

**ULYSSES CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
February 13, 2019**

PRESENT:

Mayor: John Battin

Council Members Present: Sam Guy, Ken Warner, Larry Velasquez,
John Duran, Jerry Jo Deckert, and Tim McCauley

Staff Present: Alan Olson, Sarah Britton, and Dave Black

Visitors: Lara Tusten, Lana Long Anderson, Erica Oglevie, Galen Pelton,
Charlotte Peterson, Pete Woods, Jay Mykytiuk,
and Dixie Flowers

Mayor John Battin called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor John Battin.

Pastor Jay Mykytiuk led the room in **Opening Prayer**.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Deckert, seconded by Council Member Guy to approve the consent agenda. Council Members McCauley, Warner, Duran, and Guy voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

Visitors:

Citizen Colby Spencer asked the city if they would consider lowering the first and second Marijuana court fees to \$1.00, because the City of Lawrence is looking into changing their ordinance. Mayor Battin stated he and the council will take it under advisement.

OLD BUSINESS

Vehicle Purchase

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that in the payables there is a check to Davis Moore Auto Group for \$88,903.36. Olson explained the reason he is bring this to the councils attention is because when he was working on purchasing vehicles he found out that he could buy them cheaper off of a State contract. The purchase of the three vehicles is \$3,500.00 cheaper through this contract.

The Council agreed that Olson buy the vehicles from the State Contract.

NEW BUSINESS

Connect Ulysses

Erica Oglevie with Connect Ulysses stated that Connect Ulysses did receive a award letter from the Kansas Department of Transportation, and now the city has to complete a commitment letter to move forward with this project. Erica explained to the council that herself and the committee will be doing most of the leg work, but will need to refer back to the city for approvals.

Erica also explained that the city will not be responsible for any costs associated with this project, because the costs will be reimbursable through the Grant or Connect Ulysses.

Galen Pelton representative for Rotary and Economic Development stated that these boards think this type of project is great not only for safety, but for a Economic Development of the city.

Motion by Council Member Deckert, seconded by Council Member Velasquez to approve Connect Ulysses to move forward with this project. Council Members Warner, McCauley, Duran, and Guy voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

Erica Oglevie with Connect Ulysses thanked the city for the completion of the sidewalk on Joyce street. Erica stated that Connect Ulysses is requesting an amendment to the Joyce street project in making one straight sidewalk on the east side of Joyce and be done with this project. So rather than installing a sidewalk on the west side of Joyce we would complete the east side up by where the Mason Lodge and Critical Care Transport are. Approximately 250 feet of sidewalk and then this project will be complete. Connect Ulysses would provide the materials, and the city would provide the labor.

Motion by Council Member McCauley, seconded by Council Member Warner to approve the amendment on Joyce street requested by Connect Ulysses. Council Members Velasquez, Deckert, Duran, and Guy voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

Erica Oglevie also explained to the Council that High School student Dawson Hudson has been practicing welding in shop class, and has built cactus out a scrap metal. Erica's daughter Reile is going to paint the cactus, and they would like to install it on one of the nature trails. Erica stated she knows that she will have to provide more details for the city, but she was needing to have the city's approval to move forward.

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that he thinks the city needs to see if there is a good place to install it, and if we can make it safe to put there let's get it done.

Pete Woods

Citizen Pete woods stated that he and some of his neighbors are concerned about the streets out in valley view especially Texas Ave and Illinois. Pete explained when this land was annexed into the city in the 70's the citizens were told that the city would maintain the roads just as the county had been doing like cleaning the ditches out, elevate the road so the road is not the low spot, and more than once a month maintenance.

Pete stated that the ditches have not been cleaned out since the city took over, and the only way it is going to get fixed is if clean the ditches out, clean the culverts and then it will drain.

Mayor Battin stated the city will get this issue taken care of.

Council Member Guy asked Pete woods what his plans are for his property on Joyce street. Pete stated that he would be happy to discuss this issue with the council in executive session. City Attorney Dave Black asked Pete why in executive session, and Pete stated that he did not want to discuss his business in an open meeting.

Pete Woods then stated that he plans to start rebuilding, and is going to remove the plastic off the green house as soon as he can get a tractor in town.

Citizen Jim Wilson also stated his concerns about Texas Ave and Illinois.

Mayor Battin stated the city will make this a top priority to get these streets fixed.

STAFF COMMENTS

Interim City Administrator Olson stated this is the quarterly report ending December 31, 2018. The ending cash balance was \$7,331,556.17, and the beginning balance for 2018 is **\$6,797,270.00** for positive earnings of approximately \$535,000.00. Olson also explained from 2018 to 2019 the city paid off debts of \$288,578.00.

Interim City Administrator Olson stated the sales tax ending balance for 2018 was \$1,679,735.11.

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that he spoke with City Engineer Pete Earles regarding the band shell at Frazier Park, and that Pete will be in town next week to discuss approximate cost estimates for this shell.

City Clerk Britton stated city county lunch will be on February 19, 2019 at 12.00p.m. at the hospital, and on February 15, 2019 their will a Legislative coffee at the new fire station at 1:00p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBER’S COMMENTS

Council Member Duran asked how close we are getting to replacing all the street lights to LED lighting. Interim City Administrator was not for sure.

Council Member Velasquez stated that Shopko is closing, and asked if anything else will be coming in.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Council Member McCauley, seconded by Council Member Duran to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 p.m. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

Mayor John Battin

Council Member Jerry Jo Deckert

Council Member Tim McCauley

Council Member Kenneth Warner

Council Member Larry Velasquez

Council Member John Duran

Council Member Sam Guy

Interim City Administrator Alan Olson

City Clerk Sarah Britton