

**ULYSSES CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
June 28, 2017**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor: John Battin

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

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

Visitors: Bene Garcia, Gloria Battin, Teri Christian, Ken Keusler,  
Judy Keusler, Irene Velasquez, Ray Velasquez,  
Christian Kamacho, and Emmy Binney

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

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

Council Member John Duran led the room in **Opening Prayer**.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**SPECIAL MEETING**

Motion by Council Member Warner, seconded by Council Member Devore to approve the special meeting minutes for June 20, 2017. Council Members Velasquez, Duran, Deckert, and McCauley voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

**Visitors:**

Judy Keusler with the Grant County Community Foundation announced that the foundation is in the process of withdrawing from the Western Kansas Community Foundation, and bringing the foundation to Grant County. The Grant County Community Foundation will be transferring all the funds to the Grant County Bank. Judy stated that the Grant County Community Foundation board believes this will be a welcoming change to have the funds in Grant County.

Ken Keusler with the Grant County Community Foundation stated that Grant County Gives week is November 5-11 2017.

Christian Camacho asked the council for permission to have a wedding on the 200 block of main street September 30, 2017. The ceremony starts at 6:00p.m. and reception and dance to follow with DJ until 12:00a.m. They would like to have the street blocked off at 1:00p.m. to start decorating. They would also like to stream lights across the street.

Mayor Battin asked Christian if they have contacted any of the businesses that this will affect. Battin stated that the city is going to have to talk to the businesses to make sure this will work for them.

Battin also stated that Interim City Administrator Alan Olson will speak with the businesses and then get back with Alan.

Mayor Battin stated as far as the council is concerned this should be fine.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2018 Budget**

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that with some law changes there is one main thing that we have to accomplish tonight, and that is to determine if we need to take the budget to a vote to increase the mill levy over and above what the state will allow. Olson also stated that we have completed the budget using certain raises and increases.

Interim City Administrator stated that the mill levy was increased to the max without having to the budget to a vote.

### **Utilities Increase**

The auditors advise that an increase of 5% to 8% is needed to keep the water fund stable.

2018 Water Rate Increase	8%
2018 Sanitation Increase	8%
2018 Sewer Increase	8%
2018 Sewer Cap Increase	8%
2018 Storm Water Increase	8%

Motion by Council Member Devore, seconded by Council Member Duran to approve an 8% rate increase for all utilities. Council Members Warner, Velasquez, McCauley and Deckert voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

The rate increase will be in effect January 1, 2018.

### **Pay Increase**

A one percent pay increase across the board	\$22,067.30
A two percent pay increase across the board	\$44,134.60
A three percent pay increase across the board	\$66,201.90
A four percent pay increase across the board	\$67,950.52

Motion by Council Member Deckert, seconded by Council Member Velasquez to approve a maximum of 3% pay increase. Council Members Warner, Duran, McCauley and Devore voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

### **Health Increase Rates**

In 2017 there was a 2.7% decrease in the health insurance rates, and no projection given by Blue Cross as to possible increases for 2018.

Motion by Council Member Devore, seconded by Council Member McCauley to approve the 15% increase for health insurance. Council Members Warner, Duran, Velasquez and Deckert voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

### **Property Insurance Rates**

2018 Increase	
4%	\$74,272.64
5%	\$74,986.80
6%	\$75,700.96
8%	\$77,129.28

Motion by Council Member Deckert, seconded by Council Member Devore to approve the 5% increase for property insurance. Council Members Warner, Duran, Velasquez and McCauley voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

**Outside Entity Funding Request**

Economic Development	\$50,000.00
Chamber of Commerce	\$12,500.00
Tigers In Action	\$10,000.00
WKCAC	\$ 5,000.00
GGCF	\$ 2,000.00

Motion by Council Member Warner, seconded by Council Member Deckert to approve the amounts above for each entity, but each entity needs to be aware that we may have to decrease the amounts for the 2019 budget depending on the gas well fund. Council Members Devore, and McCauley voted yea. Those voting nay, Velasquez, and Duran. Motion carried, 4 yeas. Nays, two.

Interim City Administrator stated the budget for 2018 is \$12,151,047.00 with an estimated mill levy of 42.958.

Motion by Council Member Duran, seconded by Council Member Warner to approve the mill levy of 42.958. Council Members Warner, McCauley, Velasquez, and Deckert voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

The Budget Hearing is set for July 26, 2017 at 5:00p.m.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

City Clerk Britton stated that she has reserved the rooms in Wichita at the Hyatt for the League of Kansas Municipalities September 16-18 2017.

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that during the last hail storm the most damage was taken by the Golf Course. Olson also stated that he and the City Engineer Pete Earles will be having a meeting soon regarding the open lot next door to see what some options might be.

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that we usually buy black top in conjunction with the county, and the county chose to do other things so the city did not purchase the black top. When the city buys it with the county we get it at a discount, and to buy it alone was going to be double the price per ton. So what we have chosen to do is focus on sealing the streets that have been affected by the water project.

**COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS**

Council Member Devore thanked Interim City Administrator Olson for doing a great job on the budget.

Council Member Deckert thanked the staff for doing a great job on the budget.

Council Member McCauley also thanked the staff for doing a great job on the budget.

Council Member Velasquez apologized for missing the special budget meeting.

Council Member Warner thanked the staff for a great job on the budget.

Council Member Duran also thanked the staff.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Council Member Velasquez, seconded by Council Member Deckert to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 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 Warren Devore

---

Council Member John Duran

---

Council Member Larry Velasquez

---

Interim City Administrator Alan Olson

---

City Clerk Sarah Britton