

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2024
Meeting #899**

The Westwood Hills City Council meeting was held on August 12, 2024, in the Community Room at Westwood City Hall.

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Rosemary Podrebarac at 7:12 p.m., immediately following the Budget Hearing.

Present: Mayor Podrebarac, Adam England, Ed Gogol, Dave Schmitz, Karen Sexton, John Weedman, and Beth O'Bryan. City Attorney Jim Orr, City Treasurer John Martin, and Chief Curtis Mansell were present. Citizens Randy Markway, Mike Coffman, and Steve Platt, as well as Emily Randel from Climate KC were present.

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

Motion by Schmitz to approve the Consent Agenda Second by England. All aye. Motion approved.

Emily Randel with Climate Action KC

Ms. Randel gave an overview of Climate Action KC's activities and the organization's plans for the future.

Old Business

Tree Trimming near the Street Lights

Weedman tried but has not obtained bids due to the tree companies' backlog from recent storms.

New Business:

2025 Budget Adoption

Sexton moved and Schmitz seconded to adopt the 2025 budget for the City at the Revenue Neutral mill rate of 21.726 as recommended by the Council at the budget hearing. **All in favor. Motion carried.**

STO Adoption - Ordinance #300

Ordinance #300 adopts the Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities, 51st Edition (2024), prepared and published by the League of Kansas Municipalities, and repeals sections 1 and 2 of Ordinance #296. **Sexton moved and Gogol seconded to adopt Ordinance #300. All in favor. Ordinance adopted.**

UPOC Adoption- Ordinance #301

Ordinance #301 adopts the Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities - 40th Edition (2024), prepared and published by the League of Kansas Municipalities, with certain modifications, and repeals sections 1-5 of Ordinance #297. **Gogol moved and Schmitz seconded to adopt Ordinance #301. All in favor. Ordinance adopted.**

State of the SMSD Luncheon

The annual State of the Shawnee Mission School District Luncheon will be held on August 21, 2024, at the Broadmoor Bistro. The cost to attend is \$35.00. Clerk O'Bryan and Mayor Podrebarac would like to attend. **Sexton moved and England seconded to encumber \$70.00 for O'Bryan and the Mayor to attend the luncheon. All in favor. Motion passed.**

LKM Annual Conference

The League of Kansas Municipalities Annual conference will be held October 10-12, 2024, in Wichita, KS. The conference's cost varies depending on how many sessions will be attended by each individual. The annual business meeting and policy session of city voting delegates will be held during the conference on Saturday, October 12th, from 12:00-1:15 p.m. The cost is \$300.00 to attend. No council members currently plan to attend the conference.

New Sprinkler Zone Ratification

Mayor Podrebarac authorized a new sprinkler zone to be installed on the east side of the pathway on the north side of The Green. This new sprinkler zone allows the east side to have more direct watering, and there were cost savings by doing the installation while the area was dug up during the pathway installation. The cost was \$1,200.00. **Sexton moved and Gogol seconded to ratify the expense of \$1,200 to install a new sprinkler zone on The Green. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Homeless Services Shelter Contribution

Johnson County has asked each City, on behalf of reStart, to contribute to the operation and support of a proposed Homeless Services Center. The Homeless Services Center would serve as a resource for people experiencing homelessness and as a stable foundation for the community's service providers to deliver services such as case management, mental health care, and job training. Initial plans include providing about 50 private units for short-term shelter and 25 studio apartments for transitional living with supportive services. During the day, residents could work, participate in job training/skills growth, receive health and/or mental health care, and connect with case managers to restore important documents, credit, or familial relationships. The facility would be operated by reStart, Inc., and be located in Lenexa, Kansas, near I-35 and 95th Street. The funding scenario (attached) is based on each City's population which equates to \$301.31 (\$0.76 per resident) for Westwood Hills in 2025. Annual funding is anticipated to be covered by three sources: government, facility operating revenue, and donations. There are two exceptions to the formula. Lenexa is not participating based on revenue loss from the hotel changing its use. The County would provide a \$50,000 annual base amount, in addition to the per resident amount of \$12,000 for residents in the unincorporated areas of the counties. The funding from Westwood Hills would only be requested if the Special Use Permit is approved by Lenexa and the real estate transaction is completed. Expressing support of funding should contemplate an ongoing annual commitment with projected increases of .02 cents per resident for the next 5+ years. If approved, the Council will still need to approve a funding agreement with the

County at a future date before contributions would be made. reStart hopes to have commitments of support from local governments before the Special Use Permit is considered at the Lenexa Planning Commission on August 26 and has requested each local government to indicate to Johnson County if they intend to provide support by August 20, 2024. England was concerned about using our resident's dollars for something the city cannot control. **Sexton moved and Gogol seconded to contribute \$301.31 to the Homeless Service Center in 2025. Gogol, Schmitz, Sexton, and Weedman aye. England nay. Motion passed.**

Remaining Stone on The Green

The Green Team will use the remaining stone for edging some of the north side of The Green. The leftover stone will be donated to the residents, first come, first served, with preference to the residents along the creek bed.

Sod and River Rock on The Green

Rose Hill has recommended sodding several areas on both sides of The Green where the grass was disrupted during the path construction. The cost is \$4,250.00. Rose Hill has also recommended placing River Rock on the east side of the pathway on the north side of The Green, near the new sprinkler zone. The cost is \$500.00 for a few tons of the river rock and weed barrier. The Foundation will pay for both. **Weedman moved and England seconded to enter into agreements with Rose Hill and the Foundation for sod and river rock installation on The Green, with payment of the costs to be reimbursed by the Foundation. All aye. Motion passed.**

Informational items – no action to be taken

Randy Markway would like the city to revisit the condition of 48th Terrace Street, near State Line and also near the speed tables. He said the surface is wearing down. He spoke with a contractor and asked when the work was completed. He also mentioned the backs of some street signs need to be painted.

Mike Coffman asked about the status of the boulder at 50th St. and Rainbow. City Attorney Orr said if that corner is in the KDOT ROW, there is a new law that requires objects to be breakaway. He recommended considering a visual barrier such as a synthetic rock or wall.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.