

**Regular Meeting:**

The Governing Body of the City of Wamego, Kansas, met in a Regular Session on Tuesday, December 19, 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, William Ditto, Michele Jacobs and Mayor Thomas Beem.

Also present were the City Manager, Stacie Eichem, 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 December 05, 2023. After careful reading and discussion thereof, it was moved by Commissioner Ditto and seconded by Commissioner Baughman 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. 1683. After a careful review and discussion thereof, Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman, to approve and adopt Appropriation Ordinance Number 1683. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Public Comments and Communications:**

The next regular work session will be January 02, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

**Chamber/CVB Annual Update:**

Jessa Peterson and Tegan Kreider were present to give their annual updates. Jessa advised that the focus in 2023 was to increase membership and enhance the programming, both of which had been accomplished and remain a primary focus in 2024. She also reported that the Chamber had reached 22,000 followers on all social media platforms. Tegan advised that the focus was to enhance the existing festivals in 2024, all of the festivals this year were successful with the exception of the Season of Lights, which had to be canceled due to the winter storm. She would be focusing on updating the current festivals to keep them fresh and inviting. The Governing Body thanked them for their hard work and dedication.

**Vision Wamego Report:**

Jessa Peterson gave a brief Vision Wamego report, this program originated in 2009 and brought back in 2023. This steering committee is composed of community members that review the community's needs, strengths, weaknesses and opportunities during their meetings. The committee found there should be a focus on housing needs, economic growth and quality of life amenities. The committee will continue to work on these goals and more in the future. Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman to accept the Vision Wamego report as presented. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Budget Amendment:**

Commissioner Baughman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, to open the public hearing regarding the proposed budget amendment. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

With no public comments, Commissioner Baughman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to move out of the public hearing and back in to the regular meeting. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve the budget amendment moving \$150,000 to the special parks fund to make the balance \$207,611 for the pickleball project. Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Speed Ordinance No. 1800:**

This had been tabled at the previous meeting for more information regarding the speed study. The City Attorney stated it would be his recommendation to approve Ordinance No. 1800 based on the recommendations from the engineered speed study by Olsson.

Ordinance No. 1800 was presented and read as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WAMEGO, KANSAS, AMENDING SECTION 14-104 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAMEGO, KANAS, ESTABLISHING A TWENTY (20) MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT FOR ALL STREETS WITHIN THE CITY, UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

Commissioner Baughman moved, seconded by Commissioner Weixelman, to approve Ordinance No. 1800 based on the recommendations. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Highland Community College Wine Festival Request:**

Scott Kohl, 456 Wineries, was present to request having a wine festival fundraiser in the park May 11<sup>th</sup>, with food trucks and vendors. After a lengthy discussion, this issue was tabled until the next regular meeting for more information regarding city staffing and associated costs.

**PrairieLand Property Tax Abatement:**

Stacie advised that an agreement had been drafted but would not be signed until the bond closing on this issue. Commissioner Beem moved, Commissioner Baughman seconded, to approve the form of the Agreement for Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement presented to the City Commission and approve the ad valorem tax abatement and payments in lieu of taxes prescribed in the agreement, in connection with industrial revenue bonds to be issued for the PrairieLand Partners expansion project. Motion carried. Aye: 4, Nay: 1, Commissioner Weixelman.

**2024 Opioid Prevention Partnership:**

The City Manager advised it was requested to remove this item from the agenda, at this time Riley County has decided to keep their focus in Riley County instead of partnering with surrounding communities.

**Flint Hills Regional Council:**

Mayor Beem re-appointed Commissioner Weixelman to the Flint Hills Regional Council.

**Friends of the Kaw Kayak Locker Request:**

Stacie advised that she had received a request from the Friends of the Kaw to install kayak lockers at the river landing. There would be two lockers that individuals on float trips could use as temporary storage for their kayaks when they stop to visit downtown Wamego to eat or sightsee. The lockers would be paid for by the Friends of the Kaw but maintained by the City of Wamego staff. Commissioner Weixelman moved to approve the installation of kayak lockers; Commissioner Ditto seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay:0.

**Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses 2024:**

The City Manager reported that Gene's Heartland, Last Stop, Leisler Oil/Short Stop, PH of Wamego/Pizza Hut, Gambino's Pizza, Smokin Willie's and Snak Attack had applied for 2024 CMB licensing. Most establishments had passed inspections, however one was still working through some of the inspections. It was her recommendation to approve all of the establishments contingent upon the completion of the inspections being passed. Commissioner Baughman moved, seconded by Commissioner Beem to approve the establishments contingent upon the inspections being passed. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Project Updates and Change Orders:**

Stacie advised she did not have any change orders or purchase requests for this meeting.

**City Manager and Other Reports:**

The hospital MRI and library projects were still underway. The street project and scenic ridge projects are going well. All of the departments are doing great, one of the officers had started the academy. The City Offices would be closed on December 25<sup>th</sup> for Christmas, closed to the public at noon on December 29<sup>th</sup> to allow for the end of the year processing and closed on January 1<sup>st</sup> for New Years.

At this time, Commissioner Beem moved to adjourn into executive session for ten (10) minutes to confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, individual proprietorships, non-elected personnel and potential acquisition of property, the meeting would reconvene at 7:00 P.M. Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye:5, Nay:0.

The meeting reconvened.

At this time, Commissioner Beem moved to adjourn into executive session for fifteen (15) minutes to discuss non-elected personnel and the meeting would reconvene at 7:15 P.M. Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

The meeting reconvened.

No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

/s/ Thomas Beem, Mayor

/s/ Shanda Jahnke, City Clerk