

## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

### CITY OF MELVERN

April 1, 2024

The City Council meeting was called to order AT 7:00 PM at City Hall. Council members Dan Bowers, Derek Haines, Kim Speers and Eric Vogeler were present. Frank Warner was absent. Randy Kirkpatrick, Mayor was also present.

The hearing for Resolution 232 was cancelled due to absence of the property owner.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Gary Kitt (City Maintenance), Tamara Massey (City Clerk) and Janet Walsh (City Attorney), Randy Spillman (City Maintenance/Ordinance), James Welch (Building Inspector) were present.

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Kara Brockamp (BNSF), Chuck Simpson, Lisa Litch, Joyce Lacey, Jim Irely and others.

**MINUTES:** Bowers made a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting, seconded by Haines, Motion carried 4-0.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Haines made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Bowers, Motion carried 4-0

**PAID BILLS:** Motion made by Bowers to approve the paid bills and approve payment of unpaid bills, Seconded by Speers, Motion carried 4-0

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Kara Brockamp with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway discussed removing the old railroad bridge by the city park. The bridge is over 100 yrs old (built in 1909) and the railroad is having trouble maintaining the tracks underneath as well as the height of the bridge is now too low. Several citizens present asked questions and expressed their concerns as the bridge was a big attraction for people to come to Melvern. The bridge is also the only safe way for children to get from the south side of town to school. Kara said she would discuss options with her team and return for another meeting at a later date.

Joyce Lacey – The housing assessment needs to be resubmitted to the state due to a computer glitch on the state side. Joyce is working with the county on this. A housing committee meeting will be held at City Hall April 18<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

Lisa Litch – Working on a T-Mobile grant for a walking trail at the Railroad Park. They had to make the trail smaller to stay within the budgeted amount. She asked about the KDOT meeting the Mayor had earlier in the month. Items discussed at the meeting were State responsibilities

to Hwy K31 that ran through town, speed signs, ditches, and KDOT funding. The State is reviewing the speed sign and ditch issues.

Jim Irey – working on the one room schoolhouse in the Railroad Park to be set up like a museum.

James Welch (Building Inspector) Recommended that the buildings at 129/133 NW Main Street move forward with the condemnation process. Haines made a motion to pass Resolution No.233 to set a hearing for the buildings at 129/133 NW Main Street, Seconded by Speers. Carried 4-0.

**ATTORNEYS REPORT** – Owner of 110 SW Maple did not show to hearing. Postpone until owner is served.

**MAYOR'S REPORT** – The middle and south 4H Barnes have been painted. The north barn is in poor condition. Since the 4H group does not use it anymore, he suggested tearing down that barn and using the lumber to make repairs on the other two barns. Vogeler made a motion to tear down the north barn, seconded by Haines. Carried 4-0. Discussion was held on changing Ordinance 303 on grass height from 12" to 8".

#### **EMPLOYEE REPORTS** –

Gary Kitt – Backhoe Maintenance, Fixed 2<sup>nd</sup> water leak by pump station, installed radio read at sewer pond, sold the 2" meter to City of Edgerton, meter reading antenna broke another ordered, plumbing and facets fixed at City park bathrooms. Took antique horses out of City park as they were out of compliance, received bid to have sewer line replaced under tracks to sewer pond. Vogeler made a motion to approve the \$18,000 bid by Lacey Backhoe to fix the sewer line running under the RR Tracks to the sewer pond, Seconded by Bowers. Carried 4-0.

Randy Spillman – working on ordinance violations.

Tamara Massey – February Sheriff's report reviewed, Municipal Judge Conference in April. Ordinance 266, 303, Vogeler made a motion to pay \$151.40 which is 1/3 of cost for conference to share with the other two cities that Judge Breshears works for. Seconded by Bowers. Carried 4-0. A city park inspection had been completed and a list of recommendations was given. The Maintenance Department is working on these. A 5 year sewer rate plan was submitted. Vogeler made a motion to approve Ordinance 461 5 year sewer rate plan that would raise sewer base rates by \$1 every year, Seconded by Bowers. Carried 4-0. Flower pots for the city were discussed. Bowers made a motion to have Marie Burnett make 4 Flower pots again this year to put along main street with a maximum of \$250. Seconded by Haines. Carried 4-0. Submitted Quotes from Advantage Computer for Firewall, computer backup and website hosting. Vogeler made a motion to approve \$3650 to Advantage Computer for Firewall setup at City Hall, Seconded by Haines. Carried 4-0. Vogeler made a motion to approve \$1988 to Advantage Computer for Backup software, Seconded by Haines. Carried 4-0. Vogeler made a motion to approve \$1003 to Advantage Computer for Website/email hosting, Seconded by

Haines. Carried 4-0. Clerk informed council that the 2023 Audit was set for May 9<sup>th</sup>. The 2023 Consumer Confidence Report was put on the website and social media. It was sent out with the April bills. City tree limb pickup has been set for April 8<sup>th</sup>. The Waste Tire Grant has been approved for the City of Melvern with the grant being fulfilled between May 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 and April 30<sup>th</sup> 2025. Plans are to have the picnic tables and benches installed in the City park by this summer.

**COUNCIL REPORTS – None**

**NEW BUSINESS – None**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS- NONE**

Haines made a motion to adjourn meeting, Seconded by Vogeler. Carried 4-0

ATTEST:

---

Tamara Massey, City Clerk

---

Randy Kirkpatrick, Mayor