

Regular Meeting:

The Governing Body of the City of Wamego, Kansas, met in a Regular Session on Tuesday, September 05, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Commission Chambers at 430 Lincoln Avenue, Wamego, Kansas. Those present were Commissioners: Clifford Baughman, Richard Weixelman, Michele Jacobs, William Ditto and Mayor Thomas Beem.

Also present were the City Manager, Stacie Eiche, City Clerk, Shanda Jahnke, City Treasurer, Leslie Dugan and City Attorney, Jake Pugh.

The City Clerk presented the minutes of the regular meeting of the Governing Body held August 15, 2023. After careful reading and discussion thereof, it was moved by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Ditto to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

The City Clerk then submitted to the Governing Body for their consideration and approval Appropriation Ordinance No. 1676. After a careful review and discussion thereof, Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman, to approve and adopt Appropriation Ordinance Number 1676. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Public Comments and Communications:

The next regular work session will be September 19, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Trisha Johnston was present with several residents from Maple Street and Valley Road to voice their concern about the speed limit on Valley Road and the location of their mailboxes. Mayor Beem advised that the City Manager was currently working on speed limit issues and the City Manager advised the group that the postmaster had approved the mailboxes be moved to Maple Street from Valley Road but that it was believed to be the homeowners' responsibility to move them.

Zac Kreider was also present to voice his concerns with the yield signs on Poplar Street, advising that he has witnessed an accident and several near misses with a yield sign instead of a stop sign. He was also concerned with speed throughout the city in the residential neighborhoods. The City Manager advised that all these issues are being addressed.

Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing:

Commissioner Baughman moved, seconded by Commissioner Beem, to open the Revenue Neutral Rate public hearing. The City Manager explained that it was the city's intention to stay with the same mil rate as last year but to exceed the revenue neutral rate given by the county and then answered questions from the public.

No further public comments.

Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Weixelman to move out of the Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

RNR Resolution:

Resolution No. 20230905 was presented and read as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAMEGO, KANSAS TO LEVY A PROPERTY TAX RATE EXCEEDING THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE;

Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve Resolution No. 20230905. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Budget Hearing:

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman, to open the Budget Hearing to public comments. No public comments. Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Adoption of the Budget – 2024:

Commissioner Weixelman moved to adopt the 2024 budget as presented. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Library Agreement Amendment:

The City Manager advised that the library project was over budget. The library board has proposed giving an additional \$50,000 to the project. This amendment addresses the additional funds making the library's portion of the project \$1,550,000. Commissioner Weixelman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, to approve the amendment to the original agreement contingent upon City Attorney review. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Riley County Opioid Fund Request:

The City Manager reported a request had been received from the Riley County Health Department for the city to assist in education and marketing regarding opioid abuse in the amount of \$1,500. She advised that the city has \$12,200 in a fund for opioid education. Commissioner Weixelman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, to approve the request in the amount of \$1,500 for opioid education. Motion carried. Aye: 4, Nay: 0, with Commissioner Ditto abstaining.

Wamego Community Foundation Airport Fund:

Stacie requested approval for the City Treasurer to open a new account with the Community Foundation for an airport fund. This would allow airport donations to be directly sent to the Community Foundation for city airport projects. Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Weixelman, to have staff open a new account for an airport fund. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Safe Driving Coalition:

The City Manager requested she be given the authority to create a safe driving task force. The task force would encompass citizen and staff input. Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Ditto, to authorize the City Manager to create a safe driving task force. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0. The City Manager advised that to go with the safe driving task force, she had requested a quote from Ollson to conduct a traffic study. This study will be looking at speeds throughout the city in the residential areas. The cost of this study was quoted at \$8,000 and it is the staff recommendation to accept the quote. Commissioner Weixelman moved to approve the contract with Ollson for \$8,000, Commissioner Ditto seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Lincoln Avenue Downtown Sidewalk Repair:

Stacie advised that the city had used a company in the past to shave sidewalk trip hazards. She had requested they look at the multiple city owned locations for hazards, several were found in the park and recreation complex that had already been repaired. However, the downtown area has 101 hazards, and the cost would be \$16,207 for the repair, she asked if the Governing Body wanted the businesses billed for the repairs or for the city to pay the repairs due to the number of festivals held in the area. Commissioner Weixelman moved to pay for the repairs in the amount of \$16,207. Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 4, Nay: 0, with Commissioner Jacobs abstaining.

Project Updates and Change Orders:

The City Manager reported that the street project has begun, resulting in 3-4 water leaks, Chestnut Street may start later than expected. The library project continues and will be closed for a couple of weeks in November to allow the staff to move from the old library to the new portion of the library. There are no changes orders to present.

The city uses Gilmore and Bell for its bond counsel, they have requested an official agreement for \$1,500 per year for these services. Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman, to approve the agreement with Gilmore and Bell. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

The outdoor pool is closed, and the indoor pool hours changed on Fridays.

Adult men's and co-rec softball is going, youth flag football and soccer is underway with K-state players coming to assist the flag football program.

The police department is in the process of filling all openings, the city is hiring for the street, water, and parks departments. Two linemen are in the lineman apprenticeship program. The power plant has been generating to keep the city from losing power during the extreme heat.

Purchase Requests:

The City Manager advised that the proposals had been received for a hydro evacuation trailer, only one proposal was received in the amount from Red Equipment in the amount of \$171,000. It was the public works director's recommendation to accept the proposal. Commissioner Baughman moved, seconded by Commissioner Weixelman, to accept the proposal. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

City Manager and Other Reports:

Information from the Chamber lunch over housing will be sent out in the next packet.

The city sales tax was up 8.9% and the county sales tax was up 5% from this time last year.

The library minutes, finances and statistics were included in the meeting packet.

No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

/s/ Thomas Beem, Mayor

/s/ Shanda Jahnke, City Clerk