

City of Leoti Governing Body met in regular session Monday, December 16, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., at the City Hall Meeting Room.

Mayor Chris Kreutzer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Kreutzer asked City Clerk Jeannine Hassell for Roll Call; Council President Derek Meyer, Councilors Kelma Burch, Aron White and Jim Kreutzer. Also present were City Superintendent Blaine Medina, City Attorney Charles Moser, Rob Taylor, Lynda Goodrich, Mike Nickelson and Steve Baum.

Mayor Kreutzer opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Burch moved White seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Agenda items included: a. December 16, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes, b. Payroll warrants \$2,564.52, c. Payroll warrants \$18,419.46, d. Accounts Payable warrants \$34,592.29, e. Accounts Payable warrants \$15,752.37. (The warrants were available for review).

Burch moved White seconded to approve the consent agenda items a-e. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Kreutzer welcomed County Clerk Lynda Goodrich who was present to discuss the Kansas Rural Opportunity Zones (ROZ) Student Loan Repayment Assistance Program. Goodrich explained currently the County gives \$6000 and the City gives \$5000 toward the ROZ program. A committee has been formed to help promote the program and bring in new members to our community. Goodrich asked council to consider raising the city portion to \$7500 and the County Commissioners will be asked to raise their portion to \$7500. This would potentially help ten members of the community pay down their student loans.

Meyer moved J. Kreutzer seconded to approve increasing the city portion of the Kansas Rural Opportunity Zone to \$7500 or to match what the County Commissioners approves. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Kreutzer welcomed Fire Chief Mike Nickelson and Assistant Fire Chief Steve Baum who were present to give an update on the Fire Department and EMS and to ask for the transfer any remaining budget authority at the end of 2024 to their reserve equipment fund. Baum shared information on the grants that have been awarded to the LVFD. Baum will share more with the community when everything has been finalized.

White moved Burch seconded, for any 2024 Fire Department budget money left over after the audit be moved back into Fire Department equipment fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Council reviewed the revised software proposal from Edmunds GovTech. A key feature to the program was left out by mistake. The new amount for the first year is \$47,745.00 and \$21,500 for the annual fees in the following years.

White moved Burch seconded to approve the Edmunds GovTech software proposal for year one at \$47,745.00 and annual fees after year one at \$21,500. Motion carried unanimously.

Ideatek Telcom, LLC a Kansas-based broadband service provider has asked to place a control pad and generator on a city easement northwest of the Tyler Graff Park (J Street). Council reviewed the example pictures of what it would look like and discussed the placement. Council agreed that a fence would need to be placed around it to keep residents away from it. This will only happen if Ideatek is approved for a grant to bring broadband to rural communities.

White moved Burch seconded for the approval of Ideatek Telcom LLC to place a control pad and generator on city easement on East J Street and a fence be placed around it. Motion carried unanimously.

The new bulk water hardware has arrived and will be installed soon. The bulk water machine will take coins, cash, debit/credit cards and prepaid cards. Discussion was held on raising the bulk water rates. The current rate is \$10.00 per 1000 gallons.

J. Kreutzer moved White seconded to approve the bulk water rates to increase to \$13.00 if paid with cash and \$15.00 if paid with debit/credit cards. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Hassell shared the water rate ordinance will need to be amended at the next council meeting.

J. Kreutzer made a motion to approve Joe's Kwik Mart Cereal Malt Beverage License Renewal-Off Premise. Meyer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Kreutzer made a motion to approve Dollar General Store Cereal Malt Beverage License Renewal-Off Premise. Burch seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Kreutzer made a motion to approve Salty Pete's LLC Cereal Malt Beverage License Renewal-Off Premise. Meyer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Kreutzer made a motion to approve Salty Pete's LLC Cereal Malt Beverage License Renewal-On Premise. Meyer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Council discussed the Code Enforcement job description. It was agreed to leave it as is. Clerk Hassell will get the code enforcement job posted.

City Attorney Moser and Mayor Kreutzer reviewed the results from small claims court on December 10, 2024. The judge ruled in the City's favor and we now wait to see if it is appealed in the next seven days. If the case is appealed Moser will represent the City of Leoti.

Council reviewed City Treasurer Liz Gould's November 2024 report.

City Superintendent Blaine Medina reported the Well 5 is back online and running smooth. A new meter was also added to Well 5. All of the dirt roads in the city limits have been graded and the crew is touching up some areas. The 20 mph signs have arrived for 7th Street. Medina will put in a dig safe ticket to get them placed. The street sweep continues to pick up leaves.

City Clerk Hassell shared the open house had a good turnout. The office is preparing for end of year and getting prepped for the New Year. Hassell attended a ROZ meeting on December 10, 2024. City Hall will be closed December 24th, 25th and January 1st. The trash routes will run accordingly.

The next city council meeting is on Monday, January 6, 2025

There being no further business White made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. Burch seconded. Motion carried.



Chris Kreutzer, Mayor



Jeannine Hassell, City Clerk

