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December 17, 2024

Regular Meeting:

The Governing Body of the City of Wamego, Kansas, met in a Regular Session on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Commission Chambers at 430 Lincoln Avenue. Those present were Commissioners: Dwight Faulkner, Michele Jacobs, Clifford Baughman, William Ditto and Mayor Richard Weixelman.

The City Manager, Stacie Eiche, City Clerk, Shanda Jahnke and Jake Pugh, City Attorney, were also present.

The City Clerk presented the minutes of the regular meeting of the Governing Body held December 03, 2024. After careful reading and discussion thereof, it was moved by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Faulkner to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

The City Clerk submitted Appropriation Ordinance No. 1707 to the Governing Body for their consideration and approval. After careful review and discussion thereof, Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman, to approve and adopt Appropriation Ordinance Number 1707. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Public Comments and Communications:

The City Manager handed out a review of projects within the previous 5 years.
The next regular work session will be January 07, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.

Chamber/CVB Annual Update:

Jessa Peterson and Tegan Kreider were present to give their annual updates. Jessa advised that in 2024 the chamber had 195 active memberships. The focus in 2025 was to increase membership and enhance programming, both of which had been accomplished and remain a primary focus in 2025 as well as a long term strategic plan. Tegan reported that the Tulip Festival had 200 vendors in 2024 which is the maximum possible and had a 40% increase in revenue. She also reported that the Chamber/CVB had reached 114,000 followers in 2024 from 22,000 followers in 2023 on all social media platforms. She is currently working a common consumption plan for the future. The Governing Body thanked them for their hard work and dedication.

July 4th Concessions:

At the previous meeting, the City Manager had requested authorization to go out for qualification requests for food trucks for the 4th of July event. After re-evaluating the plan and speaking with the Chamber, it was her recommendation to have the Chamber of Commerce take over the food truck plan for the event since they are more familiar with the food trucks and what is needed for the event. The request would be that the chamber would then pay the city \$2000 to make up the revenue generated in previous years from the 4th of July concessions. Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Faulkner to approve the request to allow the Chamber to coordinate the 4th of July concessions and pay the city \$2000 with the Chamber keeping any additional revenue. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

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Chamber Memorandum of Understanding:

The City Manager reported that it was time to renew the memorandum of understanding with the Chamber. The city would continue to pay \$250,000 in two installments for the tourism position. Commissioner Ditto moved to accept the memorandum of understanding for an additional three (3) years as presented. Commissioner Faulkner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Truck Route:

Stacie advised that due to the truck route being a state designated truck route an ordinance is unnecessary, however, after conferring with the city attorney, it was decided to present an ordinance to the Governing Body for consideration. Ordinance No. 1813 was presented and read as follows:

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TRUCK AND HEAVY VEHICLE ROUTES THROUGH THE CITY OF WAMEGO, KANSAS, AND PROHIBITING TRUCK AND HEAVY VEHICLES WEIGHING OVER 10,000 POUNDS FROM DRIVING UPON CERTAIN STREET IN SAID CITY AND EXCEPTIONS HERETO; AND PENALTIES; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve Ordinance No. 1813. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

KMEA Fund Balance:

The City Manager advised that there are different credits that come with contracting with KMEA, the TCR credit is refunded on the regular invoices which credits the customers. The ARR credit funds are held in an account and refunded to the cities in contract with KMEA by their purchasing percentages. It is up to each city if they leave the credit funds with KMEA or withdraw. It was the City Manager's recommendation to withdraw the credit funds in the amount of \$273,505.00 for electric reserves. Commissioner Faulkner moved to withdraw the funds as recommended. Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Software Review:

Stacie advised that with continued issues with the third-party software that the city staff uses for all billing and accounting functions, the staff had started researching other options. After researching, it was staff recommendation to sign with Tyler Technologies, the transition will take approximately 9-12 months. The onboarding cost is \$165,244 with annual fees of \$93,572. Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve the contract with Tyler Technologies as presented, contingent upon City Attorney review. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

KDOT Letter of Support:

The City Manager reported that KDOT had requested a letter of support to conduct a Highway 24 Corridor Management Study from east of Wamego to the east side of Manhattan, there was not a monetary request at this time. Commissioner Faulker moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman to support the study. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses:

The City Manager reported that Gene's Heartland, Last Stop, Leisler Oil/Short Stop, Smokin Willie's and Snak Attack had applied for 2025 CMB licensing. Pizza Hut was no longer going to sell alcohol and Gambino's had not applied at this time. Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Faulkner to approve the establishments contingent upon the inspections being passed. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

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Contract Review:

The City Attorney advised the Governing Body that he had updated the employment contract for the City Manager. Commissioner Faulkner moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman, to approve the employment contract and authorize the City Attorney to finalize the contract with the City Manager. Motion carried: Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Board Appointments:

Mayor Weixelman re-appointed Frank Laubhan to the Wamego Hospital Board, as well as Bill Shuck and Paul Eichem to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Project Updates and Change Orders:

The City Manager advised that Chestnut is open to local traffic between 7am and 5pm while they are finishing the sidewalks and curbs. Walnut is scheduled to close January 27th and the project is estimated to be concluded between the end of 2025 and the middle of 2026 depending on the weather. A Change order was received from Wildcat Tree Service for removal of the final street trees in the amount of \$14,662. Commissioner Baughman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to approve change order for tree removal. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

City Manager and Other Reports - City Manager

The City Manager advised the Governing Body of several upcoming events should they choose to attend, those events were listed as the Annual Chamber Dinner, the Growth Summit, Ag Appreciation, KMU Day at the Capitol and Local Government Day at the Capitol.

At this time, Commissioner Jacobs moved to adjourn into executive session for ten (10) minutes to discuss confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, individual proprietorships and non-elected personnel, the regular meeting would be reconvened at 6:40 P.M., Commissioner Faulkner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye:5, Nay:0. The meeting was reconvened.

The meeting was reconvened at 6:40 P.M.

No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Richard Weixelman, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Shanda Jahnke, City Clerk