

MONDAY

APRIL 17, 2023

The Governing Body of the City of Pratt met in Regular Session in the Commission Room located at City Hall.

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

ALSO PRESENT:	Bruce Pinkall	City Manager (Zoom)
	LuAnn Kramer	City Clerk
	Brent Carver	Finance Director
	Nate Humble	Police Chief
	Regina Goff	City Attorney
	Russell Rambat	Public Works Director
	Brad Blankenship	Building Inspector
	Larry Eisenhower	Recreation Director

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

Mayor Deeds reminded the audience that this meeting may be taped and/or recorded.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Deeds led the audience in the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 03, 2023 regular Commission meeting. Commissioner Siemens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**BUSINESS:**

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO USE LEMON PARK FOR KIDS FAIR ON APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>:**

Ms. Joy Schwartz stated that they had over eight hundred participants last year and it also was the same day as the bike race. Ms. Schwartz asked if the park could be closed as it was last year and get someone the night before to bring in the porta potties about 9:00 p.m. Ms. Schwartz explained that they were going to have a helicopter come in this year if it was not too windy, which was different than last year. Ms. Schwartz stated that next Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> was Drug Endangered Children's Day and she encouraged everyone to wear red that day. Ms. Schwartz commented that they also had a proclamation to sign if that would be okay. Mayor Deeds asked if they already had the proclamation prepared. Ms. Schwartz stated that they did.

Recreation Director Eisenhauer stated that they had a tournament that weekend and they would be using the fields in Lemon Park. Public Works Director Rambat asked what time the Kid's Fair was. Ms. Schwartz stated that it was 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mr. Eisenhauer questioned if they could divert the traffic. Police Chief Humble stated that he did not see how. Mr. Eisenhauer commented that they might be able to use Sixth Street Park. Ms. Schwartz explained that the kids run back and forth from each event, so traffic going through there would not be safe for the children. After more discussion, Mayor Deeds stated that the Commission could not commit to anything this evening, but the department heads would keep talking to see what would work best for everyone and they would let them know.

**PRESENTATION ON THE UPCOMING USD 382 FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT VOTE IN MAY:**

Pratt USD 382 Superintendent Tony Helfrich and Board of Education President Bill Bergner had a presentation for the Commission that showed the need for space for the district. Mr. Helfrich pointed out the new configuration that would happen at Southwest Elementary and Liberty Middle School. Mr. Helfrich explained that they had gone to the County about the building by the hospital and they knew right away that it was the right space. Mr. Helfrich continued explaining the changes that would be made to the old high school, the Frog Dome, Ace Building, the exterior and the bus barn.

Mr. Helfrich stated that this was a big deal for them and they were looking at how much they could do effectively and what they could not do. Mayor Deeds stated that the presentation was very informative. Mr. Helfrich commented that the school's current mills are 49.86, which included the new high school's bond and interest which are 6.519 mills. Mr. Helfrich continued stating that they were proposing \$16.6 million at 6.5 mills for 25 years, which left your total bond and interest at 13.019 and total mills at 56.36. Mr. Helfrich stated that there was more information on the USD 382 website under Bond Project vote.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MORGAN BALLARD TO THE PRATT LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Mayor Deeds made a recommendation to appoint Morgan Ballard to the Pratt Library Board of Directors. There was a consensus of the Commission to the appointment.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENTS OF GRISELDA CASTILLO AND CHRIS HIMMELWRIGHT TO THE PRATT LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Mayor Deeds made a recommendation to the re-appointments of Ms. Griselda Castillo and Ms. Chris Himmelwright to the Pratt Library Board of Directors. There was a consensus of the Commission to the two re-appointments.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A NEW SANITATION TRUCK:**

Public Works Director Rambat stated that the sanitation department still had a couple of older 2007 packer model trucks, but they were the older style and were not as robust. Mr. Rambat commented that he had gone out for bids and got one back and the other had stated that he could not put one together until around September. Mr. Rambat stated that Armor Equipment bid \$202,049.56, which was a much higher cost than they were the last time we bought one. Mr. Rambat explained that we could not wait for the prices to come down, because we were spending a lot of money on repairs.

Mr. Rambat stated that the last vehicle we had bought was through a local bank on a five-year loan and did not take the money out of reserves. Mr. Rambat commented that we were currently paying on two of those but one would be paid off this year. Mr. Rambat explained that, if we order the truck, it would be early spring or summer before we got it, so we could go back to having two loans at the bank. Commissioner Farmer questioned that he was talking about getting it next year. Mr. Rambat stated that that was correct. Mr. Rambat suggested that they increase their budget line item during budget time and not encumber anything and have Finance Director Carver go out to the banks in the meantime. Commissioner Farmer asked what we do with the old trucks. Mr. Rambat stated that we sell them on Purple Wave. Commissioner Farmer commented that he liked the funding request. With no further discussion, Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the bid for a new sanitation truck from Armor Equipment/Truck Center Corporation in the amount of \$202,049.56. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and passed unanimously.

### **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE BID FOR THE ALLEY REPLACEMENT PROJECT:**

Public Works Director Rambat stated that he had gone out for bids for the alley replacement project in the 100 block on South Main on the east side. Mr. Rambat commented that four went out and four competitive bids were returned. Mr. Rambat stated that Arensdorf Construction was the low bid at \$33,321.60. Mr. Rambat commented that he had spoken with Mr. Arensdorf about the results and he thought he could start sometime in July. With no discussion, Commissioner Siemens made a motion to accept the low bid from Arensdorf Construction LLC for the Alley Replacement Project in the 100 Block of South Main in the amount of \$33,321.60. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schmidt and carried unanimously.

### **OPEN AGENDA:**

No one in the audience wished to address the Commission.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **City Manager:**

- **Executive Sessions:**

City Manager Pinkall requested two executive sessions at the end of reports.

- **Cameras at Lemon Park:**

Mr. Pinkall stated that the cameras were delivered and up at the entrance at Lemon Park. Mr. Pinkall commented that they would be accessible from City Hall, Parks Department, Police Department and they could be monitored. Mr. Pinkall added that he would give updates and share that information.

- **Days off:**

Mr. Pinkall stated that he would be gone tomorrow morning to take his parents to hear Mr. Bill Self talk. Mr. Pinkall added that he would also be gone Thursday for his grandson's birthday.

#### **City Attorney:**

- **Meetings:**

City Attorney Goff stated that she had been busy attending a Travel and Tourism meeting, Economic Development meeting, County Commission meeting, Planning and Zoning meeting and reviewing contracts.

**Public Works:**

- **Well #7:**

Public Works Director Rambat stated that Clarke Well and Equipment had come out and pulled Well #7 and hauled it off to see why we were having so many problems. Mr. Rambat explained that the cause was tree roots even fifty to sixty feet deep and that could be the theme for a lot of our wells. Mr. Rambat stated, that looking at a camera, you could see water dripping off the tree roots. Mr. Rambat commented that they would write up a report and give us some options and he was not sure of the costs.

- **Sidewalk project:**

Mr. Rambat stated that the 2022 sidewalk project was completed and he would start working on the 2023 project in the fall.

- **Rubber tire roller:**

Mr. Rambat stated that there was an equipment issue at the street department and it was that they needed a rubber tire roller. Mr. Rambat explained that their old rubber tire roller was a 1969 and had the engine replaced once and the transmission twice. Mr. Rambat commented that Street Superintendent Sinclair had found a couple on Purple Wave, but they were beyond City Manager Pinkall's spending authority. Mr. Rambat asked if the Commission would consider increasing Mr. Pinkall's spending authority to \$20,000 just for this one purchase of a used rubber tire roller. Mr. Rambat added that Mr. Sinclair had \$196,800 in his equipment reserves and they had no way to do overlays without this piece of equipment. Mayor Deeds stated that he had no problem with this request; therefore, he made a motion to give City Manager Pinkall the authority to spend up to \$20,000 on a rubber tire roller for the street department. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

**Recreation Department:**

- **Track meet:**

Recreation Director Eisenhauer stated that they had a huge track meet with over 900 athletes and over 2,000 people attending. Mr. Eisenhauer commented that parking was more of a problem than usual with that many attending.

- **Sharing facilities:**

Mr. Eisenhauer commented that PCC, Pratt High and Skyline were all sharing the facilities and, even though scheduling was challenging at times, everyone was getting along.

- **KCAC:**

Mr. Eisenhower informed the Commission that Pratt had come in second with their KCAC application, but they encouraged them to apply again in two years. Mr. Eisenhower commented that we had the best matrix and the best application; however, they stayed with Great Bend.

**Police Department:**

- **Atlanta conference:**

Police Chief Humble stated that he had attended the conference in Atlanta and he was proud to find out that we were steps ahead having a place like the Hope Center and DCCCA. Chief Humble commented that one of the speakers was Mr. Seth Dewey from the Reno County Health Department and we will be able to create a partnership with them for upcoming events. Chief Humble explained that it could be equipment, thoughts, ideas and sharing information.

Chief Humble stated that he had talked about the drug that was mixed with the fentanyl and it was called xylazine. Chief Humble commented that Narcan did not work on that and it was something that veterinarians use for livestock. Chief Humble stated that it was very cheap and they use that to decrease their profit. Chief Humble explained that 22% of the fentanyl powder and 7% of the pills were laced with the xylazine in 2022. Chief Humble stated that they were anticipating the pills to overtake that because they are so cheap and easy to move in there. Chief Humble added that the thought was that it would be mimicked at the local level because of the accessibility of the veterinarians. Chief Humble stated that it was not a trend he was afraid to speak about, because the more they know about it the better. Commissioner Farmer asked if it was shifting into our area. Chief Humble stated that it was in 48 of the 50 states and in this area.

- **New vehicle:**

Commissioner Farmer asked if Chief Humble had gotten his new vehicle yet. Chief Humble stated that they were waiting on the watch guard and that was in the works.

**Finance Department:**

- **Financial reports:**

Finance Director Carver stated that he had added the financial reports in the packet along with a revenue breakdown from this March and last March. Mr. Carver commented that the capital improvement fund for the pool was included and you could see the funds going in and out.

- **Proposed budget sheets:**

Mr. Carver stated that he would be getting the proposed budget sheets out Friday or Monday, but he was trying to get an INCODE issue resolved before he could do that.

- **Seminar:**

Mr. Carver stated that he would be out of the office on Wednesday to attend a Finance and Budget Seminar.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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Mayor Deeds made a motion to go into executive session for attorney client privilege for thirty minutes and to return at 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farmer and carried unanimously.

Mayor Deeds made a motion to return from executive session with nothing to report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Deeds made a motion to go into executive session to discuss matters relating to security measures for thirty minutes and to return at 7:35 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Siemens and carried unanimously.

Mayor Deeds made a motion to return from executive session with nothing to report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN:**

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

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ZACH DEEDS, Mayor

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

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LUANN KRAMER, City Clerk