

MINUTES
NEOSHO CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION
September 10, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.
City Hall – Council Chambers
203 E. Main St., Neosho, MO

A quorum being present, Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Carmin Allen; Ben Baker; Jon Stephens, Tom Workman, William J.P. Doubek

CITY OFFICERS PRESENT:

Steven Hays, City Attorney; Dana Daniel, Interim City Manager; Rachel Holcomb, City Clerk, Bill Mulkey, Golf Course Director; Mike Eads, Fire Chief

BUDGET DISCUSSION

City Cell Phones

Councilman Allen feels that the City of Neosho is spending too much money on cell phone allowances for its employees. As of now there are 51 employees received the allowance ranging from \$1,200/ year to \$360/year for a total of \$31,020/year.

Discussion followed.

Councilman Workman made a motion to delete the cell phone allowance and to approve a convenience availability benefit in the amount of \$30/month or \$360/year for selected employees; Councilman Allen seconded.

Roll call vote:

Carmin Allen – Yes

Ben Baker - Yes

William J.P. Doubek - Yes

Jonathan Stephens –Yes

Tom Workman – Yes

Motion carried

Acting City Manager

Council discussed who should be the acting city manager once the new full time manager starts his duties. City Attorney Hays informed Council that Section 3.05 of the Charter says, “The

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Manager shall designate, subject to approval of the Council, a qualified City Official or employee to exercise the powers and perform the duties of City Manager during the temporary absence, suspension or disability of the Manager. The Council may revoke such designation at any time and appoint another person to serve during such absence or disability.”

He went on to explain that the new city manager will be the one who needs to designate this person once he is in place.

Council discussed compensation for the Acting City Manager.

Councilman Doubek made a motion to allow compensation for the Acting City Manager at \$150 per diem; Councilman Workman seconded.

Roll call vote:

Ben Baker - Yes
William J.P. Doubek - Yes
Jonathan Stephens –Yes
Tom Workman – Yes
Carmin Allen – Yes

Motion carried

Hiring a Full Time Employee: Police Department, Golf Course, Parks

Police Department

Councilman Workman would like to hire a new police officer. He explained that the department is still three officers short from 2010. In 2017 they fielded 6,000 more calls than in 2016.

Interim City Manager Dana Daniel and Finance Director Daphne Pevahouse agree that a new police officer is needed, but explain that the budget cannot sustain it at the moment. Adding a new employee is a reoccurring expense and isn't sustainable with the current budget. They both advised Council that they feel they have cut as much as they can and are not able to fund another officer at this time.

It was decided that this position could be added at a later date if the budget allows. Council felt the new City Manager should be a part of this decision.

Golf Course

Councilman Allen explained his reasons for the Golf Course Pro Shop needing a full time employee. He feels this is a revenue maker.

Golf Course Director Bill Mulkey said he is essentially giving up two part time employees to help fund the new full time position. He also explained that the golf course is heading into its slow season and the position would not need to be full time until after the first of the year.

Council decided to leave this position in the budget but to let the new City Manager decide the

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start date.

Parks

Council agreed to leave this position as it is in the budget and to let the new City Manager decide the start date.

COLA Raises

Councilman Workman asked City Attorney Hays if it was legally acceptable to provide some employees with a COLA and not others. He feels that the employees who received a sizable raise in the 2017 should not get the COLA to let the other employees catch up.

City Attorney Hays said he would look in to this.

Councilman Workman made a motion that provided it is legally acceptable, those who received the exempt 2017 raise will not receive a COLA; Councilman Doubek seconded.

Roll call vote:

- William J.P. Doubek - Yes
- Jonathan Stephens –Yes
- Tom Workman – Yes
- Carmin Allen – Yes
- Ben Baker - Yes

Motion carried.

ADJOURN

Mayor Baker asked if there was any further business to come before Council, with no response he asked for a motion to adjourn the September 10, 2018, Special Session City Council meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Workman and seconded by Councilman Doubek. Unanimous vote to adjourn.

Mayor Baker adjourned the regular session meeting at 8:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

NEOSHO CITY COUNCIL

Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk