**City of Westwood Hills**

**City Council Meeting Minutes**

**August 14, 2023**

**Meeting #887**

The Westwood Hills City Council meeting was held on August 14, 2023, in the Community Room at Westwood City Hall.

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Rosemary Podrebarac at 7:11 p.m. Prior to the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Podrebarac asked for a moment of silence for Officer Jonah Oswald, City of Fairway Police Department, who was killed in the line of duty last week.

Present: Mayor Podrebarac, Michael Anfang, Ed Gogol, John Weedman, and Beth O’Bryan. City Attorney Jim Orr and City Treasurer John Martin were present. Chief Curtis Mansell was present.

No citizens were in attendance at the commencement of the meeting. Citizen Steve Platt joined the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Mayor Podrebarac asked to add item 10e - Country Club Bank Resolution to the agenda. **Motion by Anfang to approve the agenda as amended to add the bank resolution item. Second by Gogol. All aye. Motion approved.**

**Motion by Gogol to approve the Consent Agenda Second by Anfang. All aye. Motion approved.**

**No Old Business**

**New Business:**

2024 Budget Adoption

Anfang moved and Gogol seconded to adopt the 2024 budget for the City at the mill rate of 23.149, as recommended by the Council at the budget hearing. All in favor. Motion carried.

1912 West 49th St. Street Clearing Ratification

As a result of the storm that rolled through the City on Sunday evening, July 30, 2023, a large tree fell and completely blocked 49th Street near State Line Road, making that street impassable. John Sullivan, Public Works, reviewed the situation and advised that the project was too big for Westwood Public Works to clear the street. Mayor Podrebarac contacted Arbor Masters to request the removal of the tree from the roadway. **Mayor Podrebarac asked the council to ratify the expense to remove the tree from the street. The cost was $1,962.00. Gogol moved and Weedman seconded to ratify the expense of $1,962.00 to clear the tree branches blocking the street. All aye. Motion carried. Funds will come out of budget line item 8055.**

Tree Trimming on The Green Ratification

The first, and hardest, storm on July 14, 2023, broke several limbs off the red elm near the fence at the north end of The Green and left one very large limb hanging from a good height, volunteers picked and cut up the tree branches that were dropped onto the shrubbery. Gogol contacted Mike Franzwa, an arborist recommended by Leslie Brett, owner of the property adjacent to The Green. Franzwa Tree Service removed the large hanging limb and trimmed the many shoots off the elm that were too high for the city volunteers to reach. He also removed a recently deceased hornbeam tree north of the elm, which had rapidly turned brown this summer. Franzwa Tree Service removed the broken branches, trimmed the elm shoots off the trunk of the tree, and removed the dead tree at the cost of $800.00. Gogol asked the council to ratify the expense of $800.00 for the tree removal and cleanup. **Gogol moved and Weedman seconded to ratify the tree trimming and clean up done by Franzwa Tree Service, at a cost of $800.00. All aye. Motion carried. Funds will come out of budget line item 8055.**

Leaf Collection

Roeland Park (RP) said they would again contract with Westwood Hills for fall leaf collection. The costs given were as follows:

* $57.00/hour for the PW Staff Member
* $97.00/hour for the Leaf Truck
* $6.00/hour for fuel

Total hourly rate: $160.00

The available leaf collection dates RP provided are Sunday, December 3, 2023, or Sunday, December 10, 2023.

City Clerk O’Bryan contacted MO Organics to ask if they would open on a Sunday to accept the leaves for disposal and to inquire about the cost per load but has not heard back.

**Weedman moved to enter into an agreement with Roeland Park for the fall leaf collection to be held on Sunday, December 10, 2023, and to encumber up to $1500.00 for the service. Anfang seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.** The funds will come out of budget line item 8053

Country Club Bank (CCB) Investment Account Resolution

CCB offered the City a security backed investment account that complies with the Kansas Statutes. The resolution requested by the bank allows the City to open the account and authorizes the City Clerk, Mayor, and City Treasurer to be signatories on the account.  **Anfang moved and Weedman seconded to open an investment account at the Country Club Bank and approve the resolution presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**Informational items – no action to be taken**

Resident Steve Platt expressed his thanks to the City Council for keeping the 2024 budget revenue neutral, meaning no increase in real estate tax revenue. He also discussed the Westwood Karbank Proposal. Mr. Platt asked Westwood Hills to send out a notice to residents of Westwood’s September Planning Commission meeting.

Councilman Anfang notified the council that he is moving out of the city to Denver Colorado and that this meeting will probably be his last with the council.

**Motion to adjourn by Anfang. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.**