

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2022
Meeting #878**

The Westwood Hills City Council meeting was held on November 14, 2022, 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 7:04 p.m.

Present: Mayor Podrebarac, Dave Schmitz, Karen Sexton, John Weedman, and Beth O'Bryan. City Attorney Jim Orr and City Treasurer John Martin were present. Ed Gogol joined the meeting at 7:07 pm.

WWPD Chief Mansell and resident Brian Seymour were also in attendance.

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

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

Old Business:

Halloween

The City received several complaints from residents regarding Halloween. Mr. Seymour expressed concern for the safety of residents and children during the evening because of traffic on Westwood Hills streets. He estimated about 700 trick-or-treaters came to his home.

Sexton explained the reasoning behind the decision not to barricade the streets. Chief Mansell mentioned the possibility of the City engaging a private security company to manage the barricades if the City wants to block the streets next year, and the WWPD would work with the security company.

New Business:

Little Government Relations Contract (LGR)

Mayor Podrebarac asked if Council wanted to renew the LGR contract to continue government relations and advocacy services for the 2023 Session. Three other cities—Prairie Village, Merriam, and Mission—have renewed for next year. The contract amount is the same as the previous year - \$400.00. **Sexton moved and Schmitz seconded to enter into a new contract with Little Government Relations to provide government relations and advocacy services for 2023 and encumber \$400.00. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Joco/Wyco Council of Mayor's Holiday Party Encumbrance

The Joco/Wyco Council of Mayors' Holiday Party will be on December 7, 2022, from 6-9 pm. The cost is estimated at \$80.00 per person. City Clerk O'Bryan and her husband would like to attend. Mayor Podrebarac and a guest will attend. Weedman and his wife may attend. **Sexton moved and Gogol seconded to encumber \$480.00 for City officials to attend the holiday party. All in favor. Motion carried. The funds will be taken from the budget's Governmental Relations line item.**

Dogwood Replacement on The Green Ratification

Gogol reported that he started the process to replace the "guaranteed" dogwood on The Green that died over the summer. Tree prices went up \$29.00 from last year, and to get the guarantee again, he paid \$150.00 for the planting and the treatment with Myke Tree and Shrub. The bill after credit for the dead tree was \$164.39. The tree will be planted next week, weather permitting. **Schmitz moved and Weedman seconded to ratify the expense of \$164.39 for the replacement of the dogwood tree on The Green. All in favor. Motion passed. The funds will be taken from the Beautification line item in the budget.**

Informational items – no action to be taken

There were no items from Citizens in attendance.

Shawnee Indian Mission

There were a few handouts that were circulated in the council packet regarding the Indian Mission.

Sexton reminded the council that the Mayor's Tree Lighting and Santa Claus will be held on Sunday, November 27, 2022.

Motion to adjourn by Gogol. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.