

KECHI CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor, John Speer called the regular meeting of the Kechi City Council to order. The time was 7 PM

Council present: Betty Washington, David McConnaughay, Margaret McCormick, Kevin Opat & Brian Adams

Staff present: Robert Conger, City Administrator; Andrew Kovar, City Attorney; Laura Hill, City Clerk; John Blevins, Chief of Police, Jessie Woodrow, Lieutenant, Theresa Morlan, Deputy City Clerk; Larry Kallenberger, Director of Public Works

Visitors present: Taylor Messick, Ark Valley News; Sandra McConnaughay; Michelle Gowin, Elizabeth Basford, Rachael Trumbull, Misty Maynard, Shanna Masters

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Brian Adams to approve the consent agenda with noted corrections. Second by Kevin Opat. Motion carried 5-0-0

Consent Agenda

- 1. Approve minutes of the special meetings of December 5 & December 12, 2019 and the regular meeting of December 12, 2019, with corrections.**
- 2. Approve Appropriation Ordinance # 757**
- 3. Approve KPERS Designation of Agent as Theresa Morlan**

C. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Kevin Opat to approve the agenda with the executive session to be for 20 minutes. Second by Margaret McCormick. Motion carried 5-0-0.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Mayor Speer presented awards of appreciation to Kevin Opat and David McConnaughay for their years of service as council members.

Motion by Betty Washington to take a 10 minutes recess to allow those in attendance to enjoy cake and punch returning to regular session at 7:16 PM. Second by Brian Adams Motion carried 5-0-0

Returned to regular session 7:16PM

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. PUBLIC FORUM - Public wishing to address the Council, are asked to sign a Public Forum Request Form in the foyer, listing your topic along with your name, address and phone number, for the record. You are asked to limit your presentation to five minutes. Your comments or requests maybe addressed at a future meeting.**

Shanna Masters new resident introduced herself to the council and gave some personal history of her background.

- B. KECHI CIVIC GROUPS/COMMITTEES -none**

- C. MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS & CONFIRMATIONS**

Mayor Speer opened the floor to the council for nominations for Council President.

Motion by Betty Washington to nominate Brian Adams for Council President, nominations ceased. Second by Margaret McCormick. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Mayor Speer explained that since Richard Haddock had been elected to serve on the City Council that he would no longer be able to serve on the Economic Development Committee and the Mayor would like to appoint Christi Koontz, Edward Jones Representative to replace his open spot.

Motion by Betty Washington to confirm the Mayors appointment of Christi Koontz to serve on the Economic Development Committee. Second by Brian Adams. Motion carried 5-0-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS - None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. PEC AGREEMENT FOR KECHI GIS – GAS UTILITY MAPPING

Robert Conger, City Administrator presented an agreement with PEC for GIS mapping of the gas utility and training city staff on the software to do the mapping for a cost of \$4,920.00. GIS mapping is a mandated requirement to be able to pinpoint exact location of the gas infrastructure.

Motion by Kevin Opat to approve the agreement with PEC for the gas mapping at a cost of \$4,920 to come from the gas reserve fund. Second by Brain Adams. Motion carried 5-0-0.

B. REPLACEMENT OF THE CITY’S GPS LOCATING DEVICE

Larry Kallenberger, Director of Public Works presented quotes for a GPS Survey Locating Device to record the gas infrastructure and the device works hand in hand with the GIS mapping.

Motion by Brian Adams to approve the quote from Seiler Geospatial Division for the Trimble R2-101-00 model for a total cost of \$6,370.85 and authorize the Mayor to sign the acceptance of the quote. Second by Margaret McCormick. Motion carried 5-0-0.

C. KECHI PLAYHOUSE GRANT REQUEST – PHASE 2 (INTERIOR)

Robert Conger, City Administrator reported the Kechi Playhouse has been under rehabilitation since Summer 2019. The allocated exterior work was completed in early December, with the final walkthrough completed December 20th by the project architect and the City Administrator. All Phase 1, exterior repairs have been completed. All exterior repairs are being paid through a Kansas Department of Commerce \$250,000 grant, with a 25% match from the property owner.

A fundraiser by the Arts Council generated more than the required 25% match. All Kansas DOC and excess Arts Council funds are being held by the City of Kechi in a special account expressly for this project.

The project now moves to the Phase 2, interior improvements. The interior ceiling repair is the responsibility of the property owner. The property owner is requesting use of a portion of the remaining donated funds for the repair of the ceiling.

Motion by Margaret McCormick to authorize the payment of the Phase 2 repairs from the Kechi Playhouse account for an amount not to exceed \$4,620.00. Second by Betty Washington. Motion carried 5-0-0.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Matters involving non-elected personnel; contractual matters entitled to attorney/client privilege

Motion by Betty Washington to go into executive session for the purposed of discussing non-elected personnel and contractual matters relating to personnel matters for 20 minutes returning to regular session at 7:59 PM. Second by Margaret McCormick. Motion carried 5-0-0.

No action taken during executive session.

Robert Conger, City Administrator reported Senior Staff Members would be retiring and he is seeking authorization to make offers to key staff members to fill those positions.

Motion by Brian Adams to authorize the City Administrator to negotiate and fill the open positions with current staff members for selected positions. Second by Margaret McCormick. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Robert Conger, City Administrator requested authorization to hire a professional search firm to assist with the hiring of a qualified candidate to fill the Finance Director position only if the position can not be filled in a timely manner from the applicants received on the HRE Partners website. He had received quotes and recommended Gov HR with the lowest quote of \$7,000.00 and specialize in governmental employees.

Motion by Betty Washington to authorize the City Administrator to engage with Gov HR for a cost of \$7,000.00 in the event a viable candidate can not be found for the Finance Director position. Second by Kevin Opat. Motion carried 4-1-0. David McConnaughay voting nay

VI. ADJOURNMENT/RECESS

Motion by Brian Adams to adjourn. Second by Betty Washington. The time was 8:10 PM Motion carried 5-0-0.

Signed: _____
John Speer, Mayor

Attest: _____
Theresa Morlan, City Clerk