

MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2008

The council of the city of Burlingame, Kansas met in regular session in the council chamber at city hall at 7:00 p.m., March 17, 2008.

Presiding: Council President Bloomquist
Present: Councilmembers: Strohm, DeMars, Fry, Swander
Absent: Mayor Dorr
Present also: City Administrator Hutfles, City Attorney Godderz, Police Chief Shaffer, Utilities Foreman Grandstaff and City Clerk Gilbert.

Citizens Present: Scott Phillips, Phillip Parsons, Gerald Britschge, Allen Foster, Kelly Foster, Officer Scott Masters, Managing Editor Wayne White of the Herald-Chronicle Newspaper.

Approval of Agenda was given by DeMars with a second from Swander. Ayes 5/
Nays 0

Citizen's Comments: Scott Phillips addressed the council over South Oak Street. Noting that the drainage is poor with a lot of it ending up in his basement. With many potholes and nothing to actually grade to improve the condition, he is requesting the city to look at what can be done to rectify the situation. Councilmember Bloomquist stated with the price of oil it is going to be a challenge in the street department this year. He also asked if the residents could tolerated it just a little longer until the ground dries more and they will look at what can be done. Foreman Grandstaff stated staff has tried to improve the area but didn't get much done with the wet conditions. Councilmember Swander asked about the streets in the same area. Mr. Foster added around Park when the rain comes it loads the ditches and the water doesn't go anywhere. Councilmember Bloomquist thanked them for coming and as soon as it dries up they will be looking at the situation.

Phillip Parsons addressed the council next, stating he was requested to address the council on Rodeo Days pertaining to the garden tractor pull at the baseball fields. He is offering to answer any questions, as he would like to do again this year. Mr. Hutfles asked Mr. Parsons to verify it is for non-profit or civic group. Mr. Parsons assured that whatever money is left over is donated to the organization that brings them in. Mr. Parsons stated this year he would be running the sled himself to save on operating costs, also noting the Fire Department had helped them previously so he would like to

give back to them. Mr. Hutfles said from our standpoint, he would request Mr. Parsons to come in and fill out a consent form to "rent" the field. He said that we helped prepare the area and will do so again this year. Mr. Parsons stated if he were required to pay a \$50.00 fee he would be unable to do it this year. Councilmember DeMars verified with the Administrator there is a charge of \$50.00 for a non-profit organization; Mr. Hutfles said to rent the ball fields at the complex are stated in a resolution. Ms. DeMars wanted to know if there was a waiver available. City Attorney Godderz said this situation came up in the past, and the fee was put in place for lights, and clean up. Mr. Godderz said the city has had to look at this because issues of clean up at the ball fields. Mr. Parsons said his crew did and will clean up the area used and appreciate the opportunity to come in and put on a show. He included he does have insurance and also charges \$5.00 for hook-up where \$200.00 of those fees goes to the sled operator, then trophies cost. Mr. Hutfles stated he has other items for the May 17th Rodeo Days on the next agenda and will include the waiver also for Mr. Parsons.

Motion to accept the February 2008 Financial Statement after Mr. Hutfles stated our receipts extended our expenditures, with the cash in our utility funds increasing. The motion was given by DeMars with Fry giving a second. Ayes 5/ Nays 0

Approval of Claims Ordinance No. 2124 and 2124a was given by DeMars and second by Fry. Ayes 5/ Nays 0

Consideration on the 2008 Crossroad Ad for the Osage County Herald Chronicle, Jan Ogleby stated this year the name had change from Progress Pride to Crossroad. She said on the behalf of the city of Burlingame commend the Fire Department and the City and all the community's help in the disastrous fire last year. Including they will be doing a main article on that this year. She said the there would be a 10% discount if the same ad were run this year. The cost for a full-page ad would be \$781.20 with \$90.00 for color, with a half page the cost would be \$406.35 with a \$55.00 color charge. Print date would be for May 22. Councilmember Fry added he liked the layout of the ad but would like to see different pictures. Fry gave motion with accepting the ad with picture changes and second by Swander Ayes 5/ Nays 0

City Administrator Hutfles started discussion over the ongoing negotiations with Westar over the electricity contract. Explaining with breakdowns of the buyback offer along with the advantages Westar vs. KPP. The buyback amount never mentions increasing and also will be tied to the demand charge. If the demand charge goes up it states the buyback also increases. Another issue they are looking at is tying the buyback to the main contract, if the KCC rejects the buyback issue Mr. Hutfles would like to get

out of the main contract. Mr. Hutfles stated Westar was to respond to this point and they stated they would respond by tomorrow March 18th. Once Mr. Hutfles gets the response he will request another extension of the contract for 2-3 months under the old contract. Councilmember DeMars asked on the KPP and where would they be getting their power from. Mr. Hutfles stated most of their power would be coming from Westar also, with covering some of the costs between the two. Ms. DeMars verified with Mr. Hutfles that the cost of power thru Westar would be rising on the average of 7%. The Westar contract is for the duration of 20 years and KPP would be a 2-year notice of termination. Mr. Swander wanted to know why all the cities that can generate get together and sell what we could generate. Mr. Hutfles noted our cost of running is actually more expensive than we could buy from Westar and KPP. Councilmember Strohm stated that if KPP is also negotiating with Westar they too would be having a 7% increase. After much discussion among all council members no motion was given on the update.

Motion to table the discussion on Utility Service Connection Policy after Councilmember Swander stated he wanted the policy looked at as he felt the city couldn't afford even though the city likes new construction coming to town. Liability as far as leaks from the meter to the house who is responsible, and he personally didn't feel city employees should be going further than the meter. Councilmember Bloomquist agreed with only going to the meter. Mr. Hutfles stated any new house residential, commercial or industry that wants to connect into our system there is a charge of \$400.00 each for water, gas and \$250.00 for sewer. Councilmember Fry said he personally had purchased all his materials from the city but also the city had welded the gas pipe but the city did not do the connection to the house. Councilmember Fry said he remembered discussion on waiving the connection fees, and the person could request it from the council. Mr. Hutfles stated there is a policy for underground connection, however in other policies it isn't clear. Councilmember DeMars wants to know when do you draw the line; her understanding is the city only goes to the meter and it should be left at that. Mr. Swander agreed with her stating a connection to a residence was made the prior week and another resident will be expecting the same. Mr. Swander stated are we to donate our time and equipment, with Councilmember Bloomquist affirming everyone is to be treated equal. City Attorney advised them to stay with the policy of only going to the meter, and also leave the fees alone. Stating the policy that was put into effect was studied and adopted. We have a building code and the utility should be inspected when connected by our employees. Councilmember Strohm said people would look elsewhere because of the connection fees, Mr. Fry said he knows they have been waived in the past. Mr. Godderz stated we shouldn't waive them, as they established for going out and doing that work. Councilmember DeMars asked for this to be tabled so the waiver can be looked at. Motion to table was given by Fry and second by DeMars. Ayes 5/ Nays 0

Motion by DeMars on have the Annual Spring Clean-up on April 12 with a second by Fry. Ayes 5/ Nays 0

City Administrator Hutfles says the budget for the KLINK Resurfacing Agreement will not be available until 2010. He stated it would cover S. Topeka to Banks but he request to have it extended to the city limits. City Attorney Godderz included the contract is only for paving the street, it doesn't pay for curb and guttering. He suggested a study as to how much curb is going to expose, what work is involved. Mr. Hutfles stated he is looking for more grant monies to possibly help with the project. Councilmember Fry asked if the state would be interested in taking over that part of the road, Mr. Hutfles response was they seem to be interested by felt the road needed to be in better condition before they would consider it. Motion was made by DeMars and second by Swander to accept the KLINK Agreement. Ayes 5/ Nays 0

Motion to move into executive session for 15 minutes with City Administrator in attendance for non-elected personnel raises given by DeMars and second by Fry. Ayes 4/ Nays 1 Bloomquist

Council entered into executive session at 8:07pm and returned 8:22pm.
Councilmember Bloomquist stated no action taken in executive session.

Motion by Fry for the following pay increases to take affect next pay period March 23rd:

Jon Shaffer \$16.72
Edward Dudley \$13.46
Scott Masters \$11.72
Anthony Richman \$11.49
Donald Parker \$9.06
Gerald Britschge \$16.68
Dannie Smiley \$12.12
Chris Gallaway \$12.12
Larry Cline \$10.15
Kerry Punches \$8.00

With a second from Swander. Ayes 5/ Nays 0

Reports:

City Administrator Hutfles updated the council on his inquiries about recycling for the community. Noting Donna Crawford with GAS has completed the environmental review in order to get release of funds for Phase II. Mr. Hutfles stated also he is working with USDA and waiting for the state permit from KDOT. Interviews this week for pool

manager and part time clerk, Patti and I will interview for the part time clerk and Gerry will assist in the interviews for pool manager. Hoping to bring recommendations to the council next meeting. Also with the idle funds and the yield curb dropping we have \$100,000 CDs that renew one every month all year, Mr. Hutfles stated he has changed them to renewable 30 day terms to get the best interest rate.

City Clerk Gilbert told council the bank account for CDBG has now been set to have checks written also the budget program will be set up to handled the new account. Adding that Council will be required to authorize a separate Warrant Ordinance for anything paid on the account. Ms. Gilbert thanked Council for the opportunity to attend the City Clerk's Conference in Wichita, stating her classes covered budgeting for Small Cities and the importance of setting 5-year goals for the city. Financial management stressed on the 30% debt limit for cities and what requirements for what funding. Ending her report that the problems we face today are not unique to our city.

Police Chief Shaffer reported he has 2 Officers in class in Topeka all week, and on behalf of all his officers and he thanks you for the raises.

Councilmember DeMars asked City Administrator if he would like to attend a school board meeting with her, as she would like to speak with the school board to assist in fund raising on a new pool. She also noted to the Police Chief the hill on Banks by Walnut complaints of kids jumping the hill and going very fast, wondering if it can be looked at and some of the options that would be available.

Councilmember Strohm reported citizens mentioning a problem with the dog population lately. Feeling the need for the Dog Catcher out looking at some of these dogs, reports of other dogs that are confined being attacked and some concern that even in her area notably more dogs. Another citizen approached her over a tremendous water bill and she had come to city hall to report it along with having plumbers checking everything out with no problems found. The citizen will not come down and ask for a rebate but if there isn't a leaking problem possibly something else should be checked. Mr. Hutfles and Ms. Gilbert stated they would check the readings tomorrow and Mr. Bloomquist will verify the reading. She stated to Foreman Grandstaff there was a pothole on S. Topeka that was missed on the east side of the highway.

Foreman Grandstaff asked council to please be patient with his department as far as the road situation until it dries up more.

Motion to adjourn made by Fry and second by Swander. Ayes 5/ Nays 0

City Clerk

