

# KECHI CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 13, 2023

## I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Ashley Velazquez called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

**Council present:** Ashley Velazquez, Matt Brewer, Todd Hedstrom, Brian Adams, and Rachel Trumbull.

**City staff present:** Andrew Kovar, City Attorney; Kamme Sroufe, City Administrator; Theresa Morlan, Finance/HR Director; Debra Creekmore, City Clerk; Thomas Bevan, Director of Public Works; and Braden Moore, Chief of Police.

**Guests present:** Mike Porter, Paul Eden, Joanie Harris, Michelle Gowin, Betty Washington, and Taylor Messick.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Mayor Velazquez.

**B. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

### Consent Agenda

1. March 23, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes
2. Arts Council Community Room Rental
3. March 2023 Appropriation Report
4. April Police Brief

**Motion by Brian Adams to approve the consent agenda and seconded by Rachel Trumbull.**

**Motion carried 4-0-0.**

**C. APPROVE AGENDA**

**Motion by Todd Hedstrom to approve agenda as written. The motion was seconded by Matt Brewer and carried 4-0-0.**

## II. COMMUNICATIONS

**A. Civic Groups/Committees** – Betty Washington addressed the council on behalf of the Kechi Arts Council with their upcoming events. They are having a Barn Quilt Painting Workshop on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 1-5 in the Community Room. On Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>, they will be having a workday on the historic City Hall. They are having a fund raiser raffle for a car from Rusty Eck, sponsoring the Decoration Station for the Kechi Fair Parade at the Park, hosting a Kechi Playhouse dress rehearsal event, Christmas Swag Make-It and Take-It and the Annual Christmas party will be at the Wolf's house.

**B. Kechi Good News** – Finance Director (FD), Theresa introduced new City Clerk, Debbie Creekmore and Chief of Police Braden Moore, who both started March 27<sup>th</sup>. She also shared that there are only 4 remaining spots for the Barn Quilt Workshop. Mayor Velazquez reported that Kylie Roth, who led the flag salute in December, won 1<sup>st</sup> place and Level 1 Grand Champion at a recent cheer competition, and gave kudos to Chief Moore for the great posts about the police department's positive outreach.

**C. Public Forum**

Mike Porter, 5701 E Huffman Dr., Stor-Mor 254, addressed the council about catalytic converter thefts which were stolen after the thieves gained access by cutting the fences. He would like to see an ordinance passed that would elevate the possession of unidentifiable converters to a criminal offense similar to what Wichita and other communities have been doing. He also addressed the road condition on Huffman Drive and the need for the potholes to be addressed. The council asked questions regarding the catalytic converter thefts.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. PEC Kechi Road and Oliver Redesign Contract** – City Administrator (CA) Sroufe introduced the item and gave brief history of the project changes and need for the new contract for \$137,100. There is decreased streetscape, and sidewalks/paths will be as large as possible. There is increased lighting and pedestrian connection to the Field on South Anderson for future park growth. There is \$50,000 in the budget in conjunction with fund balance to pay for the project.

**Motion by Matt Brewer to approve the contract with PEC for \$137,100 for the Kechi Rd and Oliver Project Redesign. The motion was seconded by Brian Adams and carried 4-0-0.**

**Motion by Matt Brewer to allocate \$50,000 set aside for the project and the remainder to be paid from fund balance. The motion was seconded by Rachel Trumbull and carried 4-0-0.**

- B. PEC Strategic Plan** - CA Sroufe presented the contract with PEC in which they would provide support service for updating the Strategic Plan. She would like the plan to be dynamic with short term goals to reach the long-term goals. This will be the first phase of three phases. The first phase will involve community engagement to mold priorities and engage both residents and business owners. Phase 2 will be the action steps to chart our course and phase 3 will be monitoring and implementing plans. The budgeted amount was \$15,000, and the contract will be for \$12,000.

**Motion by Brian Adams to approve the contract with PEC for Strategic Plan, Phase 1 for \$12,000. The motion was seconded by Todd Hedstrom and carried 4-0-0.**

- C. Eden Properties Release of Letter of Credit** – FD Morlan presented the request to release Eden Properties from their Letter of Credit (LOC). The policy outlines that 75% of the properties in the development must have Certificates of Occupancy to release 100% of LOC. There are COs on 7 of the 10 lots, but there are 8 that are developed. One is developed as the drainage/retention pond and will not be eligible for a CO. City Attorney Kovar said the council has the discretion to allow the release but doesn't see the need to change the policy.

**Motion by Brian Adams to release the Letter of Credit for Eden Properties LLC. The motion was approved by Matt Brewer and carried 4-0-0.**

- D. Certification of Total Final Costs – Young Industrial Phase 3 Improvements** – City Attorney Kovar outlined the process for the Special Assessment and sale of bonds.

**Motion by Matt Brewer to authorize the signing of the Certification of Total Final Costs. The motion was seconded by Brian Adams and carried 4-0-0.**

- E. Public Hearing Resolution 23-750** – A Resolution setting the date, time and place for a Public Hearing to receive and hear complaints and objections to the proposed Special Assessments for the construction of certain improvements in the City, as heretofore authorized by Resolution No. 20-716; directing publication of a Notice of Hearing and Statement of Costs Proposed to be assessed to each and all of the property owners liable for such Special Assessments.

**Motion by Rachel Trumbull to approve Resolution 23-750 and hold said Public Hearing on May 11, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers at Kechi City Hall. The motion was seconded by Brian Adams and carried 4-0-0.**

### **IV. OLD BUSINESS – None**

**V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Brian Adams to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Attorney Client Privilege for 20 minutes with the meeting to resume at 8:16pm. The motion seconded by Rachel Trumbull carried 4-0-0.


At 8:17pm, motion by Todd Hedstrom to extend the Executive Session for an additional 20 minutes with meeting to resume at 8:37pm. The motion was seconded by Brian Adams and carried 4-0-0.

The meeting resumed at 8:39pm, and no binding action was taken in Executive Session.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Brian Adams to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Rachel Trumbull and carried 4-0-0. The time of adjournment was 8:40pm.

Signed:   
Mayor Ashley Velazquez

Attest:   
Debra Creekmore, City Clerk

