

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 18, 2023

The Governing Body of the City of Pratt met in Recessed Session in the Meeting Room located at the County Public Safety Room.

PRESENT:	Zach Deeds	Mayor
	Gary Schmidt	Commissioner
	Jeanette Siemens	Commissioner
	Kyle Farmer	Commissioner
	Doug Meyer	Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:	Bruce Pinkall	City Manager
	LuAnn Kramer	City Clerk
	Regina Goff	City Attorney
	Nate Humble	Chief of Police
	David Kramer	Fire Chief
	George Stevens	Asst. Fire Chief
	Chad VanSlyke	Fire Captain
	Todd Hoffman	Fire Captain
	Doug Ray	Fire Lieutenant
	Justin Crouch	Fire Lieutenant
	Tom Jones	County Commissioner
	Dwight Adams	County Commissioner
	Rick Shriver	County Commissioner
	Tyson Eisenhauer	County Counselor
	Lori Voss	County Clerk
	Brian Atteberry	EMS Director

CALL TO ORDER:

The recessed meeting was called to order by Mayor Deeds. The Mayor instructed the Clerk to note that all Commissioners were present.

BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mayor Deeds opened the discussion by talking about Economic Development and the partnership of giving \$60,000 each until 2021, when a change was made to give \$30,000 each. Mayor Deeds asked if the County felt that they were funded adequately for what they needed. Mayor Deeds added that \$15,000 of that from both the City and the County goes to pay the Chamber Director. County Counselor Eisenhauer stated that he felt the change was brought about because of the amount of money they had sitting in two accounts. Mr. Eisenhauer commented that the Commission, at that time, wanted to know why they should continue to contribute that amount if they were not doing anything with it. Finance Director Carver stated that they had somewhere around \$700,000 total. Mayor Deeds stated that Economic Development does its own thing and they decide what to do with it.

Mayor Deeds explained that the City and County contribute equally, so the question was if the County was happy with their amount of \$30,000. Commissioner Jones stated he felt that they were happy at this

time. Commissioner Jones added that they did not know what they were doing with it. Mr. Eisenhower stated that he was not familiar with what Economic Development did and it would be beneficial to hear what they were working on or intend to work on. Commissioner Meyer stated that he had been on that board and they were doing a facade improvement program that allowed businesses throughout the County to improve their façade up to a maximum of \$5,000. Commissioner Meyer added that they also contributed \$150,000 to the development of the new Burkes store. Commissioner Meyer commented that the Economic Development Board was open and willing to suggestions and change to what they could do for economic growth in the community.

Commissioner Meyer stated that the City was in the process of appointing two members. Commissioner Meyer commented that, in the past, they used a matrix where they funded businesses for growth and development for expansion or coming to town based on their revenue and the tax dollars they produce and the number of employees they would have. Commissioner Meyer explained that they also have an arrangement where they help fund the Chamber Director so that she can do some of the Economic Development work for the corporation. Commissioner Meyer clarified that it was more boots on the ground and she works in conjunction with Ms. Heather Morgan.

Mr. Eisenhower asked if there was money encumbered for the theatre and if that was \$150,000. Commissioner Meyer stated that was correct. Commissioner Meyer commented that they had seven or eight businesses participating and he felt that was pretty successful. Mr. Eisenhower asked if there were time limitations on that program. Commissioner Meyer stated that he was not sure. Mayor Deeds stated that it was his understanding that an announcement was going to be made soon.

Mayor Deeds stated that the recommendation was that we leave things as they were now. Commissioner Adams stated that they were good for now. Mayor Deeds explained that the City was revisiting this due to some budget woes and recently having to do a utility raise, so they were assessing everything to make sure it was where it should be.

DISCUSSION ON CITY RESCUE:

City Manager Pinkall stated that there had been a discussion recently about some interaction with the rescue event that had occurred inside the city limits through dispatch and City staff. Mr. Pinkall commented that, as it was discussed, they came to the conclusion that the proper thing to do was to get together. Mr. Pinkall stated that the result was that, as things move forward, the City was prepared to operate a staff that was on call for things in the City and were trained and certified through the State of Kansas. Commissioner Jones clarified that they were trained in rescue. Mr. Pinkall clarified that they were trained through the State of Kansas and had been working on this for over two years. Commissioner Shriver asked how many were EMT's. Lt. Justin Crouch stated that they had one paramedic and one advanced EMT.

Lt. Crouch stated that, when they show up on scene, they follow directions because most of the guys were not trained in EMS and they were there solely for man power and not for EMS care. EMS Director Brian Atteberry stated that there had been some miscommunication between Chief David Kramer and he and it had left off that there would be training with EMS, County fire and rescue so they could get on the same page. Mr. Atteberry explained that when someone was injured in an accident, no matter where it happened, it was up to EMS to get them out. Mr. Atteberry commented that cutting the vehicle was where he wanted everybody working together and that was where the ball got dropped. Mr. Atteberry stated that that was where he got left out of the communication and why he asked the Commissioners to get together, because EMS did not have anything to do with rescue and everything was falling on him. Mr. Atteberry stated that he wanted training to go through him and Fire Chief Hampton and go from there. Mr. Atteberry commented that we needed to discuss liability insurance and what that takes.

Mr. Eisenhower stated that what was expressed to him was that the County people on duty wanted to make sure everybody on scene was on the same page and to do that, you had to train together. Chief Kramer stated that he was an advocate of that as well and this had nothing to do with personalities or different groups. Chief Kramer commented that we felt we could offer a better service to the community. Chief Kramer stated that they had set up several training opportunities for the on-duty EMS, not through Mr. Atteberry, for training extrication for each shift and we could not get anybody to come out except C shift. Chief Kramer stated that there was no other way this would work but to do it together. Chief Kramer commented that he had all the respect for EMS and rescue and we had to work together. Chief Kramer stated that he had twenty-four members and twenty were certified in rescue. Chief Kramer explained that they dedicated one week a month for extrication training and that consists in assisting EMS in patient care and they realize their role and the limits they had.

Lt. VanSlyke stated that City Fire had been working on the training facility and it was not completed yet; however, it was for everybody and had been designed for everybody. Lt. VanSlyke commented that they wanted departments to be proficient in what they do. Chief Kramer stated that their response time to fire calls average three minutes and that speaks for itself and that speaks pretty loud for rescues. Chief Kramer commented that they were ready to go and the sooner the better on training and they wanted to satisfy. Lt. Crouch stated that they wanted a little back and they wanted to get something together. Lt. Crouch commented that they would always be training and wanted mutual training. Commissioner Shriver stated that he could not stop City from doing what they wanted, but he did have a problem when they stop his employees and put a patient at risk. Chief Kramer stated that they understood that and that they all know that an injury accident was an EMS call and, if City fire was there, we would not do anything to jeopardize a patient. Lt. VanSlyke stated that we would function only as fire fighters.

Lt. Crouch stated that he was gladly willing to help and, if he was needed as a paramedic, he would tap out as a fire fighter. Lt. Crouch explained that City fire did not carry any type of EMS skilled stuff on the truck. Lt. VanSlyke added that the most a fireman would do was size up the scene and give it to EMS who were coming up on that scene. Police Chief Humble stated that dispatch calls EMS to every injury accident. Mr. Eisenhower asked if dispatch was in control of the scene. Lt. VanSlyke stated that they were for patient care. Chief Hampton stated that they needed to redo dispatch. Lt. VanSlyke asked what was wrong with having two functional rescue companies. Commissioner Shriver stated that he had no arguments until a patient gets injured. Lt. VanSlyke agreed and said that we had to come together by training together. Chief Kramer stated that we would only help if we were asked by Mr. Atteberry or his crew.

Mr. Atteberry stated that training had not happened. Lt. VanSlyke stated that they wanted to get it going. Chief Kramer commented that we needed to sit down and set up a schedule that works for all EMS schedules which would be through Mr. Atteberry and City fire would work it out because they wanted it done yesterday. Lt. Crouch stated that his sole passion was to serve the citizens and we need to get past who you did not like. Mr. Pinkall stated that Mr. Atteberry and Chief Kramer needed to work together. With more discussion going on for some time, Commissioner Adams stated that he was tired of all this conversation and he was going to give these guys 90 days to figure it out. Commissioner Adams commented that, after the 90 days, they could report back to the Commissioners, or not, about what had transpired. Mr. Eisenhower stated that it came down to dispatch calling EMS, City and County rescue to all vehicle accidents in the City limits as of today. Chief Humble stated that, for dispatch, nothing was going to change in the 90 days and they would page out EMS, County rescue and City rescue. Mr. Eisenhower questioned who was in control if both rescues were on scene. Chief Kramer stated that they were not waiting and they would stabilize the vehicle or whatever and when County rescue got there, they would work together.

LEC Agreement:

Commissioner Shriver stated that it was in the LEC Agreement that we were supposed to be looking over the 911 budget and it be turned over to the Commissions. Commissioner Shriver commented that they had had some issues with dispatch and he would like to see the 911 committee run like it should be and the dispatcher get trained like they should be. Chief Humble stated that the committee had met every time they were supposed to and that question was given to everybody there about whether there was anything else to discuss. Commissioner Jones stated that they had not seen the expenditures of the 911 fund. Mr. Eisenhower stated that both Commissions were to receive a report of that budget. Commissioner Shriver stated that they just wanted to see how the funds were being spent. Commissioner Shriver commented that he did not think it was the really the dispatchers, but the equipment.

Mr. Eisenhower commented that the Ordinance that created the 911 board states that the Communication Board should meet quarterly to view operational costs and needs among their respective departments and develop a budget for use of 911 funds received from the State of Kansas. Mr. Eisenhower continued reading that the City Manager, City Commission, County Commission shall review and adopt the budget either estimated or modified by the Commission. Mr. Eisenhower commented that that was not happening and the Commissioners were not getting those reports so they could talk about them and be on the same page as to what was being spent. Chief Humble stated that those reports were being submitted to the State, so he could get them. Mr. Eisenhower commented that those reports would show what was being bought, this is why we bought it, what the purpose was and the value of having it.

RECESS:

Mayor Deeds stated that we accomplished something here today and we established that we have very gifted and passionate people who are doing a high level job with the best of intentions. Mayor Deeds added that we could not be more proud of these guys.

Mayor Deeds made a motion to recess and to reconvene back to City Hall at 3:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farmer and carried unanimously.

Once back at City Hall at 3:30 p.m., Mayor Deeds made a motion to go into executive session for non-elective personnel and to return at 4:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

Mayor Deeds made a motion to return from executive session at 4:30 p.m. with nothing to report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Commissioner Siemens made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schmidt and carried unanimously.

ZACH DEEDS, Mayor

(SEAL)

5 – January 18, 2023 (Joint City/County Commission meeting)

ATTEST:

LUANN KRAMER, City Clerk