

Minutes: City Council Meeting
February 12, 2018
7:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 7:00 PM with Mayor Jackie Boyd Weathers presiding.

City Council members present: Michael Case; Doug Gibson; David Haley; Frank McReynolds; and, David Powell. Absent: Danny Laster.

Others present: Jeffrey Traughber, City Attorney; Laura Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer; Terry Frogue, Utility/Streets Superintendent; Brian Atkinson, Police Chief; Daniel Smith, Assistant Fire Chief; John Walton, Todd County Industrial Foundation; and, Stephen Williams, DDS Glass Doors, LLC.

Mayor Weathers called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Haley gave invocation.

After reviewing the January 8, 2018 council meeting minutes, Mr. Haley motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Case and carried unanimously.

After reviewing the January 25, 2018 special council meeting minutes, Mr. Haley motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried unanimously.

Mayor Weathers called for approval of the bills payable and financial reports. After review, Mr. Powell motioned to approve the bills payable and financial reports, seconded by Mr. Haley and carried unanimously.

Mayor Weathers introduced Tommy Turner, Thurman Campbell Group, who presented the FYE June 30, 2017 audited financial statements. Mr. Turner stated the financial statements were given an unmodified opinion, the cleanest report possible. Mr. Turner reviewed financial highlights of the report indicating the city has a total net position of \$8,365,817 at the end of the year. He also reviewed the change in net position for both Governmental Activities and Business-Type Activities. Finally, Mr. Turner reported two findings regarding accounting and compliance. The Mayor and Council thanked Mr. Turner for his report. Mr. Turner thanked everyone and left the meeting.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Weathers welcomed John Walton, President of the Todd County Industrial Foundation. Mr. Walton introduced Stephen Williams, new owner of DDS Glass Doors that will be locating in the old Ardcoc building. Mr. Williams stated he is happy to be in Elkton putting people back to work. Mr. Williams explained he is a retired doctor of dental surgery and the name DDS, while standing for Display Door Solutions, also is a play on his former occupation. Mr. Walton stated applications for employment are being accepted at the plant. Everyone thanked Mr. Williams and Walton for attending, which then left the meeting.

Mr. Case reported that he requested political yard signs be placed on the agenda. He stated when he attended public officials training last year he learned of a court case titled Reed vs. Town of Gilbert, which held that if you have to read the content of a sign to determine how it is regulated that it is a violation of the rights of freedom of speech. The city's ordinance singles out campaign signs that can only be placed 90 days before an election. Mr. Case stated that Kentucky League of Cities recommends not enforcing the ordinance. Mr. Traughber stated the city's ordinance regarding temporary signs needs to be reworded. Mr. Case motioned the city not enforce the temporary political signs ordinance at this time and work on rewording the ordinance before the next election cycle. Mr. Gibson seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

Clerk Brock reported the cemetery maintenance contract expires April 14, 2018. There is a clause in the contract that allows it to be renewed at the same cost for another year. Otherwise, the city will need to

advertise and bid out the contract again. Case asked if many complaints have been received. Mayor Weathers stated there have been a few typical complaints. Mr. McReynolds motioned to renew the cemetery maintenance contract for another year, seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried unanimously. Mr. McReynolds also asked if there were plans to remove old trees from the cemetery. Clerk Brock stated there are funds in the budget and plans are to remove a few dead trees each year. Ashley Coffman and Watson Ricchuite are going to determine which two trees need to be removed at this time so bids can be taken.

Mayor Weathers presented a request to install two new light poles where the new houses are being built on B White Road. Mayor Weathers asked if it would be ok to include Beckham Road as new houses are built. Haley motioned to approve the proposal. Clerk Brock asked about a policy to install light poles in the future. Haley withdrew his motion. Case motioned to adopt a policy that installs a light pole every two houses in the future. Motion seconded by Haley and carried unanimously. Mayor Weathers will request the new poles on B White Road.

Clerk Brock reminded the council the city received funding last year to resurface South Streets Avenue. However, an amendment is needed to the agreement with the state, so it is delayed. Brock hopes to be able to bid the project in the next 30-60 days.

Mayor Weathers reported the natural gas franchise agreement with Atmos will be expiring in about 18 months. D2Energy has proposed working with the city to review the city's current agreement and guide us through the process to make sure the city is covered as best possible. D2Energy's proposal is at half the normal hourly rate not to exceed \$7,500. After discussion, McReynolds motioned to hire D2Energy at a cost not to exceed \$7,500 and to amend the budget to include the expense, seconded by Case. Voting in favor were Haley, Powell, Case and McReynolds. Voting opposed was Gibson. Motion carried. Gibson stated he wanted to know more about the company before going further.

Frogue reported the city's application for a KIA sewer planning loan for up to \$500,000 was approved last week. Frogue has already met with GRW Engineering on preliminary planning looking at maps of the system.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Haley called for a report from Chief Atkinson. Atkinson requested the approval to purchase a new police vehicle, which is currently in the budget. Clerk Brock stated the plan was to purchase the vehicle over a three year lease through Ford Motor Credit, with the first lease payment of about \$9,800 and the cost of equipping the vehicle at about \$5,600 due at time of purchase. In past years, the city would then pay off the lease early in the second year. Haley motioned to approve the purchase, seconded by Powell and carried unanimously. Case asked for confirmation the cost is at state contract pricing, which Brock confirmed.

Mr. Powell called for a report from Assistant Fire Chief Daniel Smith. Smith reported two firemen have resigned recently. There is one potential applicant that is going through the background check process. Smith reported he has submitted the FEMA grant to purchase a new ladder truck at a cost of about \$459,000 which approved at the last meeting. He also requested the city council consider looking for grant money to expand the fire hall, which is already needed but especially if we get the grant to purchase a new ladder truck. Powell motioned to pursue grants for an addition to the fire hall, seconded by Gibson and carried unanimously.

Case and Traugher reported that concession stand bids were received by the Recreation Commission and will be reviewed. Soccer registration forms have been released for the spring season. Mayor Weathers recommended appointing Shelbie Knuckles to serve on the Recreation Commission to fulfill a vacant term. Case motioned to approve the appointment, seconded by Haley and carried unanimously.

Mr. Gibson had nothing to report.

Mr. McReynolds reported complaints on the city's public WiFi not working most of the time. Haley stated he spoke with a Hopkinsville Electric Service representative who stated part of the problem is so many

people are using the service all day long and even running credit card transactions through the service. Brock stated she thought there may be a way to restrict usage of the service by logging people off automatically after 30 minutes. Haley requested Brock find out about restrictions.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Resolution 2018-01, "A RESOLUTION OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY URGING THE KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PASS LEGISLATION DURING THE 2018 REGULAR SESSION WHICH REDIRECTS A PORTION OF THE IN-LIEU-OF TAX PAYMENTS THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY (TVA) PAYS TO THE STATE BACK TO THE TVA COUNTIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION PURPOSES" was presented to the council. Mayor Weathers also presented a flyer with information about the proposed legislation that would redirect state funds to the TVA counties, including Todd County, for the purpose of economic development activities. After discussion, Case motioned to approve Resolution 2018-01, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Weathers reported Martin Industries has contacted the city about leasing the Elkton Die Casting building for storage. Powell motioned to approve the lease to Martin Industries, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously. Mayor Weathers stated a rental amount has not been discussed, but she believed it would be appropriate to offer them the price they had been paying to the EDCT&C Center group. Haley stated the police department needs easy access to patrol the property without having to get out of the vehicles and unlock and lock the gate. Haley requested the city price an electric gate to the property.

Mayor Weathers reported she and Clerk Brock met with the KIA Director who informed them about a federal surplus property program for the water and sewer department. The Mayor plans to register the city to use the program and requested Terry Frogue look at items available for the city.

Mayor Weathers reported a request for contribution to Project Graduation and that the city gave \$500 last year. Clerk Brock stated it is in the budget and all agreed to make the contribution.

Mayor Weathers reported a request from the Todd County Detention Center to renew the annual mutual aid agreement. The agreement states that in the event of an emergency at the Center, the Elkton Police Department will assist with vehicles and manpower at the Center's expense.

Mayor Weathers sent a report to the Division of Water with an updated timeline for transitioning City Lake back into a stream. GRW Engineers have been very helpful in assisting the city with this matter.

Jim Kirby with the state EPA division will be performing a Phase I assessment on the Elkton Die Casting building on March 6, 2018. This study will be requested by any interested party looking at the Die Casting building in the future. There was discussion about using a portion of the Die Casting property near the creek for soccer fields. Haley motioned that after the Phase I assessment has been completed that the city have the property surveyed and separate the back part of the property from the plant for soccer fields and open the street to access the back part of the property. Motion seconded by Powell and carried unanimously.

Clerk Brock reported the city has released a request for proposal for a Compensation and Benefits Review of the city to compare salaries and benefits of city employees to other businesses and municipalities. Haley and Case, who have already committed to look at the city's health insurance plan, agreed to also serve on this committee to hear this review. She also requested Clerk Brock, Terry Frogue and Brian Atkinson serve on the committee, which agreed.

Mr. Case motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.