

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2016
Meeting #796**

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

Present: Mayor Schwach, Randy Brown, Rosemary Podrebarac, Karen Shelor Sexton, Ludwig Villasi, and John Weedman. City Attorney Jim Orr was also present.

Citizens Renee Miller, Mike Coffman, Jolotta Woolwine, and Martha Lally were in attendance.

Motion by Shelor Sexton to approve the agenda. Second by Brown. All aye. Motion approved.

Shelor Sexton moves to adopt the Consent Agenda. Second by Brown. All aye. Motion approved.

Issues from Citizens in Attendance:

Renee Miller appeared on behalf of the Westwood Hills Garden Club, which currently has 11 members, two of whom are Master Gardeners and two of whom are Tree Keepers. Ms. Miller presented a plan for The Green from the Westwood Hills Garden Club. She requested guidance from the Council on prioritizing items within the plan and also requested funding from the Council for supplies needing to be purchased, in the proposed amount of \$1,235.00. The Westwood Hills Garden Club will donate their time and labor.

Martha Lally and Mike Coffman of the Westwood Hills Historic Foundation also made a presentation to the Council for the landscaping of the City entryways. The Foundation has a proposal from Brian Ritter for those landscape services in the amount of \$6,700.00. The Foundation requested additional funds, in the total amount of \$1,050.00, for the addition of Soil Pep, fertilizer, and increased watering services.

After hearing the presentations and asking questions, the Council inquired about the budget amounts remaining for landscaping projects in 2016. Brown reported that the total landscape budget for 2016 is \$15,500.00 and that \$6,875.00 has already been encumbered for the City's contract with Brian Ritter for mowing and watering services on The Green. The Council agreed that funds should be encumbered so as to cover the costs of the Foundation's proposed agreement with Brian Ritter for the landscaping in the entryway beds, in the amount of

\$6,700.00. The Council also decided to fund partially the requests for additional funding from both the Foundation and the Westwood Hills Garden Club.

At this point, Councilmember Villasi raised an issue appearing later on the agenda. The entryway at the southeast corner of 49th Terrace and Rainbow has sustained some damage from being driven over when vehicles cut the corner too sharply. In order to prevent further damage, Villasi proposed installing a quartz granite boulder at that location, similar to the installation at 50th Street and Rainbow. The cost of the boulder, including delivery and placement, is \$240.00. This cost would also be allocated to the City's landscaping budget line. **Villasi moved to encumber \$240.00 for the purchase and installation of a boulder in the entryway at 49th Terrace and Rainbow, with the funds to come from the Landscaping budget line item. Second by Brown. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Weedman then moved to encumber \$6,700.00 for payment of the Foundation's contract costs with Brian Ritter, to encumber an additional \$905.00 for the Foundation for supplemental landscaping services, and to encumber \$780.00 for the Westwood Hills Garden Club to purchase supplies for work on The Green. Second by Brown. Shelor Sexton abstained. All others in favor. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Glass globe replacement and valve repairs – Gas lamp on The Green – Shelor Sexton reported that the replacement globe for the gas lamp on The Green is relatively easy to locate. After a plumber has investigated the lamp, the greater concern is that metal fixture itself is likely quite fragile and may break during installation of a new valve and other adjustments required. Villasi added that an electric floodlight could probably be added to an existing pole and attached to a light sensor or timer so as to provide light at night on the south side of the creek. The Council agreed with the concerns raised over the high cost of restoring the gas lamp on The Green. **Weedman moved to request permission from SHPO to remove the gas lamp on The Green, to cap the gas line feeding that light, and to investigate installation of replacement lighting for The Green. Second by Shelor Sexton. All in favor. Motion passed.** Villasi and Shelor Sexton will be responsible for investigating lighting alternatives and presenting options to the Council.

Lamppost restoration update – Shelor Sexton reported that the lamppost restoration at 50th Street and State Line has been completed. Shelor Sexton paid an additional \$325.00 to Steve Widlund for the final work. This amount exceeds by \$104.56 the amount of the settlement received from the insurance company for the individual who damaged the lamppost. Shelor Sexton stated and City Attorney Orr confirmed that the diversion agreement entered into with the individual who caused the damage does require the individual to reimburse

the City for any costs in excess of the insurance proceeds received. **Podrebarac moved to reimburse Shelor Sexton \$325.00 for final costs of the lamppost restoration, with direction to City Attorney Orr to request reimbursement of excess costs from the individual who caused the damage. Second by Brown. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Codes Enforcement Contract Update – Schwach advised that the City of Roeland Park has agreed to provide Codes Enforcement services to our City on essentially the same terms and conditions as prior codes enforcement agreements and at a cost to be determined by their employees' hourly rates plus a 15% administrative fee. The total cost to Westwood Hills should be below \$50.00 per hour. **Shelor Sexton moved to approve the Codes Enforcement to be entered into with Roeland Park on substantially the terms presented to the Council, with authority granted to Mayor Schwach to finalize the contract. Second by Villasi. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Schwach further updated the Council and advised that the contract with Larkin for provision of engineering services, in connection with potential street, sidewalk and storm sewer improvements, has been finalized and that the contracts with Westwood for rental of City Hall and for provision of Rental Property Inspection services have both been approved by Westwood.

49th Street and Rainbow Street Sign – Weedman reported that he has been unable to obtain a bid for the missing street signs at 49th Street and Rainbow from any company other than Acme Signs, which provided a bid of \$450.00. **Motion by Shelor Sexton to encumber \$475.00 for purchase and shipping of the replacement street signs. Second by Podrebarac. All in favor. Motion passed.**

BMP Program for Stormwater Management – Mayor Schwach reported that we will announce the BMP (Best Management Practices) tree planting program, which is being funded with a \$3,000.00 grant from Johnson County, at the City's Arbor Day and Spring Egg Hunt event to be held on Saturday, March 26, 2016.

Ash Tree on The Green – In City Clerk Beth O'Bryan's absence, Mayor Schwach reported that the City has received bids from several providers for the treatment of the Ash tree on The Green. The best time for treatment is in May or June when the trees have leafed out. The City will engage a company to treat the Ash tree on The Green at that time.

New Business:

Boulder at 49th Terrace and Rainbow – The Council previously took action on this matter while making decisions on the landscaping presentations from the Westwood Hills Garden Club and the Westwood Hills Historic Foundation.

Office Supplies – envelopes and checks – The City is in need of additional envelopes and checks. City Clerk O’Bryan has obtained cost estimates for the purchase of these items, which will total \$362.13. **Motion by Shelor Sexton to encumber \$362.13 for purchase of envelopes and checks. Second by Brown. Weedman abstained as his business is providing the envelopes and printing at cost. All others in favor. Motion passed.**

Stormwater Ordinance – Podrebarac requests that the Stormwater ordinance discussion be delayed until the April meeting.

Fountain and sprinkler maintenance – Weedman requested that the Council consider engaging a contractor to provide maintenance of the sprinklers on The Green and the fountain at 50th Street and State Line Road. Weedman spoke with the principal of Lighting Concepts who recommends Green Lawn to service the fountain and sprinklers. **Weedman moves to enter into an agreement with Green Lawn to service the fountain at 50th Street and State Line Road and to service and maintain the sprinklers on The Green and to encumber \$1840.00 to cover the costs associated with the agreement. Second by Brown. All in favor. Motion passed.** The funds for this agreement will be allocated from budget line 82.

Tree Board Meeting -

At 8:30 pm, **Podrebarac moved to recess the Council meeting temporarily in order to hold the Tree Board meeting. Second by Brown. All in favor. Motion passed.** Council then began the Tree Board meeting.

Shelor Sexton moved to resume the March Council meeting at 8:55 pm. Second by Brown. All in favor. Motion passed. Regular March City Council Meeting resumed.

Action on Tree Board Recommendations -

Podrebarac moved to approve the recommendations of the Tree Board (a) to encumber \$109.00 for the purchase of an Eastern Redbud tree for planting on The Green at the City’s Arbor Day celebration; (b) to continue the present tree planting reimbursement program under which the City will reimburse a property owner for one half the cost (up to \$100) for the planting of any tree within the City’s right-of-way, provided that the tree is listed on the City’s approved tree list; and (c) to adopt the Arbor Day Proclamation. Second by Brown. All in favor. Motion passed.

No further business.

Motion to adjourn by Brown. Meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.