

## MINUTES OF July 28, 2008

The council of the City of Burlingame, Kansas met in special session in the Annex at Schuyler Museum at 7:00 p.m., July 28, 2008.

Presiding: Mayor Dorr

Present: Council members: Bloomquist, Fry, Strohm, Swander, DeMars

Present also: City Administrator Hutfles, City Attorney Godderz, City Clerk Patti Gilbert, Police Chief Jon Shaffer, Utility Foreman Gerry Grandstaff

Other persons: Laverne Brendon with Bartlett & West, Donna Crawford with Governmental Assistance Services, Sarah Martin and Katelyn Meives of the Kansas State Historical Society Preservation Office.

The tape to the meeting was of extreme poor quality the following is a summary of the proceedings:

Sarah Martin began the discussion on making the downtown area a Historical District and a brief over-view on the steps to achieve that. Reminding the public it is not limited to just buildings. Materials used in building the location, with surveying, the recording of information. Recommendation of hiring a consultant, getting building owners to support the project. A grant is available 40/60 match with the city supplying the 40% to match, the next cycle of grants is approaching with a meeting scheduled August 20<sup>th</sup> in Topeka at 10:00 am in the morning. The name of the grant is called the Historic Preservation Fund. The City Administrator has been supplied with some information regarding the grant program. Ms. Martin assured the council and public the bricks on main street would be a part of the survey. Giving a brief description of funding on federal and state levels. Ms. Martin did explain if an area is labeled historical, they do not dictate how an area is maintained but any building permits must be submitted to them for their opinion, going into further detail inside the building is up to the owner with the outside and additions to the building being their main concern. Giving the clarification, if an addition was to be added their recommendation would be to put it in a way as not to change the view. Any citizen that has a decline recommendation could then appeal to the local government for review.

The next item was the Phase II Water Project, Laverne Brendon representing Bartlett & West and Donna Crawford with Governmental Assistance Services attending to give a brief description of the project and answer any questions the were presented. Mr. Brendon took the floor first explaining both companies have worked with the city for about 6 years to complete both projects on the upgrading of the water system. Stating the city has taken advantage of funding from the Community Block Grant Development and USDA's Rural Development. Explaining the matching of funds and the general obligations bonds, explaining Phase II is the final improvements to the distribution system. Mr. Brendon went into the steps of the bidding process and the timeline for funding. Mayor Dorr then instructed the public to please limit his or her comments to 3-5 minutes in order to give everyone a chance to speak. Mr. William Kraus questioned on the contract if it included a rock clause. Mr. Brendon explained there was not a

rock clause per se' and all the excavation is considered to be in place, no special payment for rock. Mr. Kraus questioned the difference in price and didn't want the city to be jeopardized for something that is over looked. Mr. Brendon assured the audience the contractor with this bid has certified that he has reviewed the conditions on site and has satisfied himself to that fact. At this time the tape is not audible but Mr. Kraus did add his concern over the bids. At this time the public is not heard on their question, the response was by Mr. Brendon stating the bids are so different for various reasons all that is not known to him. Low bids could be due to the actual workload of a contractor and the availability at the time. Mrs. Roberta Bailey is speaking but the tape isn't clear on her questions, the answer to the question is the city is scheduled to replace or move 24 fire hydrants in this project. The price by the contractor has been bidded at \$3200.00 each. Typically the old fire hydrants do not adapt to the new 6-inch line. Verifying 24 will be added and all the rest has been added during Phase I. Explanation into the size of the lots and the reasoning on how the hydrants were placed in the drawing. Mr. Brendon then turned to Fire Chief Strohm regarding the hydrants requirements and the ISO rating. The tape is again poor quality, Mr. Strohm explained how the ISO rating affected each individual, and how it was graded and stated the water system is 40% of the rating. Warning that if the project is not completed the rating will go from 4 up to 6 and if it doesn't he doesn't know if it will affect the public. Sharing that a rate 4 Fire Department is better than a class 8 and Burlingame should be proud of that. A short discussion then over the requirements of the Fire Department being paid personnel and the actual cost of having them. The conversation continued between Mrs. Roberta Bailey and Fire Chief Jim Strohm over the fire hydrant coverage in the area the Bailey's reside in. Mr. Strohm gave an ardent speech speaking on the placement of the fire hydrants with disadvantaged areas within the city and the need to rectify the lack of water coverage in case of a fire. Mayor Dorr asked Mr. Strohm what it would be to go from a 4 to a 3 rating and the information she obtained from the state. Brandi Summers interjected with her views regarding fire hydrants compared to the water project as a whole. Mrs. Elora Bickford spoke on the need of more coverage in a fire. City Administrator Hutfles spoke of the total amounts of the water project and what it mean as far as the payments and the rates to the public. Telling everyone it is a 40-year loan; we will be saving money on staff, repairs, parts and supplies. Mrs. Bailey asked if it is going to increase the water rates and questioned that we have already seen a rate increase. Ms. Kathleen Williams on from West Fremont stated she would like to see better pressure at her house. Councilmember Swander asked on Fast Drive and the hydrant coverage in that area, Mr. Strohm then asked Mr. Hutfles if that included a hydrant in that area. Mr. Hutfles stated the bid is on the 24 hydrants marked in the plans. Mr. Strohm shared he would like to see a hydrant at Jackson and Fast, with Utility Foreman Grandstaff stating there is one in that area now.

Mr. John Longabaugh spoke of his area and water coverage, Mr. Brendon stating it had been replaced by the city. Mr. Chris Dubois said he was on the council at that time and the City Superintendent at that time had replaced a small area with the understanding the project would take care of the rest of the area. Mr. Dubois continued the city had a water tower that couldn't be shut down and had a leak under the street near it for years, a gas line that was in need of repair and to sit here and listen to people question a raise of 71 cents a month is ridiculous. Let's get it done and do it right and we pay for this every day it's not done. Mayor Dorr added the town meeting was set up before the bids and numbers had come in. Councilmember

DeMars stated I don't necessary think it's about the actual project, the fire protection, the hydrants were the big question because the grant is for the water project, and that's why the hydrants because we are still paying for radio read meters, phase I water project, now Phase II and a sewer system we must look at next. At this time more than one person was talking and sharing their views. The general opinion stated next by Elora Bickford was that if it wasn't done now in the future the cost would be considerably higher than now. Mr. Bill Krause stated these types of grants will not continue forever and to take the opportunity and if we don't take care of ourselves now there will be a day it is too late. Mayor Dorr asked Donna Crawford if we don't use all of the grant we will not get another grant, with Ms. Crawford responding that is not so. Councilmember Fry asked on the grant, with Mr. Brendon answering him with you cannot get a CDBG grant for fire protection. Councilmember Fry added he would like to see the fire protection upgraded to every block.

Mr. Swander questioned discussions over the differences in prices on materials on the bids. The previous projects had run into pricing problems with the pipe, and Mr. Brendon assuring the Council the price on the bid is what is to be adhered to. Discussion returned to a rock clause with Mr. Brendon explaining the purpose of bonding companies. and how it's a legal obligation of the bonding company to finish the job. Mr. Brendon assured the public that the engineer will over see the project and the project requirements with the contractor will be followed. Rural Development has entertained any requests from the city to do anything additional to the water project, such as fire hydrants or another line somewhere. We do need to get with them fairly quickly. With the time frame of hoping to be completed by the end of the year. Mr. Thomas Oliver stated if we don't do something now, and with the sewer system needing repair we are going to be in trouble. Mayor Dorr asked if anyone else had any other questions, then asked the questions to show hands of who is in favor of the city pursuing the historical study, and who was not in favor. The following question of who is in favor of Phase II Water Project, then who was against. There was no official count, it was evident the majority is in favor of both projects. Mr. Huffles also reminded the public that as Public Awareness if they had the odor of gas to please call to have it investigated.

Motion to adjourn made by Bloomquist with a second by Fry. Ayes 5/ Nays 0

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City Clerk