



MINUTES OF THE MISSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 18, 2023

The Mission City Council met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Mission City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Flora. The following councilmembers were in attendance: Hillary Thomas, Trent Boultinghouse, Mary Ryherd, Lea Loudon, Kristin Inman, Debbie Kring, Ben Chociej and Ken Davis. No councilmembers were absent.

Mayor Flora explained that the meeting was also offered virtually through Zoom, if preferred. The public was invited to participate in the meeting by using the instructions included in the City Calendar item listed on the front page of the website. For those participating virtually, they had the option of utilizing the "chat" feature to voice their comments which would be read aloud. The members of the public in person were encouraged to raise their hand and stay at their seats to be called on. The Mayor requested that anyone commenting please state their name and city of residence as well as to be conscientious of others talking and to speak clearly and slowly.

REVISED AGENDA

Mayor Flora explained that there was a need for a revised agenda for tonight's meeting.

Moved by Loudon, seconded by Kring to approve the revised October 18, 2023 agenda as printed.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Thomas, Loudon, Chociej, Davis, Inman, Ryherd, and Kring. **Motion Carried.**

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Consolidated Fire District No. 2 Update

Chief Steve Chick of Consolidated Fire District No. 2 presented an update on fire activity in Mission. Chief Chick began by explaining that, much like police departments, he is also challenged by the employment climate and finding quality candidates. He feels fortunate that they are currently fully staffed. He also mentioned that their board members (seven appointed), which are comprised by a member from all but one of the eight cities served by the

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District, have been receiving monthly updates from him about staffing and engaging in staffing conversations. He noted that his board has recognized that their District's budget is about 80% employment related costs, however they have worked hard within their budget and how the taxpayer money is spent. He listed that a goal was set years ago to demonstrate collaboration within other fire departments and districts within the County. That allows each Department to specialize in a key area, which keeps costs down for individual departments or districts while also having many different specialty types such as trench and structural collapse, hazardous materials, water rescue and others. That saves the taxpayers money and allows staff to be highly trained and proficient. He noted that, over the last year, Staff logged almost 1400 hours of training in those specialized areas along with partner agencies. There are also better opportunities to work together with other agencies, both fire and police. Chief Chick next highlighted the District's Advanced Life Support Program, which is to ensure life saving measures are delivered to a doorstep as fast as possible. That involved being fully staffed within five years, which they were able to do within three years. The next goal was to have a consistent response with a paramedic onsite within five minutes and twenty seconds from the time of dispatch. They are currently providing that service in four minutes and three seconds. He has specifically sought out firefighter paramedics for hiring and has also had several existing employees choose to continue their education to become firefighter paramedics. He is very proud of his staff and the outcomes they are seeing. He also mentioned that the District's board has recently approved hiring of one additional employee who will be a dedicated data analyst and strategic planner. That person will quantify and deliver reports to each City that do a better job in representing through data how the District serves cities. New reports will show the whole District and specifics for each City. He is excited about that opportunity.

Chief Chick addressed challenges and considerations about future projects and trajectory. They have explored TIF financing, however, have had backlash from some of the County Commissioners, including one who threatened not to vote to approve the District's budget if they proceeded. Their hope now is to continue to work with cities and have an opportunity to discuss options as redevelopment is considered. He stated that the District's infrastructure is in good shape, with a few planned improvements. The District maintains three stations, with the newest being in Prairie Village. Improvements will be made over the next few years at the locations at 63rd Street and Mission Road and at Martway Street

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and Lamar Avenue. He also highlighted that the District has been able to implement the hiring of more women and minority candidates. One way they have done that is through their firefighter intern program, which seeks out candidates in school learning to be EMTs and firefighters and works to recruit them. Two candidates have been hired from the program, one a female firefighter. They are always talking about staffing and hope to be able to staff to National Fire Protection Agency standards, which say that every engine and aerial company shall have a four-person staffing on the unit for fire operations. One challenge his staff faces is the downsize of the fire district several years ago, which only allows them to support three firefighters on an engine. Occasionally they are able to staff four people, but that is rare. They continue to evaluate those staffing numbers against the standard. He shared performance metrics, including that CFD2 is fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars and received the highest possible rating awarded in their annual audit with no recommendations for improvement in practices as the District takes the charge of managing taxpayer money very seriously. Employee turnover is very low, at about 1.38%, largely due to the satisfaction of staff and a healthy culture. Chief Chick acknowledged that they do not have the highest pay or best benefits, but the outstanding culture keeps staff from moving to other opportunities. He reported that training hours for staff total out at about 12,000 per year for his staff. Chief Chick also mentioned that the Insurance Services Organization (ISO) grades several thousand fire districts and departments each year, and of those 411 fire departments or districts in North America receive the highest rating, and ISO Class 1, and CFD2 is one of them. That means that people living and working in their district receive the lowest possible insurance ratings because of the quality of service provided. Finally, Chief Chick spoke about the mill levy for the District. They were able to drop the mill levy by .475 again, a decrease four years in a row. He reviewed that the District had funds set aside in reserve while they were waiting to find out how much, if any, they would need to pay in due to the dark store theory ruling. The reality was that the County feels they are in a comfortable place with resolving those issues and those reserves needed to go back to the taxpayers. The District added those funds back into the budget, which he acknowledged could artificially affect the mill rate. One thing he reminded the Council of is that the mill levy is almost the only source of funding for CFD2. No public safety sales tax dollars were set aside for fire districts when that legislation was put together by the State. Fire departments do receive those funds as they are part of a city. CFD2 does not receive any sales tax either. They do try to find alternative ways to make money,

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for which he used the example of the cell phone tower that sits on the CFD2 property in Mission. That tower brings in about \$220,000.00 per year in income. He shared County reports that show over the last five years, district wide, a 375% total increase in property values has occurred. In that same period of time, CFD2 has only increased their budget by 15%, which they are very proud of. The five-year history also showed that, when reviewing the tax bill, all subdivisions listed have not proportionally decreased their mill levy more than CFD2, and no entity has increased their revenue less proportionally. He is very proud of what they have been able to do with taxpayer money.

Councilmember Kring expressed her appreciation for CFD2's priority of community and taxpayers, she finds those commitments very refreshing.

Mission Marlins Season Wrap Up

Mission Marlins swim team coach Katie Dearing presented a season wrap up to the Mayor and Council. Coach Dearing brought some guests with her, swimmers and their families who represent the program. Coach Dearing thanked the City and the Parks + Recreation department for their partnership. She shared that the Mission Marlins had 226 swimmers for the 2024 season, ranging in age from 5-18 years old from several communities in the region. The team was undefeated all season at their four meets, and competed in championship meets winning first place in the novice and level II divisions, and second place in the level III division. She also shared recognition of individual swimmers who won high point medals. She reviewed financial challenges over the summer; however, the team had a fantastic season.

Mission Marlins parent Kristy Smith shared that her son was a part of the Marlins from age of seven to twenty years old, and that Marlins culture really helped her son throughout his life, in both academics and collegiate athletics. Her son, Trey Smith, wrote a letter highlighting the benefits he found in joining the Mission Marlins.

Mission Marlins parent Jamie Gile introduced himself and his two sons in attendance along with his two daughters, who are all members of the Marlins. His family moved to Mission partly because of the team, and that the team changed his family's outlook on swimming and have introduced to them a lifelong activity. He highlighted the sense of family that surrounds the team.



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Mission Marlin swimmer Jonathan Gile introduced himself as a swimmer on the team beginning at 7 years old. He now swims for his high school swim team, and the Marlins is where he learned the skills he needed to get to that point.

Mission Marlin swimmer Caleb Gile introduced himself as a swimmer on the team beginning at 6 years old. He and his siblings swim for the Marlins and have really found a sport they love, along with a fun activity to do in the summers.

Mission Marlins parent Valerie Kohoutek introduced herself as a resident and team parent. Her daughter joined the team in 2009, and the team is one of the things that has kept her family in Mission. They find the swim team affordable and helps build community. She sees huge benefits to the local high schools from the swim team as well.

Coach Dearing highlighted the impact of the team on swimmers, families and coaches. She believes the community is very important to the coaches as well and thanked the Mayor and Council for their time and continued support.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Flora issued a proclamation recognizing October as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in the City of Mission. She explained that domestic violence is a widespread, preventable, public health problem impacting all communities regardless of age, race, ability, identity, or socioeconomic status. Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an opportunity for citizens to learn about warning signs, prevention and resources available for those experiencing domestic violence and to show support for the organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services, and assistance to victims. Local organizations like Safehome provide invaluable resources and a healing atmosphere where survivors of intimate partner abuse can gain inner strength, explore options, and be empowered to live a life free of abuse. She recognized Safehome and all of the organizations working tirelessly to combat the epidemic of domestic violence in our region and offered up contact information for anyone in need or help in a dangerous situation, stating that 24/7 resources and support are available at www.thehotline.org or by calling 1-800-799-7233.

PUBLIC HEARING

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Mayor Flora officially opened the public hearing for the 58/Nall tax abatement request and asked City Administrator Laura Smith to make a presentation. Ms. Smith introduced the public hearing to consider a tax abatement request from MOJO BUILT, LLC, who have formally applied for both sales and property tax abatement for a proposed 77-unit multi-family project at 58th Street and Nall Avenue. City Staff, the Developer's team and the City's outside team of land use attorney Pete Heaven, bond counsel Kevin Wempe (both in the audience) and Bruce Kimmel of Ehlers, the City's financial advisors (appearing virtually) have worked together for the better part of 2023 to bring this request to the Council. She reviewed that a work session and Committee meeting earlier in the month have provided two opportunities for the project details to be shared with the public and the Council. She will address adjustments that have been made after the conversations at the Committee meeting. She also noted that the public hearing notice was published in the Legal Record on October 10 to conform with State statutes related to the IRBs. Additionally, notice of the hearing and background materials have been provided to the Board of County Commissioners and the Shawnee Mission School District.

Ms. Smith noted that at the Committee meeting on October 4 a recommendation was made to bring forward the Resolution of Intent which would authorize the property tax abatement at 70%, which would provide a 30% payment in lieu of taxes to the City and all other taxing entities and jurisdictions. The abatement request has been revised following the conversation at the Committee Meeting. The baseline criteria is met resulting in 45%, with a 5% increase for capital investment, a 10% increase for a target area adjustment, a 7.5% increase for attainable housing, and a 2.5% adjustment for an environmental design adjustment to bring the total recommended abatement percentage to 70%. Ms. Smith reviewed a detailed memorandum provided in the meeting packet, and reiterated the changes to those percentages following the Committee meeting. Those changes included the decrease in the percentages for attainable housing and environmental design, and an increase in the percentage awarded for the project being in a target area. A cost/benefit analysis was provided in the packet, and Ms. Smith highlighted that there is a positive cost/benefit ratio for all taxing entities impacted by the project. The City of Mission, because of the low mill levy rate, has the lowest cost/benefit ratio. The Shawnee Mission School District has the highest. Ms. Smith highlighted points of the Resolution provided in the packet, which communicates the City's intent to issue the bonds in an amount

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not to exceed \$20 million. She pointed out that approval of the Resolution will also approve the Performance Agreement. The Resolution lays out payments in lieu of taxes at 30%, with the rest being standard language. She also noted that the bonds will not be issued until the project is completed. She reviewed Section 11, Termination of the Resolution, which ties termination of Resolution, or the intent to issue bonds, would expire based on the timeline in the Performance Agreement. Ms. Smith then switched to reviewing the Performance Agreement which has some minor revisions to the one provided previously in the packet. She highlighted those revisions as the City team worked through the process. She moved to page 3 of the Performance Agreement, which now provides that 80% of construction completion will allow for testing against that is March 1, 2026. She moved to Section 2.14 which lays out the construction schedule, including substantial construction date which means a temporary certificate of occupancy can be issued. A final completion date of six months following the substantial construction date is also added. Ms. Smith moved to Section 5.2 on page 10 of the Agreement, which talks about remedies of default and lays out steps for default. Earlier in the section a provision early in Section 5.2 that talks about sixty days to cure an event of default, or longer if agreed to by both parties. Ms. Smith moved to Exhibit C, where the word 'estimated' has been removed and is the final construction schedule. Construction is anticipated to begin July 1, 2024 and a final completion date has been added. Those are the complete review of changes.

The Developer's team thanked City Staff for their help and for tackling the request.

Mayor Flora next called for public comment. There was one online comment from Mission resident John Arnett. Mr. Arnett stated he believed due diligence has been done in this matter and he believes full consideration has been given. He voiced his support for the project.

Andy Akright of Mission, KS asked what the mill levy is. Ms. Smith explained the mill levy process and what it means.

There were no additional public comments and Mayor Flora closed the public hearing and reminded the public that the Resolution of Intent for the project would be considered later on the agenda.

ISSUANCE OF NOTES AND BONDS



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There were no items related to Issuance of Notes and Bonds.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 4a. Minutes of the September 20, 2023 City Council Meeting
- 4b. Automated License Plate Reader Policy
- 4c. MOU with the Johnson County Sheriff's Office for ALPR Data Storage
- 4d. 61st Street and Broadmoor Street Pedestrian Improvements Project
- 4e. 2025 Street Preservation Program Projects (SMP Funding)
- 4f. Powell Community Center Kitchen Floor Replacement
- 4g. Adult Lounge Furniture (Powell Community Center)

Moved by Chociey, seconded by Kring to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Thomas, Loudon, Chociey, Davis, Inman, Ryherd, and Kring. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Andy Akright of Mission, KS proposed to the Council that the City recognize a second natural spring that is located in the City and was vital to early settlers in the area. The better known of the two springs can be visited on W. 61st Terrace and is a well recognized spot. The homeowners' welcome visitors. The second spring, which he would like to recognize, is located at the corner of Maple and Johnson Drive near the BP gas station. There is a circle area with benches which he would like to see landscaping to honor the site. The spring was used through the 1920's when it was walled up and a pump installed. He would like the Council to install a bronze plaque marking the historic location of the second spring. He feels it is important to recognize the spot, an integral part of Mission's history. The land the spot sits on is private property, however the land is for sale now so there could be a good opportunity. The previous owner turned down the opportunity four years ago.

Mr. Akright had a second comment to commend the police department and Chief Madden and their work to serve the City. Mr. Akright participated in the City's



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Citizens Police Academy and he learned so much about the hard work the City's officers do. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support of the police department.

PLANNING COMMISSION

6a. Final Plat – Swig 5959 Barkley

City Planner Karie Kneller presented the final plat of Swig Soda at 5959 Barkley Street, PC Case no. 23-19. The plat is straightforward as the property was unplatted and Staff asked the Developer to plat appropriately. The necessary right-of-way was already met.

There were no public comments or Council discussion.

Moved by Ryherd, seconded by Loudon to approve the resolution accepting the easements associated with the final plat of Swig, located at 5959 Barkley Street.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Thomas, Chociey, Inman, Loudon, Davis, Ryherd, and Kring. **Motion Carried.**

6b. Final Plat Morrison Ridge Park Second Plat and Use and Maintenance Agreement

Ms. Kneller's second item was for approval of the final plat of Morrison Ridge Second Plat and Use and Maintenance Agreement PC case no. 23-12. This proposal was to separate split lots at 53rd Street and Riggs Road. These properties are zoned R-1 and the Developer wants to build four single family homes. There is designated right-of-way known as Florence Street. The street will remain as right-of-way, however a maintenance agreement will require the Developer to maintain that as a private drive for the four houses. She noted that property owners to the north have signed an easement agreement for stormwater and two property owners to the east have signed easement agreements for stormwater installation as well. She reviewed that the maintenance agreement will be sufficient for the continued maintenance and



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that the City's land use attorney has advised that a maintenance agreement is the best way to proceed as it will stay with the property and continue with the plat which will be legally binding upon recording with the County. All bases should be covered with the agreement. She also noted that, to Councilmember Chociej's question about building on the street in the future, the City would be able to build out infrastructure by maintaining the right-of way.

There were no public comments.

Councilmember Inman mentioned other private streets that have asked for City maintenance on those private streets and would that be a possibility in this case. Ms. Kneller acknowledged that they could ask, however this agreement being legally binding will give the City standing. She noted that whoever owns the lots or homes will be responsible equally.

Mayor Flora asked for Ms. Smith to speak to other developments with issues like this. Ms. Smith agreed that there are two locations where private streets exist, the two Councilmember Inman referenced were thought to be private streets however they were intended not to be, and the Council accepted those as City streets many years ago. She stated there is no ironclad way to keep residents of a private street from every approaching the City to take them over, but she believes Mr. Heaven's suggestion for the Maintenance Agreement being recorded and a legend to be included on the plat will assist. Mayor Flora stated her preference for having the legend being on the plat along with recording the maintenance agreement. Ms. Smith reminded her this Council cannot bind future Councils, however it will be noted in the minutes this Council's intention is for this to remain a private street.

Deputy City Administrator Brian Scott stated that Staff has been very adamant with the Applicant that the street will remain a private street.

Councilmember Loudon asked for clarification that the maintenance agreement will include snow removal and other maintenance. Mr. Scott confirmed that is correct, they will be responsible for snow removal, asphalt maintenance and that the residents of the private street will be responsible for figuring out how that maintenance happens. Ms. Loudon followed up to ask why the Applicant wanted a private street. Mr. Scott stated that keeping the street a private street allows it to be built at a much lower cost.



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Councilmember Kring asked Public Works Superintendent if he had any concerns about the proposal specifically toward stormwater. Mr. Morton stated that he does not have any concerns. A new stormwater line is going down on Riggs now which the Applicant will be able to tie into.

Moved by Kring, seconded by Ryherd to approve the resolution accepting the easements associated with the final plat of Morrison Ridge Park Second Plat including a legend to clearly indicate the maintenance of the street is the responsibility of the property owners.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Thomas, Inman, Loudon, Chociey, Davis, Ryherd, and Kring. **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Administration Committee

Councilmember Ryherd reported that the Finance & Administration Committee met on October 4 and considered four items. The meeting minutes, Automated License Plate Reader policy and MOU with the Johnson County Sheriff's Office for ALPR data storage were approved under the Consent Agenda earlier in the meeting. The 58/Nall Tax Abatement Request will be considered under the Regular Agenda this evening.

7a. 58/Nall Tax Abatement Request

Councilmember Ryherd reported that John Moffitt, Jr., of MOJO Built, LLC has formally applied for consideration of both sales and property tax abatement in connection with a proposed 77-unit multi-family project located at 58th Street and Nall. The Developer's team has worked for the last several months with staff and the City's outside consultants to reach a recommendation for Council consideration and action. Under Kansas law, various economic development incentives are available to assist cities in achieving their economic development goals. In the Economic Development Revenue Bonds Act of 1961 (the "Act"), codified as amended at K.S.A. 12-1740 et seq., the Kansas Legislature created industrial revenue bonds (IRBs) as an economic development tool for cities to stimulate economic prosperity and to promote economic stability, by providing greater employment opportunities and diversification of industry. Cities may

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consider and issue IRBs when a proposed project furthers the economic goals and objectives of the City. The statutes provide for the use of IRBs to grant a property tax exemption and/or to grant a sales tax exemption on the purchase of materials and taxable labor.

Following discussion at the October 4, 2023 Finance & Administration Committee meeting, a recommendation was made to bring the Resolution of Intent forward for public hearing on October 18, 2023 granting a 70% abatement, with the percentages attributed to various criteria. A detailed memorandum, cost benefit analysis report and additional materials outlining the potential financial benefits of the project to the City and other taxing jurisdictions have been provided.

She shared that, upon adoption of the Resolution, the City will request a sales tax exemption certificate for the project from the Department of Revenue. The remaining procedural steps detailed in the attached memorandum will occur following construction of the project to satisfy the requirements outlined in the IRB statutes.

Moved by Ryherd, seconded by Chociej to approve the Resolution of Intent determining and declaring the intent of the City of Mission, Kansas issue Industrial Revenue Bonds in the amount not to exceed \$20,000,000 to finance the costs of acquiring, constructing, improving and equipping a commercial multifamily facility for the benefit of MOJO Built, LLC and its successors and assigns.

Councilmember Davis stated that he has concerns about the abatement and disagrees with the percentages assigned for attainable housing and environmental design adjustments that have been made and he does not believe that the project should receive the 70% abatement, therefore, he will not vote for the project.

Councilmember Thomas asked for information from the Developer's team and the Green Globes rating system. She would like to know if the energy efficient transportation item is connected to EV chargers. The Developers team confirmed that is correct, they believe there will 2-4 chargers.

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Councilmember Thomas stated that she shared some of Councilmember Davis's concerns, and she appreciates the Staff's changes as they work toward a new approach of economic development tools. She believes this project does align with Council goals and will vote yes.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Thomas, Loudon, Inman, Chocie, and Ryherd.
Voting NAY: Kring, Davis. **Motion Carried.**

Community Development Committee

Councilmember Loudon reported that the Community Development Committee also met on October 4 and considered 7 items. The meeting minutes, 61st Street and Broadmoor Street Pedestrian Improvements Project, 2025 Street Preservation Program Projects and SMP Funding, Powell Community Center Kitchen Floor Replacement and Adult Lounge Furniture for the Powell Community Center were approved under the Consent Agenda earlier in the meeting. The Johnson Drive Phase II (Metcalf to Lamar) Project Survey and Mohawk Park Playground Equipment Purchase will be considered under the Regular Agenda this evening.

7b. Johnson Drive Phase II (Metcalf to Lamar) Project Survey

Councilmember Loudon explained that The Johnson Drive Phase II project (Metcalf to Lamar) is included in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and 5-year CARS Program for construction in 2026 at an estimated cost of \$12,609,901. The scope of work includes full depth pavement reconstruction, sidewalk and retaining walls, stormwater improvements, traffic signal buyout and replacement of streetlights, installation of a HAWK pedestrian signal at Riggs and various streetscape improvement. The stormwater and sidewalk improvements will trigger the need for the City to acquire easements or additional right-of-way as a significant portion of the existing stormwater facilities and sidewalks are located outside of the right-of-way or existing easements. The estimated right-of-way/easements needed for the project total 31,515 sq. ft. with an estimated cost of \$1,135,000.00. The acquisition of the additional right-of-way and easements would be handled through an outside appraiser/consultant in 2025 due to the Federal guidelines associated with this project.

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This task order with Olsson includes survey services for the roadway and stormwater infrastructure. On May 23, 2023, the Mission Johnson Drive Rehabilitation project was programmed through MARC-STP for 2026 construction with funds at 80/20 for construction and construction inspection up to the maximum of \$6,000,000. Due to the timeline provided through the Kansas Department of Transportation, completing the survey work in 2023 will keep this project on track to advertise for bids in December 2025. There were no public comments.

Moved by Loudon, seconded by Chociej to approve a task order with Olsson for engineering services for survey work associated with the Johnson Drive Phase II (Metcalf to Lamar) project in an amount not to exceed \$76,869.00

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Inman, Thomas, Loudon Chociej, Davis, Ryherd, and Kring. **Motion Carried.**

Mohawk Park Playground Equipment Purchase

Councilmember Loudon explained that the playground at Mohawk Park was installed in 1996, prior to the City's acquisition of the property. In August 2020, the playground received a significant infusion of replacement pieces to bring it up to the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards. With the conceptual redesign of Mohawk Park, replacement of the playground was identified as a component of the Phase II project.

During the conceptual design process, the stakeholder group and the larger public were educated on Mission's Communities for All Ages goals. An important consideration in all future park improvements was making inclusive playgrounds a priority. The existing design of the Mohawk Park playground does not meet the higher standard of 'All Abilities' or inclusive design. All Abilities play features and spaces follow the tenets of 'Universal Design and have far-reaching benefits, not just for users but also for caregivers.

Confluence reached out to several major playground manufacturers and solicited quotes for inclusive playground concepts. Staff and Confluence reviewed each option, weighing public and stakeholder feedback, and chose



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Game Time's conceptual layout from the regional distributor, Cunningham Recreation.

Staff discussed the associated costs with Cunningham Recreation representatives. Cunningham Recreation can procure significant discounts, which they call "grants," when equipment is ordered in bulk prior to the end of year. These grants have a limited funding period and would require Mission to purchase the equipment by October 27, 2023 and store it until the project is bid and ready for construction. Taking advantage of this funding option will save the City approximately \$216,744. In addition to the Game Time grant, staff recently applied to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for a grant to fund the Phase II improvements at Mohawk Park.

Installation is estimated for the Summer of 2024. Mission Public Works has agreed to store the playground equipment at their outdoor space south of the shop.

Councilmember Thomas asked Mayor Flora about her comments at the Committee Meeting for resolution to the inspection period. Mayor Flora asked Parks + Recreation Director Penn Almoney to speak to that. He confirmed that the contract has been revised to allow for inspection upon opening rather than in the 60-day timeframe after delivery. Councilmember Thomas pointed out that these improvements are part of a multi-million-dollar investment in the City's parks after many years of planning.

Andy Akright of Mission, KS expressed his appreciation of parks in the region that have all-inclusive playgrounds and that inclusive playground equipment allows everyone to enjoy play spaces. He completely and whole-heartedly supports the playground purchase.

Councilmember Loudon thanked Mr. Almoney for going above and beyond for adding inclusive playground equipment to the park plans. She believes this will add Mission as a City that considers all ages and all abilities.

Councilmember Chociey highlighted the savings Mr. Almoney was able to find for this project and thanked him.

Councilmember Ryherd echoed the other Councilmember comments. She also shared that photos of the playground concept were shared on social media and

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members of the group were very excited. She also thanked Mr. Almoney and Staff.

Moved by Loudon, seconded by Chociej to approve a contract with Cunningham Recreation for Mohawk Park inclusive playground equipment partial order in an amount not to exceed \$226,428.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Inman, Thomas, Loudon, Chociej, Davis, Ryherd, and Kring. **Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Flora explained that there was no unfinished business tonight.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Flora explained that there was no new business tonight.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Kring shared that a Ward III Meeting will be held the following evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Powell Community Center and invited all residents to attend.

Councilmember Thomas shared that she is grateful to all of the citizens who have attended and spoke at the meeting tonight. She also shared that Mayor Flora will be getting married this weekend at City Hall and she has been asked to officiate the proceedings along with the families. She offered her congratulations.

Councilmember Davis shared that there will be a Ward IV meeting on Tuesday, November 14 at the Powell Community Center at 7:00 p.m. and that all are welcome to attend. He also offered his thanks to Public Works and Mr. Morton for their completion of the paving on 61st Terrace. He also mentioned that the new Broadmoor Park Trail is looking great and congratulated Mr. Almoney on that work.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

Sustainability Commission (Kring/Thomas)

Councilmember Kring shared that a meeting was held on Monday, October 2.



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She stated that people are doing phenomenal things and give great feedback on what the City can do. New developments in the City are also being evaluated to ensure they are being built with sustainability in mind. She gave a shoutout to Terri Baugh who gave a run down of the Go Green! 2023 Environmental Fair from September.

Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission (Loudon/Ryherd)

Councilmember Loudon reported that the Commission met on October 16. The group will be doing fall tree planting, and the Sustainability Commission will be planting a celebration tree along Johnson Drive. The Commission is also wanting to see a piece in the Mission Magazine about spring planting. She also shared that many bidders came to the pre-bid meeting for Water Works Park and they are hopeful for competitive bids. She also shared that the Broadmoor Trail is almost complete and a ribbon cutting will be held. Mission was listed as #14 as a family friendly city by OpenDoor which is very exciting.

Mission Magazine Editorial Board (Boultinghouse)

Councilmember Boultinghouse shared that he was unable to attend the last board meeting and asked Ms. Smith to give a report. Ms. Smith shared that the fourth issue of the year was uploaded that day and is themed around pets. She shared that there are many businesses that support pets in Mission. The final issue of 2023 will be themed around arts and culture, and the Board is discussing themes for next year as well.

Family Adoption Committee (Chociej)

Councilmember Chociej shared that the Family Adoption Committee met on September 26 and are in the full swing of arranging logistics and working with community partners. A pickup date has been changed in December to better align with the school winter break dates. He also shared that Amazon wishlists are setup and working and have been piloted with the Committee. The Police and Public Works Departments have been coordinating to help as well.

Councilmember Thomas asked to add one additional comment. She shared that she serves on the Shawnee Mission North Art Gallery Patrons Board. The gallery recently reopened, and she thanked those who have helped get the gallery back open. She also shared that a \$10,000.00 donation was given to help set up a scholarship fund as an art scholarship is not currently offered at Shawnee Mission North.

Ms. Smith shared that the art gallery will be featured in the fifth issue of the Mission Magazine at the end of the year.



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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Flora, speaking on her own behalf only, shared that she recognizes the pain that Jewish and Palestinian members of our community are feeling in response to the events carried out by Hamas on Saturday, October 7. She shared that her heart goes out to all, and she mourns with them.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Smith shared that the energy audit grant program, which awarded 15 grants to various homes and types, is complete with a lot of interest in the program from residents. Staff is now working on sharing out the collected information and then moving into awarding grants for improvements. A virtual meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24 for anyone interested in hearing about the results of the audits.

Councilmember Kring mentioned that schematics of the audits were reviewed at Sustainability Commission and she really enjoyed learning more about the process.

Ms. Smith also shared that Spooky Walk will be held Friday, October 21 at Steramway Park with a shuttle from Broadmoor Park. She also encouraged people to drive down Foxridge Drive, which is almost complete and looking great. She did share that the traffic signal for the project is on order, but unfortunately not arrived yet. Ms. Smith She also mentioned that the Broadmoor Park trail is looking good and encouraged use of it while the fall weather is still favorable. Additionally, bids will be opened the next day for the Water Works Park improvements, with approval coming in November. Ms. Smith next shared that a holiday window decorating contest will begin in November with 23 businesses signed up to participate.

City Clerk Robyn Fulks gave business updates to the Mayor and Council:

- Kawai Piano Gallery of Kansas City is now open at 5930 Broadmoor Street
- Bricks and Minifigs (a Lego resale shop) will open in November at 5327 Johnson Drive with a ribbon cutting scheduled for Thursday, November 9 at 8:30 a.m.
- Kitchen Bath and Home, a cabinet showroom, will open in 5801 Johnson Drive in early November. A grand opening will happen in November as well.
- Key Salon will open in November 6001 Johnson Drive Ste A.
- Prairie Sailor, a new retail and bicycle shop, has a grand opening



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- scheduled for November 11 at 5811 Johnson Drive
- The Big Biscuit is tentatively scheduled to open in late November at 7017 Johnson Drive
- The Other Place – Mission is tentatively scheduled to open in late November at 6522 Martway Street
- Los Gallitos, taking the place of the former Salsa Grill, is scheduled to open in November as well at 6508 Martway.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Flora explained that there was a need for an executive session tonight.

The Mayor explained that the Governing Body will adjourn to Executive Session for the allotted time. When that time has expired, the Governing Body will reconvene to do one of the following. Either extend the time required for discussion and return to the Executive Session or return and continue with the City Council meeting.

Mayor Flora shared a reminder that the Governing Body may take no binding action in an Executive Session. She noted that with only one item of business pending, she would entertain a motion.

Moved by Kring, seconded by Chociej that the recess to executive session in accordance with K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1) for the discussion of personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Also attending the executive session will be City Attorney Dave Martin, Deputy City Administrator for Administrative Services Emily Randel and City Administrator Laura Smith. The open meeting will resume in the Council Chambers at 9:09 p.m. (30 minutes).

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Ryherd, Davis, Inman, Kring, Thomas, Loudon, and Chociej. Motion Carried.

The Council returned to the Council Chambers at 9:09 p.m. and Mayor Flora noted that no further action was required by the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Flora announced that the public video from tonight's meeting will be available through a link on the City's website - missionks.org.

Moved by Kring, seconded by Chociej to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m.



MINUTES OF THE MISSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING

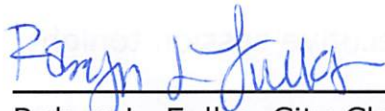
October 18, 2023

All present voted AYE. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted by Robyn L. Fulks, City Clerk.



Solana Flora, Mayor



Robyn L. Fulks, City Clerk