

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2018
Meeting #820**

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Paula Schwach at 7:07 pm.

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

No citizens were in attendance.

Motion by Shelor Sexton to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Podrebarac. All aye. Motion approved.

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

Old Business:

MIP Deposit –City Treasurer, John Martin, was not in attendance to discuss this agenda item.

Northeast Animal Control Commission (NEACC) Operating Revisions- Schwach reported that Mission Woods, Westwood Hills and Fairway encouraged NEACC to consider the City of Merriam's Animal Control Model. Mission is considering withdrawal from the NEACC and creating its own animal control program. Mission is willing to provide services for a fee to other cities in the NE but has not yet developed a fee structure. Roeland Park also offered an alternative model. Schwach asked Council what level of Animal Control Service does Westwood Hills want? Shelor Sexton suggested looking into a private company to provide animal control services, and Mayor Schwach invited her to develop a proposal with cost estimates and report back to Council. After discussion, the sense of the Council was that the City is interested in:
Complaint inspection response
Removal of dead animals in the Right of Way
Direct charge back to animal owners for shelter costs for animals captured
No kill shelters
Capacity for animal control officer or police to write a ticket and to testify in court for nuisance and animal cruelty cases, which make up the majority of court cases involving animals.

We will wait to see the final numbers from Mission and any refinement of the Roeland Park model in addition to any proposal developed by Councilwoman Shelor.

New Business:

KDHE Loan Ordinance - The City has previously adopted an ordinance allowing the Mayor to apply for the loan. However, KDHE wants an ordinance using its own language. KDHE's language assumes loan approval, and so Council cannot adopt until/when we are awarded the money. Podrebarac asked about the tax lid. Does it read that we can increase the mill to spend on state infrastructure loans? After discussion of the state statutory provision, the consensus was that the tax lid allows the city to increase the mill levy to cover the repayment costs of the infrastructure loan, without need for a public vote.

2019 Human Service Fund (HSF) - United Community Service (UCS) - O'Bryan reported to council the the UCS is asking the City to contribute for 2019.

Podrebarac moved to appropriate \$200.00 for the Human Service fund.

Becker seconded. Shelor Sexton is against contributing the fund because it is a United Way agency and because she is personally opposed to some of the fund's recipients. Podrebarac explained that UCS is a United Way agency and receives funding from United Way of Greater Kansas City; however, the UCS Human Service Fund is mostly funded by municipalities within Johnson County and the county government. Podrebarac reported that the United Way of Wyandotte County keeps administrative costs below 20%. **Schwach called for a vote: Podrebarac and Becker aye. Villasi and Shelor Sexton nay.**

Schwach broke the tie and voted nay. Motion passed to contribute \$200.00 to the 2019 HSF.

Informational items – no action to be taken

Governing Body Institute - Schwach reported that the Kansas League of Municipalities will be offering a workshop in Topeka, and the registration fee is \$175.00. KLM recommends all newly elected officials attend. O'Bryan will check to see if we can purchase a handbook and what the book entails given Council's lack of interest in the Topeka workshop session.

There are no citizens in Attendance.

Shelor Sexton asked if there will be a city-wide code inspection this year. She would like a city-wide code inspection at the beginning of June, with notification to all residents in April for the upcoming inspection. Villasi thinks it's a good idea. Becker is concerned about possible negative public response.

Tree Board Meeting

Motion by Shelor Sexton and second by Becker to recess the council meeting to convene the tree board meeting. Council meeting recessed at 8:08 pm. Becker moved and Villasi seconded to enter into the tree board meeting.

Upon motion by Villasi and second by Shelor Sexton, Council resumed its regular Council meeting at 8:34 pm to take action on the Tree Board recommendations.

Podrebarac moved to accept the Tree Board recommendations to:

- 1. Appropriate up to \$2,800.00 to remove the three crab apple trees from the 49th Street island and purchase and plant three Ivory Silk Japanese Tree Lilacs. Councilwoman Becker will contact Rose Hill and arrange for purchasing and planting of the trees, and Brian Ritter will remove and replant the boxwoods as needed to accommodate the tree re-planting.**
- 2. Enter into an agreement with Johnson County for the BMP grant of \$5,000 for the City's storm water resident cost share program.**
- 3. Adopt the Arbor Day proclamation.**

Villasi seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

BMP Cost Share Program

Mayor Schwach reported that the program includes native planting and buffering and installation of permeable surfaces. The City has again received a grant from the County. The 2018 grant amount to the City is \$5,000.00 to fund this program. **Becker moved and Shelor Sexton seconded to recommend that council approve the BMP cost sharing program for 2018. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Arbor Day Proclamation – Mayor Schwach shared with the Tree Board the Arbor Day Proclamation which is to be read at the City's Arbor Day observance on March 31, 2018. **Motion by Podrebarac to recommend approval of the Proclamation to the City Council. Second by Becker. All in favor. Motion approved.**

Motion to adjourn by Shelor Sexton. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.