

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2019
Meeting #840**

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Paula Schwach at 7:03 p.m.

Present: Mayor Schwach, Ed Gogol, Rosemary Podrebarac, Karen Shelor Sexton, Ludwig Villasi, John Weedman and Beth O'Bryan. City Attorney Jim Orr was present.

Citizen, and soon to be incumbent, Michael Anfang was in attendance.

Motion by Shelor Sexton to approve the agenda. Second by Gogol. All aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Shelor Sexton to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Weedman. All aye. Motion approved.

Old Business:

Streetlights

At the October Council Meeting, Council asked Mayor Schwach to get the costs for decorative streetlamps. Merge Midwest provided the analysis for such lights, and Evergy provided costs. The cost is \$63.23 per light, assuming the new pole is set in dirt, and not concrete. The City's cost would be close to double for the decorative lights, versus the proposed cobra lights. In addition, the City would require additional lights because the decorative lights do not provide as much light as the cobra lights.

In addition to the cobra light fixtures proposed, Evergy also has an option for cobra lights with longer armatures. The City does not yet have the costs for those fixtures. Shelor Sexton would like to move forward with additional fixtures, using the cobra lighting, rather than the decorative lighting. Shelor Sexton would like an ordinance to keep tree canopy trimmed, and Shelor would like the City to trim trees every four years. Mayor Schwach reported that many years ago the cost to trim was around \$70.00 per tree, with inflation, the cost would be around \$10,000 for 126 trees.

City Attorney Orr advised that the City cannot increase the mill using the Public Safety tax lid as it does not apply to streetlights. City Attorney Orr found that the City can have a small election to raise the budget lid for the lighting and tree trimming.

Podrebarac moved and Gogol seconded to proceed with installing new cobra light fixtures, similar to the existing cobra fixtures, with either the current arm size (8') or a longer horizontal arm (12'), not to exceed the cost of \$42.00 per light. Gogol proposed discussing tree trimming with the residents whose trees will be impacted by the new fixtures. All in favor. Motion passed.

New Business:

Proclamations

Schwach heartfully read and executed a proclamation for Veterans Day.

Schwach read and executed a proclamation for Councilman Weedman. Council presented John Weedman with the proclamation and a going away gift.

Printer Ratification

O'Bryan reported that the City needed a new printer. O'Bryan purchased the printer, at the cost of \$299.67, in order to print the council materials. O'Bryan asked the Council to ratify the cost of the new printer. **Shelor Sexton motioned and Gogol seconded to ratify the expenditure of \$299.67 for the purchase of a new printer. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Stormwater Pipe Cleaning

Schwach reported that A-1 Sewer and Septic (A-1) ran a video camera through the City's storm sewers. A-1 found several storm sewer pipes that need to be cleaned due to debris in the pipes. A-1 estimated the cleaning should take less than four hours. The cost for cleaning is \$550.00 for the first two hours and \$225.00 every hour after that, bringing the estimated total to \$1,000.00. There is \$1,390.00 is the KDHE maintenance reserve fund. **Gogol moved and Podrebarac seconded to encumber up to \$1,200.00, and a cap of 4.5 hours to clean out the storm sewer pipes. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Johnson & Wyandotte Counties Council of Mayors Holiday Social RSVP & Encumbrance

Attending: Beth & John O'Bryan and Paula Schwach and Guest.

Podrebarac moved and Villasi seconded to encumber up to \$320.00 to the above to attend the social. All aye. Motion carried.

State Line/TEAP Study implementation

Schwach worked with Kansas City, Missouri (KCMO) to resurface St. Line Road in 2021. KCMO will resurface with a four-inch mill, with a four-inch overlay. KCMO provided engineering costs for the resurfacing. With a cost of living increase, the City's cost is estimated to be around \$65,000.00. If the City is awarded a CARS grant, the City share would be around \$30,000.00. Also, if the CARS grant is awarded, The City could implement the TEAP recommendations to improve 50th & St. Line. The total cost is estimated to be around \$270,000.00, with the City share around \$130,000.00 for the street repaving and the TEAP implementation (with CARS grant).

Weedman moved and Podrebarac seconded to authorize Mayor Schwach to submit and execute a 2020 CARS grant application in an amount not to exceed \$270,000 in total project costs to Johnson County, Kansas no later than February 29, 2020, for the resurfacing of State Line Rd and for improvements to the intersection at 50th St. and State Line Road pursuant to a KDOT-funded TEAP study of the intersection. All aye. Motioned carried.

Weedman moved and Gogol seconded authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with KCMO for the resurfacing St. Line Road, including payment of half

of the actual construction cost not to exceed \$65,000.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

Weedman moved and Podrebarac seconded to authorize Mayor Schwach to negotiate and to enter into a design and engineering contract, including construction supervision services, for improvements to the intersection at 50th and State Line Road pursuant to a KDOT-funded TEAP study and for such additional improvements as are necessary or beneficial to the City's primary entrance at this intersection. Costs for such improvements and design, engineering and supervision not to exceed \$150,000. All aye. Motion passed.

Watershed Agreement with Johnson County

Schwach reported that the County dissolved the SMAC committee. Under the new approach, several cities will create Watershed 1. The county has given the City an agreement, which the City cannot modify. **Shelor Sexton moved and Podrebarac seconded to enter into an agreement for Watershed 1.** Podrebarac had several questions and comments regarding the by-laws which Mayor Schwach will bring to Johnson County's attention. **All in favor. Schwach will contact the County with the changes proposed by council to the by-laws.**

Speed Limit Sign

Shelor reported there is a City speed limit sign for sale at Offerup, an on-line marketplace. The cost to purchase the sign is \$50.00. The Westwood Public Works Department will store the sign at no charge to Westwood Hills.

Gogol moved and Weedman seconded to encumber \$50.00 to purchase the sign. All in favor. Shelor Sexton will purchase the sign for cash on the City's behalf and will be reimbursed by the City.

Informational items – no action to be taken

There were no items from Citizens in attendance.

Johnson County & MARC 2020 State Legislative Platform

These two bodies have adopted legislative platforms. The Mayor may take positions especially on home rule and expansion of Medicare that reflect these positions.

First Suburbs Coalition October Recap

There is a lengthy study and Mayor Schwach has a copy. Schwach will share the document with any interested parties. The document indicates that the average rent in Westwood Hills is about \$2,000 a month, and the average home price is \$411,000.00. UCS will take all data collected and look at ways to increase affordable housing in Johnson County.

Stuart Little Government Relations

The City, and other small NEJC cities do not have our own lobbyist in Topeka. Stuart Little sent a letter offering services. A representative of the company will be present at the November NEJC Mayor's meeting.

League of Women's Voters 2020 Right to Vote Celebration - February 29, 2020

2020 is the 100th anniversary of Women's Right to Vote. There will be a celebration on February 29 at Yardley Hall, and Mayor Schwach has offered for anyone on Council, or their spouse to attend as her personal guest. 2:00-3:30. Shelor Sexton will attend. Mayor asked the remaining council to RSVP to her in the next few weeks.

Motion to adjourn by Shelor Sexton. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.