



**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
May 5, 2020 7:00 P.M.**



**Live Video Available on  
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**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Jim Benage called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present by video conference on Go-To-Meeting were Jeff Elshoff, Dr. Joel Schroeder, Justin Smith, John Welch and Diane Wynn.

Also present by video conference on Go-To-Meeting were City Manager Ty Lasher, City Attorney Jacqueline Kelly, Director of Finance Ted Henry, City Engineer Anne Stephens, and City Clerk Melissa Krehbiel.

**III. OPENING PRAYER** – Dr. Joel Schroeder provided the opening prayer.

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG**

Mayor Benage led the pledge of allegiance.

**V. DETERMINE AGENDA ADDITIONS** – There were no additions.

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Minutes of the April 21, 2020 City Council Meeting.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Welch moved to approve the consent agenda as listed and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council Member Elshoff seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**VII. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE**

**A. Consideration of Appropriations Ordinance 20-08 in the amount of \$1,652,198.01.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Elshoff moved to approve Appropriations Ordinance 20-08. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**VIII. CITY REQUESTED APPEARANCES:** None

**IX. CITIZEN CONCERNS:** No citizen concerns were received.

**X. PROCLAMATIONS-** Mayor Benage read the proclamations:

- National Park Day, May 16, 2020
- Building Safe Month – May 2020
- Public Service Week, May 3-9, 2020
- Older Americans Month, May 2020

**XI. REPORTS**

**A. Council Member Reports**

Council Member Wynn reported that the Police Department's Easter egg delivery program was covered in the Bel Aire Breeze.

Council Member Smith reported he attended the April Chisholm Creek Utility Authority (CCUA) meeting where well rehab and commissioner education was discussed.

Council Member Elshoff reported he attended the April CCUA meeting.

**B. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Benage reported that he attended the April CCUA meeting. He also participated in a teleconference with Kansas State Attorney General Schmidt. The south water tower was cleaned last week. Thanks to Sherwin Williams for donating paint to repaint the Rec Center. Thanks also to two citizens who rebuilt some Purple Martin bird houses for the public parks. In other news, the Catholic diocese will start holding Mass again tomorrow, while limiting the number of attendees.

**C. City Attorney Report**

City Attorney Kelly reported that under new executive orders issued by Governor Kelly, utility disconnects are still limited, as are discontinuation of trash or recycling services. Mass gatherings are also limited. The new orders are effective through May 14<sup>th</sup>, at which time they may be extended by the legislature.

**D. City Manager Report**

City Manager Lasher reported that ProSeal is finishing some street repair projects in Central Park neighborhood that were stalled last year due to weather. Woodlawn north of 53<sup>rd</sup> Street up to K-254 will be closed for the next couple of months as repairs are made. Also, the City brush site will be open this Saturday for drop-offs, with staff following strict social distancing guidelines and citizens doing the unloading.

## **XII. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND FINAL ACTIONS**

- A. Consideration of approving a Contract for Professional Services regarding right-of-way acquisitions and temporary construction easements along Woodlawn from 37<sup>th</sup> to 45<sup>th</sup> Streets. Proposals were received from:**

Easement Acquisitions, LLC.	\$23,250
Skeens Consulting Services	\$53,100
Land Acquisitions, Inc.	\$78,150

**MOTION:** Council Member Elshoff moved to approve the Contract from Skeens Consulting Services at a cost not to exceed \$63,100 for professional services related to land acquisitions and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council Member Wynn seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

- B. Consideration of accepting a Utility Easement from the City of Bel Aire Land Bank on a portion of land in the SW ¼ of Section 17, Township 26S, Range 2E, identified by Exhibit A.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Schroeder moved to accept the Utility Easement from the City of Bel Aire Land Bank on a portion of land in the SW ¼, Section 17, Township 26S, Range 2E, identified by Exhibit A. Council Member Welch seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

- C. Consideration of accepting a Utility Easement from the City of Bel Aire Land Bank on a portion of land in the SW ¼ of Section 17, Township 26S, Range 2E.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Smith moved to accept the Utility Easement from the City of Bel Aire Land Bank on a portion of land in the SW ¼, Section 17, Township 26S, Range 2E. Council Member Schroeder seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

- D. Consideration of accepting a Utility Easement from the City of Bel Aire on a portion of Lot 2 of the Broadstone Villas Addition.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Schroeder moved to the Utility Easement from the City of Bel Aire on Lot 2 of the Broadstone Villas Addition. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

- E. Consideration of accepting a Utility Easement by USD 259 on a portion identified as Lot 1, Block A of the USD 259 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Elshoff moved to accept the Utility Easement from USD 259 on Lot 1, Block A of the USD 259 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition. Council Member Welch seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**F. Consideration of accepting a Utility Easement from the City of Bel Aire Land Bank on a portion of land in the SE ¼ of Section 17, Township 26S, Range 2E.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Welch moved to accept the Utility Easement from the City of Bel Aire Land Bank on a portion of land in the SE ¼, Section 17, Township 26S, Range 2E. Council Member Schroeder seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**G. Consideration of accepting a Sanitary Sewer Easement from the City of Bel Aire Land Bank on a portion of land in the SE ¼ of Section 17, Township 26S, Range 2E.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Smith moved to accept the Utility Easement from the City of Bel Aire Land Bank on a portion of land in the SE ¼, Section 17, Township 26S, Range 2E. Council Member Welch seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**H. Consideration of a Contract with P.P. & J Construction for thermal crack repair and concrete work at Westlake Drive, Willow Point and Country Lane at a cost of \$29,930.00.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Elshoff moved to approve the Contract with P.P. & J Construction for certain street repairs at a cost of \$29,930.00 and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council Member Wynn seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**I. Consideration of the City Managers Reopening Plan for the City of Bel Aire.**

City Manager Lasher presented a plan for reopening City facilities following the lifting of state and county COVID-19 stay-at-home orders. The plan includes detailed safety measures that will be taken by each department. These measures are designed to protect staff and citizens by limiting gatherings, maintaining social distancing, and allowing for frequent sanitization of spaces and use of personal protective equipment (PPE), where appropriate. The plan recommends reopening City Hall to the public on May 26<sup>th</sup>. City Hall hours will be permanently changed with City Hall opening at 8:00 a.m. instead of 7:30 a.m. The new hours will better match staffing needs and allow time for staff meetings and sanitizing work spaces.

The Public Works department is working with full staff starting May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Rec Center will reopen on May 26<sup>th</sup> with safety measures in place such as social distance monitoring, use of masks, and frequent disinfection of surfaces. Baseball and softball programs will be cancelled. The Senior Center will be used only for scheduled activities with a staff member present. Staff recommends not

opening the Central Park swimming pool this year, due to concerns over expense, staffing, and social distancing.

For Municipal Court safety measure will include more court sessions with smaller dockets; limiting attendees; requiring masks be worn, hands sanitized, and temperatures taken before admittance; and courtroom disinfection between court sessions. In-person meetings of City Council, boards and commissions at City Hall will resume May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Sedgwick County received a \$100 million federal grant to cover COVID-19 associated costs, which they will share with municipalities. Staff recommends the City Council approve hero pay for essential workers, similar to the hero pay that Sedgwick County has approved for the county's essential workers. The pay would be retroactive from March 28<sup>th</sup> and end June 5<sup>th</sup>, for a total cost of \$24,000. Staff would request this amount be reimbursed by Sedgwick County from the federal grant.

Council members discussed concerns related to social distancing enforcement and staffing at the Rec Center and the pool. They also discussed meeting citizens' needs for city services and how future regulations by county, state and federal government might affect the City's plan. Council Members discussed their support for hero pay, and giving the City Manager discretion to change the plan as needed to respond to the rapidly changing situation.

Council Members Elshoff, Smith, Schroeder and Wynn expressed consensus for amending the City Manager's plan to include opening the Central Park swimming pool. Council Member Welch stated he supported most of the plan, but he did not support opening the swimming pool, as opening the pool would go against the City Manager's recommendation.

**MOTION:** Council Member Smith moved to approve the City Manager's plan for reopening of City operations and facilities as amended [Manager's plan amended to allow the opening of the swimming pool] and authorize the City Manager to make necessary changes as the situation evolves in order to manage the city's COVID-19 response. Council Member Elshoff seconded the motion. *Motion carried 4-1*, with Council Member Welch voting against the motion.

**J. Consideration of accepting a bid for the replacement of an F-350 truck. Three vendors were contacted with two responding:**

<b>Rusty Eck Ford</b>	<b>\$94,632.00</b>
<b>Don Hattan</b>	<b>\$96,900.00</b>

Funding for the truck will come from the equipment replacement reserve in the budget. Council Members discussed the need for the replacement truck and

the options included in each quote. Council members also discussed the not-to-exceed amount, in order to cover useful options such as a trailer brake controller.

**MOTION:** Council Member Schroeder moved to accept the bid from Rusty Eck Ford for a replacement F-550 at a cost not to exceed \$94,632.00 and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council Member Welch seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION-** No executive session was held.

**XIV. DISCUSSION AND FUTURE ISSUES**

- Workshop – May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm?

The Council briefly discussed the topics for the May 12 workshop agenda.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Council Member Smith moved to adjourn. Council Member Wynn seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

The meeting adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

Approved by the City Council this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

  
Jim Benage, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Melissa Krehbiel, City Clerk