

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2022
Meeting #869**

The Westwood Hills City Council meeting was held on February 14, 2022, via Zoom.

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Paula Schwach at 7:03 p.m.

Present: Mayor Schwach, Michael Anfang, Ed Gogol, Rosemary Podrebarac, Dave Schmitz (joined at 7:04), Karen Shelor Sexton, and Beth O'Bryan. City Attorney Jim Orr and City Treasurer Jim Martin were present.

Police Chief Curtis Mansell was in attendance.

Motion by Gogol to approve the agenda. Second by Shelor Sexton. All aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Gogol to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Shelor Sexton. All aye. Motion approved.

No Old Business

New Business:

Use of ARPA Funds

Mayor Schwach proposed that the city use the ARPA funds to pay the direct police and extra enforcement costs. **Podrebarac moved and Gogol seconded to count the ARPA funds as revenue replacement dollars and utilize the funds from the first received tranche of ARPA funds to pay for the March and April basic police protection and enforcement costs, as a governmental service per the City's police services agreement with the City of Westwood. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Brian Ritter 2022 Landscape Contract

Gogol moved the Council to approve Brian Ritter's contract for 2022 landscape services in the amount of \$17,196.00. Shelor Sexton seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. The money will come from the beautification line item in the budget.

Green Lawn 2022 Contract

Gogol moved and Shelor Sexton seconded to approve the agreement with Green Lawn in the amount of \$950.00 for sprinkler services during 2022. Shelor Sexton and Weedman will turn on and shut off the fountain. The City will request Green Lawn Services for any fountain repairs needed. The money for the Green Lawn contract will come from projects line item. **All in favor. Motion passed.**

Crime Stoppers Contract

Shelor Sexton moved, and Gogol seconded to contribute \$150.00 to the Crime Stoppers Program and to execute the agreement with Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission.

All in favor. Motion passed.

49th Street Barrier Wall

Podrebarac moved to enter into an agreement between the City and the Westwood Hills Historic Foundation, in substantially the form presented to Council, for the funding for construction of a pedestrian barrier on 49th Street and to authorize the mayor to pursue bids and enter into an agreement with a stone mason, provided that the construction cost does not exceed the donation amount set forth in the agreement. Second by Gogol. All in favor. Motion carried.

State of the Cities RSVP & Encumbrance

The rescheduled date for the NEJC State of the Cities luncheon is March 10, 2022. Council members who wish to attend should RSVP to the City Clerk prior to March 5, 2022.

NEJC Environmental Fair

The purpose of the fair is to educate all residents of NEJC on sustainable practices for their homes, businesses, and lives. The Fair will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2022. There is not a financial commitment for cities as the steering committee plans to seek sponsorships.

Participating cities need three volunteers for the fair, as well as steering committee volunteers.

Shelor Sexton will check with Shawnee Mission East regarding an Earth Day Fair.

Advance Mail Voting Applications and Uniform Public Offense Code (UPOC) section 7.5 (a)(2)

The City has received a request from attorneys with Campaign Legal Center in Washington, D.C., on behalf of VoteAmerica and Voter Participation Center, to repeal UPOC section 7.5(a)(2), citing that the section is a violation of free speech and association protected by the First Amendment. City Attorney Orr advised that he would not prosecute anyone under this provision of the UPOC as this is not the type of case municipal court was designed to handle. **Shelor Sexton moved, and Gogol seconded to take steps to repeal section 7.5 of the UPOC.** A formal ordinance repealing the section will be introduced at the March Council meeting. **All in favor. Motion carried.**

Informational items – no action to be taken

There were no items from Citizens in attendance.

Councilman Schmitz said he was approached by citizens concerning adding streetlights in the City.

Rainbow Blvd. Traffic Study - The City of Westwood is pursuing a traffic study and investigating possible changes to Rainbow Boulevard.

Johnson County Watershed - Mayor Schwach has reviewed the Johnson County Watershed report and will prepare and circulate a summary of the most relevant points from the report.

Motion to adjourn by Gogol. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.