as part of the bills paid. There may be additional penalties for 2011, but we do not know at this time.

We received a new request from Prairie Paws for \$1,098, which is less than the amount requested in June. Since no action was taken at the June meeting because Jake will be getting an estimate from the Garnett Vet the matter was not put on the agenda for this meeting.

A Safety Audit was conducted by the Kansas Department of Labor on July 3. The written report was received late today and we have not had a chance to review the report. No major concerns were found. The PTO shaft cover on the tractor will be the most expensive item. We have 60 days to comply with report. A Hazard Communication Program and Personal Protective Equipment Plan will need to be adopted. These items will be on the agenda in August.

Doyle Sobba reported that he had hired a temporary person to help while Jake Strobel was sick to get ready for the Safety Audit. We also used him to help with a water leak today.

Doyle Sobba reported that we are pumping a lot of water right now, but everything is running smooth.

Jake Strobel reported that he is recovering and will hopefully be back to normal soon.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND/OR REPORTS

No council comments or reports.

Deputy Fredericks, Franklin County Sheriff's Department, just wanted to attend the meeting to see what our local concerns were for law enforcement. The Sheriff's Department wants to maintain open communication with the community. Several issues were raised to the Deputy including fireworks, gun shots, fires behind the Community Building in the City Park, vandalism, and 4-wheelers in town. The Deputy encouraged citizens to please call Sheriff's Dispatch when they are concerned about anything and the department will respond.

Ed Taylor reported that a joint Ottawa City/Franklin County budget meeting will be held on July 11 at 7:00 PM. All departments will be available to answer questions.

Ed Taylor reported that there will be a Candidate Forum on July 12 at 7:00 PM at the Ottawa Middle School.

Adjournment: Verlin Springer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Claire Blackburn seconded the motion. Vote 4-0, motion passed. Time 8:45 PM.

APPROVED:

By: 
Shelden Snow, Mayor

ATTEST:


Marla Gadelman, City Clerk