

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2015
Meeting #786**

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Paula Schwach at 7:03 p.m.

Commissioner Ron Shaffer swore in the newly elected or re-elected Mayor and City Councilpersons.

Present: Mayor Schwach, Rosemary Podrebarac, Karen Shelor Sexton, Gailen Stockwell, Ludwig Villasi, John Weedman and Beth O'Bryan. City Attorney Jim Orr was also present.

Commissioner Ron Shaffer was present. Chief O'Halloran joined at 7:35 pm. Citizens Lyle Miler, Mike Whitsitt and Mike Coffman were in attendance. Martha Lally joined the meeting at 7:25pm.

With regards to the BZA appointments, Mayor Schwach asked to hold this agenda item as the terms of the present BZA members are not staggered. Mayor would like to stagger the appointments going forward. **Motion by Stockwell to adopt the agenda as amended. Second by Weedman. All aye. Motion approved.**

Motion by Podrebarac to adopt the Consent Agenda. Second by Villasi. All aye. Motion approved.

No Issues from Citizens in Attendance

Old Business:

Website update - O'Bryan reported that the new website is very close to rolling out. The target is for Beth O'Bryan to be fully trained and the site to go live June 1, 2015. Mayor Schwach will provide additional comments on the website. O'Bryan will send link to Mike Coffman and Karen Shelor-Sexton.

New Business:

Appointment of Designated Records Custodian

The records custodian is in charge of maintaining the City's records and is the person who will respond to any requests made under the open records act. **Podrebarac moves that we designate City Clerk Beth O'Bryan be the records custodian. Sexton seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

Elect President of the Council

It is customary for the person who has served the longest to hold the position of President of the Council. **Weedman nominates Podrebarac. Villasi seconds. All in favor. Podrebarac is elected as the President of the Council.**

Board of Zoning Appeals Appointments (Mayor Designation/Council Consent)

This agenda item has been moved to the June City Council meeting.

City Planning Commission Appointments

The terms of Planning Commission members Mike Whitsitt and Chris Ross are up for renewal. Both have consented to serve another term. With consent of the Council, Mayor Schwach appoints both Mike Whitsitt and Chris Ross to new three year terms on the Planning Commission. Whitsitt is sworn in by Commissioner Ron Shaffer. Chairman Lyle Miller will swear in Chris Ross at the May 21, 2015, Planning Commission meeting.

Appointment of City Officials

City ordinances require that the Municipal Judge be appointed. **Sexton moves to reappoint Tim Turner. Stockwell seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.** Schwach asks for consent of the Council to appoint City Clerk Beth O'Bryan, City Attorney Jim Orr, City Treasurer Bob Hale and Chief of Police Greg O'Halloran. **Villasi moves to appoint all the above. Weedman seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.**

Designation of official City Newspaper

Ordinances require the Council to designate a City Newspaper at the first meeting in May. In order to qualify under Kansas law, the newspaper has to be a print publication and published at least 50 times a year. Three newspapers that meet these qualifications are The Legal Record, The Olathe News, and The Kansas City Star. **Podrebarac moves that the city designates the above papers as the official City Newspaper. Sexton seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.**

City Council Committee Appointments

Mayor delivers Gailen Stockwell a proclamation for his years of service, as the May meeting is Stockwell's last meeting due to his departure from the City. With Council consent, the Mayor makes the following committee assignments:

Weedman will remain on Public Works.

Podrebarac will remain on Ordinances and Buildings and Code Enforcement.

Villasi will remain on Landscape and Beautification

Shelor-Sexton will lead Public Safety and Stormwater Management Plan.

New Councilperson will be in charge of Budget.

Stockwell moves to confirm the Council portfolios. Weedman seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.

Emergency Repair

The City has a stormwater drain that collapsed at 49th Street and Rainbow. Kissick Construction ran a camera down ½ of pipe down Rainbow between houses on 49th Street and 49th Terrace, and the video shows the damage to the pipe.

One of the recommended repairs is to take out the existing pipe, 18" in diameter, 200' long. This complete replacement would involve taking out curbing, sidewalks and possibly the street. There is a gas line that runs parallel to stormwater line which may complicate the repair. Mayor called Kent Lage, head of Public Works for Johnson County, for advice. We will also reach out to KDOT. Mayor reported that the City is also

looking at putting a slurry into the existing pipe and allowing it to cure so as to line the pipe in place

Schwach suggests the City encumber \$1,000 to run a camera down the other half of the stormwater pipe. **Podrebarac moves to encumber \$1,000.00 to cover the camera work to discover the extent of the repairs needed on the Rainbow Storm Sewer Line. Weedman seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.** The City may need to hire someone to draw a set of specs for the repair project unless the County can assist with that. Schwach will take recommendations from the County and Lage. Schwach suggests that the Council continue the May meeting rather than adjourn so that the Council may take action on this stormwater pipe matter prior to the regularly scheduled June meeting.

Police Contract Renewal – Schwach reported that, in the City's present Public Safety contract, there are terms that require us to give notice between April 1 and June 1 to Westwood, if we will not renew the contract. O'Halloran reports that many changes are taking place in the Police Department, and we have entered into a flat rate contract, designed to be a three year contract, renewed every year. During the past year, the Westwood Police dropped overall non-injury accidents by 20% and injury accidents by 10%. The Police Department is trying to keep crime low and continue to act in a compassionate manner. Schwach asks Council if they are prepared to continue the Public Safety agreement for another year. The sense of the Council is that they will continue the agreement for 2016.

Electrical repairs on the Green

Schwach reports that three locations on the Green require lighting repairs. Electrician Chris Hedges will not provide a bid but indicated that \$375.00 should cover the necessary repairs.

Villasi reports that a few sprinkler heads are damaged but still work. Lighting Concepts said the heads still work. They cost about \$16-\$36 to replace. Sexton reports that Rick at Lighting Concepts will run a test at no charge to determine if we need risers on the sprinkler heads on the islands to water the entire island completely. Villasi will have repair cost estimates at the next meeting. **Podrebarac moves to encumber \$375.00 for electrical repairs on the Green. Weedman seconds. All aye. Motion carries.**

Bid and contract awards for stonework restoration – Schwach distributed the re-worked budget for the Heritage Grant Fund. The City received a bid from Gunter Construction for \$60,434.00. Work at 50th and State Line on the Fountain and entryway was removed from the scope of the project. The slate repair and replacement were also removed from the project as well. Schwach proposes that we bundle the items that we removed from the stonework restoration project together with needed work on traffic islands and apply for grant money from the State. Gunter will also discuss with another contractor on how to salvage some of the slate to lower the repair costs. The contractor will repair 13 entry ways and the stone bridges. **Podrebarac moves that we accept Gunter's bid for \$60,434.00. Weedman seconds.** Sexton asks if there are any re-builds. Schwach reports that there will only be repairs, no teardowns. Color for new mortar (tuckpointing) will match as best as possible. Lyle Miller said the color will not be a perfect match.

Coffman asks for a projection on the date when the work will be done. As a homeowner affected by the stonework restoration, he would like a week's warning. Schwach will ask the contractor for a work plan so that notice advance notice may be provided to affected

homeowners. Miller said we could have a pre-construction meeting with the contractors. Schwach reports the contractor wants to start work on May 28, 2015. Miller can have a pre-construction meeting on May 22, 2015.

Podrebarac asks what is the deadline for expenditure of the Heritage Trust Fund monies? Schwach reports the end of the year is when the final reports are due.

Motion is on the floor to award the work to Gunter for \$60,434.00. **All in favor. Motion carries.** Schwach will hold off on executing the contract until we figure out the storm drain issue.

Items from the Floor:

Schwach received a notice from the City of Kansas City, Missouri that they are re-zoning 0.46 acres on the South side of 48th Street between Main Street and JC Nichols Parkway from Residential zoning to Business zoning.

Sexton introduced Mike Coffman, who is taking over as President for the Westwood Hills Historic Foundation and Martha Lally who had the vision and worked hard with Rose Hill on the City's islands and entryways.

Schwach asked for a date for the Council work session on budget and planning. **Schwach proposes Saturday, June 13, 2015, at 9:00 am in the Community Room at Westwood City Hall.**

Stockwell moves to continue this meeting to Thursday, May 21, 2015, at 6:00 pm. Podrebarac seconds. All in favor.

At 8:55 pm, the meeting was continued to May 21, 2015, at 6 pm, in the Westwood City Hall Community Room.