

**MINUTES
CITY OF ALTAMONT
April 14, 2022**

- REGULAR MEETING The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with Mayor Richard Hayward presiding. Mayor Hayward opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer. Councilmembers present: Ben Cochran, Raymond Coffey, Kyle Wiford, and Lyle Sykes
- MINUTES Councilmember Wiford moved and Coffey seconded to approve the minutes from March 24, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.
- INVOICES Councilmember Cochran moved and Coffey seconded to pay the invoices in the amount of \$150,467.92. Motion carried.
- CHRISTIAN POWELL Police Chief Michael Shields introduced new full time Police Officer Christian Powell, who will start April 25, 2022. Christian will transfer from Neodesha, with 5 years of Law Enforcement under his belt.
- EXTENDED LAKE STAY The Ruark's have purchased a house and still have their camper parked at the lake. They have been having some difficulty finding a way to get their camper back to town, and were unable to make it to council tonight.
- Councilmember Coffey moved and Cochran seconded to approve two more weeks for the Ruark's at the lake, in hopes that they could find a way to get their camper moved to their new house.
- ORDINANCE #635 Heather Beasley worked with City Attorney Robert Myers to include a \$30 fingerprinting/technology fee to the already existing \$125 Court Cost. Robert Myers informed Council that the state has said for years that they would be requiring everyone to submit their fingerprints electronically rather than in card form. In order to make that happen, the Court would need to purchase the proper equipment, that equipment is very expensive and would cost around 20-30,000 dollars. Along with the new equipment there are other things that would need to be purchased or replaced such as printers. Councilmember Sykes wanted to confirm that the extra money would be put into a separate fund in order for it to be used for the new equipment.
- Councilmember Coffey moved and Cochran seconded to accept Ordinance #635 Court Cost/Technology Fee. Councilmember Cochran yes, Coffey yes, Wiford yes & Sykes yes.
- ATTORNEY FEES Robert Myers is requesting that the Court Appointed Attorney Fee be raised from \$250 to \$400 in order to get more attorney's on the City's list to accept cases. With the current rate Judge Johnson has had to call around and ask Attorneys to accept cases at that price, and even then is having a really hard time getting them to accept.
- Councilmember Cochran moved and Sykes seconded to increase the fee for the Court Appointed Attorneys to \$400. Motion Carried
- ORDINANCE #636 LeaAnn Myers informed Council that the State of Tax Appeals is looking to start taxing ATV's and UTV's. The City has a list of registered ATV's and UTV's, due to the ordinance for Citizens to register them. This list is considered public record and would have to be shared with anyone upon request. Citizens would still be required to abide by the operations laws in the original ordinance as well as state laws.
- Councilmember Sykes moved and Cochran seconded to approve the Ordinance #636 as it's been amended. Councilmember Cochran yes, Coffey yes, Wiford yes & Sykes yes.
- Councilmember Coffey moved and Cochran seconded to refund those that have already paid their ATV registration fees for the year 2022. Motion Carried.
- CHARTER ORDINANCE 10 LeaAnn Myers informed council that if there was an open council seat and it wasn't filled within 60 days, then the City would have to pay for a special election. Charter Ordinance 10 would exempt the City from K.S.A. 2015 Supp.
- Councilmember Coffey moved and Cochran seconded to approve Charter Ordinance 10 exemption from K.S.A 2015 Supp. 12-104a. Mayor Hayward yes, Councilmember Cochran yes, Coffey yes, Wiford yes, Sykes yes. Charter Ordinance 10 is approved.

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- RESOLUTION #290 Requesting to approve Resolution #290, to allow for Engineer Reimbursement.
Coffey moved and Cochran seconded to approve Resolution #290. Motion Carried.
- TYRONE WOODEN Police Chief Michael Shields introduced new Full Time Officer Tyrone Wooden. Tyrone has his part time law enforcement certification, but will have to attend the full time law enforcement academy. Tyrone did 13 years in the Army and has been in Law Enforcement for 4 years and will be transferring from Humboldt, Kansas. Tyrone started on April 13, 2022.
- BAILING BIDS Sealed bids were accepted from March 11 – April 8 at 2:00 P.M. Bids were received from Harry E. Cormeny II \$20.00 per acre, Keith Geren \$301.00 & Bradley Herold \$650.00.
Councilmember Coffey moved and Cochran seconded to approve the winning bid for cutting and bailing the 20 acres to Bradley Herold for \$650.00. Motion Carried.
- COMPACT LOADER Current loader interest is at 7.1% interest, the council has a new proposed lease agreement in their packet. The new lease agreement would save about \$950 over the course of the lease, and LeaAnn Myers thought there was only about two years left.
Councilmember Cochran moved and Coffey seconded to approve the lease agreement between Marion National Bank and the City of Altamont. Motion carried.
- NATURAL GAS & ELECTRIC Council was provided with information about the costs of natural gas and electric going up in their packets.
- FIRE REPORT During the first quarter of 2022 the Fire Department responded to a total of 55 calls:
29 Medical Emergencies
11 Grass Fires
9 Structure Fires
4 Vehicle Accidents
1 Gas Leak
1 Odor Investigation
Regular meetings were also held on the first Sunday and third Tuesday of every month
The Fire Department has applied for a couple different grants to get some new equipment.
The Township purchased a set of new battery powered jaws that are now on the truck and in service. The Fire Department also has a few members who will be attending the LCC Fire School at the end of the month. Councilmember Coffey asked about citizens being able to donate to the Fire Department.
- CITY ADMINISTRATOR
 1. **Audit** – The City Office worked with the auditors for the 2021 City audit on March 29, 2022
 2. **Insurance Renewal** – Finalized the 2022-2023 City's insurance renewal
 3. **Pool** – Started working on the 2022 Pool Contract between the City of Altamont and Luke Wolgamott.
 - a. Completed the 2022 Pool Cool Application which supplies the pool with sun safety information and sunscreen for our patrons
 - b. Started advertising for open lifeguard positions
 - c. We have six lifeguards returning this year
 4. **McLiney and Company** – Compiled multiple lease purchase contracts and documents for McLiney and Company to review for better interest rates.
 5. **Police** – Reviewed police applications and conducted interviews with Chief Shields for the open positions on the Police Department.
 - a. Hired Officers Christian Powell and Tyrone Grant Wooden
 6. **Leadership Labette** – Met with Jessie Gilmore, from K-State Research and Extension, and Brad Myers regarding trees for the City through Leadership Labette.
 7. **Hay Bids** – Accepted hay bids for McMillen Park
 8. **Annual Reports** – the City Office is working on annual reports
 9. **Quarterly Reports** – Heather Beasley completed the quarterly reports
 10. **Grant Writing** – Heather is coming to the end of the 10 week grant writing course through Fort Hays State University.

11. KMU Training – KMU provided two safety trainings to the City staff over heat stress and exhaustion and preventing strains and sprains injuries.

12. Court Ordinance – Heather worked with Attorney Robert Myers to update the Court Cost Ordinance to include a technology fee to be used to cover court technology and training needs.

13. Small Vehicles Ordinance – Updated the small vehicle ordinance to remove the registration requirement.

14. Level Payment – Bridget Nash completed level payment agreements for the upcoming year beginning in April.

15. Charter Ordinance 10 – Prepared Charter Ordinance 10 to exempt the City from the special election requirements when filling governing body vacancies.

16. KRWA Certification – Justin Bertling and Josh George successfully passed their Small Systems Water Operator’s Certification. The pass rate for this test is about 45%. Congratulations to both JB and Josh.

17. Easter Egg Hunt - Bridget Nash and the Altamont Recreation Commission hosted a community Easter Egg Hunt on April 9th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Cochran moved and Coffey seconded at 7:36 PM that the City Council recess into executive session to discuss attorney client privilege matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b) (2) to include the City Attorney, City Administrator and Police Chief. The open meeting will resume in the City Council Room at 7:50 PM. Motion Carried.

Open Meeting Resumed at 7:50 PM

Mayor Hayward asked if Council would like to make any decisions on the executive session. Councilmember Cochran stated unequivocally no, not at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you from the American Diabetes Association in honor of Lynette Steeby
Altamont City Offices will be closed on Friday April 15th in observance of Good Friday
City-Wide Rummage Sales are scheduled for Saturday April 30th
Bulk trash pickup will be May 2-4

ADJOURN

Councilmember Cochran moved and Coffey seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. 7:51PM

DATE

Heather Beasley, City Clerk