

CITY OF SPRING HILL  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
**MINUTES**  
July 9, 2020  
7:00 P.M.

**Mayor Steve Ellis**

**Councilmembers in Attendance:** **Chris Leaton** (arrived after the start of the meeting)  
**Steve Owen**  
**Tyler Graves**  
**Chad Eckert**  
**Andrea Hughes**

**Councilmembers Absent:**

**Staff in Attendance:** **Jim Hendershot, City Administrator**  
**Melanie Landis, Assistant City Administrator**  
**Glenda Gerrity, City Clerk**  
**Patrick Burton, Community Development Dir.**  
**Cindy Henson, Chief of Police**  
**Dave Hogue, Lieutenant**

**Consultants in Attendance:** **Frank Jenkins, City Attorney**

(Spring Hill City Council Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 p.m.)

**CALL TO ORDER**

**INVOCATION**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** -- our Invocation. Councilwoman Hughes has graciously agreed to lead us in prayer tonight. For those of you who wish to, please stand and join us.

**MS. HUGHES:** Dear Lord, we come to you this evening and enjoy in being together in our Council Chambers and being able to discuss the City business here tonight. We ask that You give us guidance on doing what's best for our City and to help and protect our City. We pray that You will look over us this evening and throughout our lives. Amen.

**COUNCILMEMBERS:** Amen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And if you would continue standing for the Pledge.

(Pledge of Allegiance)

**ROLL CALL**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Madam Clerk, would you call the roll, please?

**MS. GERRITY:** Mr. Leaton.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Mr. Leaton will be a few minutes late, Madam Clerk.

**MS. GERRITY:** Sure. Mr. Owen.

**MR. OWEN:** Here.

**MS. GERRITY:** Mr. Graves.

**MR. GRAVES:** Here.

**MS. GERRITY:** Mr. Eckert.

**MR. ECKERT:** Here.

**MS. GERRITY:** Mrs. Hughes.

**MS. HUGHES:** Here.

**MS. GERRITY:** Mayor, we have a quorum present.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Thank you very much.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** The next item will be approval of the Agenda. We have two people who have signed up to speak for an item that is already on the agenda. However, it's Item Number 7. Rather than asking those folks to wait until the conclusion of the official portion of the meeting, I'd like to move Number 7, take it out of order right after Citizen Participation. That way those folks can go ahead and be heard on those issues. And if they'd like to leave, they would be able to. Any Council requested changes or deletions? Hearing none, I would entertain --

**MS. HUGHES:** Actually.

**MR. OWEN:** Mrs. Hughes, you want to do it?

**MS. HUGHES:** Yes. I believe we'd like to move into Discussions, the budgetary review of revenue projections such as income and spending. We're just wanting to -- Mr. Hendershot had sent an email saying he was going to go over some items about projected revenue shortfalls.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Uh-huh.

**MS. HUGHES:** And we'd just like to move that into Discussion rather than Reports.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** That will be Item 11

**MR. OWEN:** Yes

**MAYOR ELLIS:** and that will be Spending Plan.

**MS. HUGHES:** Perfect.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Any other requested additions or deletions? Hearing none, I would entertain a motion to approve the agenda as amended.

**MR. ECKERT:** So moved.

**MR. OWEN:** Second.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** We have a motion and a second. All those in favor?

**COUNCILMEMBERS:** Aye.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Motion carries 4-0-0.

*[Therefore, the motion was made by Councilmember Eckert and seconded by Councilmember Owen to approve the Agenda as amended to take Item 7 after Citizen Participation and to add Item 11, Spending Plan. The motion carried 4-0-0.]*

### **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** The next item is Citizen Participation. This is an opportunity in the meeting for residents to address the Council on items not already on the agenda. Anyone wishing to do so, we'd just ask that you step up to the lectern and state your name and address for the record.

Mr. Holland and Mr. Stecklein, we're going to take your two items and take those out of order on our Number 7. So, I'll call -- is it Mr. Holle? Did I pronounce your name correctly?

Okay. If you wouldn't mind, could you step up to the lectern and provide the Clerk with your name and address? Good evening.

**MR. LEATON:** Sorry. I've been at my son's baseball game.

**MR. HOLLE:** Brett Holle, 21093 Millridge Street.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Go ahead, Mr. Holle.

**MR. HOLLE:** Last year on May 4<sup>th</sup>, my car was illegally towed by Spring Hill Police Department. I had a tow dispute about it and the judge specifically said that police officers are not required by law to keep accurate time records. I asked for the body camera footage and they didn't say anything about the body camera footage, so they violated KORA law, Kansas Open Records Act, which requires them to have a Freedom of Information officer. And so I got the body camera footage. And I'm sure you guys know how a file works. If you right click properties it shows a timestamp of when the file was made, which shows a time of 11:04. And the time on the tow sticker was 11:30. So, I'd like to petition the City Council for a redress of grievances.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Mr. Holle, there is actually a statutory formula for filing a claim against a municipality. And while I'm happy to ask the City Attorney to speak with you, he wouldn't be able to give you legal advice, but he may be able to point you in a direction. Okay.

**MR. HOLLE:** Okay.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** But there is an actual process that has to be followed.

**MR. HOLLE:** Okay.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. So, Mr. Jenkins, if you wouldn't mind speaking with Mr. Holle. Maybe if you could take a few minutes and step out into the hallway and speak with him now, at least exchange some contact information so the two of you can talk. Thank you, Mr. Holle.

And, Mr. Boswell.

**MR. BOSWELL:** Steve Boswell, 504 North Jackson, Spring Hill. I have a couple things I would like to address. The first being last -- well, it was two meetings ago I brought in a sample of water from across the street and was told that they're working on a solution for that issue. Since looked up the blueprints from the new construction and stuff, found out they crushed a pipe -- or filled a pipe with cement. Everything was drained to the back originally and it was fine, not a problem. So, that when they did this new construction this became a new issue. I'm just asking the Council or Mr. Hendershot, the City Administrator, where have we gone with the -- where have we gone with the, like, where are we going forward with this?

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** Do you want me to respond, Mayor?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yeah. Just a moment. Yes, please.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** Okay. Since you were in two meetings ago, we have taken elevations of the ditch to find that it is extremely flat. We have talked with the owner of the property, the adjacent property. We're now looking into the possibility of entirely piping that section, tying our drainage system into that drainpipe. That way we can elevate it and do some adjustments to get that to float. It's just so extremely flat right there it's difficult to get any flow. So, we're looking into those prices as to what it may take. And I don't think it's going to be a substantial cost. We should be able to do something there. But we have done a considerable amount of work and communication with the property owner there. So, we're proceeding.

**MR. BOSWELL:** I appreciate your diligence on that issue.

The other issue I had that I wanted to speak with the Council about is setting precedents. When the City of Spring Hill has codes and they're there to keep the City looking good and safe and other things, I was in here, oh, it had to have been last year. And I had made comment on the City itself not following its own codes. In example, there was by the old tower there was weeds literally growing up over the six-foot tall fence. And, of course, the storage container that you guys have sitting right behind City Hall. That doesn't show a good relationship between the community and the City by the City saying do as I say not as I do. It's also one of the things that needs to -- I feel should be addressed as well because I guarantee you the City has definitely come down on me extremely hard with -- because I have -- I am a messy person. You know, I'll be the first to admit. But the City has come down on me extremely hard, never offering me a fine, only sending me to jail for code violations. And it's really offensive to me when I see the City says, oh, we are exempt from our own codes. We don't have to follow the codes. You know, and that makes me feel as though the City is somehow above the law, that the laws that they make for their citizens. And I don't think that's fair. And I don't think that's appropriate or right at all. And by all means, I think it should be addressed. It's not very much.

The City does a pretty good job for the most part of taking care of the properties. There's a few places like right on the corner there across from the old pool that, you know, could definitely use some mowing because it's hard to see for traffic. And whether the City does that or property owner, I don't know who, nonetheless, it needs to be mowed. And if you're going to enforce the codes, which I, you know, I'm all for, they need to be enforced more uniformly instead of hyper-focusing on certain people while other people are left to do whatever they want.

Like, for instance, in my neighborhood, we'll say, I've been hyper-focused on, and I understand because my property was an absolute mess. But there has been a car right up the street in plain view that's had pallets stacked behind it for over a year. I have notified the City about it. They've done nothing. I've also noticed

that there is a trailer, or two trailers actually, parked in the grass in the back of somebody's house. And I don't, you know, these are things I don't really care about. But if I'm going to jail over having a lawnmower sitting out by my driveway because it's considered in the right-of-way and having weeds or grass that's too tall, when I make considerable -- when I make -- when I make statements and I point things out, I expect them to also be addressed. It's been over a year since those trailers have been there. And Mr. Wempe says we've been working with them, we've been working with them. Well, I'm very glad and quite frankly I don't think you need to bother the poor guy. But on the same hand, I think that it should be equal justice for all. And the City is not really showing that. I don't know if it's the City Administrator's issue.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** We're not going to talk about individuals. But, Mr. Boswell, I think it's fair to say that the City has been fair with you.

**MR. BOSWELL:** Oh.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** It wasn't -- you didn't go to jail after your first offense. You didn't go to jail after your second offense. There was also a time where the City paid for a dumpster for you, is that correct?

**MR. BOSWELL:** That is incorrect. The City sent me a bill.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. But the City provided the money for the dumpster so you could clean up, right?

**MR. BOSWELL:** Yeah. I was -- I was unaware -- I was unaware that they were going to charge me for this dumpster. And the City did offer to help out and I was well over -- well, happy to take the help. And this would have been my I believe second offense for this whole probation thing.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Second offense while on probation?

**MR. BOSWELL:** No. Second offense, like what put me on probation again. Because it was interesting after the first probation, they immediately cited Storm as a violation for codes because of what -- my service animal for what he was. But they waited until the day I got off probation to cite me. And then I had to go through the paperwork and show them all the paperwork and the doctors' letters and everything else, and the psychiatrist's notes. And then the City made a, what do they call it, an acceptance -- an exception for Storm. But other than that --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I think really what my point is, Mr. Boswell, is that there wasn't a first offense and you went to jail, right?

**MR. BOSWELL:** No. It was not a first offense that I went to jail for, but it was also immediately offenses that they would immediately come out and force me to fix and always write me a ticket for. And they're not doing that with several other people.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Mr. Burton, I'd like to make certain that the issues that were raised by Mr. Boswell are getting addressed, and I'd like to make certain that citations are being issued in the manner in which they are consistently done. I don't believe it's our practice to write a citation on the first offense. Okay. But I would like you to evaluate and ensure that the practice is being equitably employed across the City. Okay.

**MR. BOSWELL:** May I ask you --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And also if the grass is too tall out at the -- you said it was at the storage tank?

**MR. BOSWELL:** Oh, it was --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** It is still too tall?

**MR. BOSWELL:** I have no idea. I didn't check lately.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Check on that for me, please, as well as what's with the storage container, Mr. Hendershot?

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** I'll take care of it.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. You're right. The City needs to follow its own rules too. But I do want to make sure that the consistent story is what's being told.

**MR. BOSWELL:** Yes. The consistency is something that I am very much pushing for. I mean I understand that there is a reason for the codes, and I understand that my property was absolutely very messy. And I kind -- it kind of ebb and flows. I get busy and then I've got ADHD. So, sometimes I lose track of time -- of things and it kind of ebb and flows. And it has been nice with the previous officers being willing to come and say, hey, do this, this, and this. And it hasn't been so easy with Mr. Wempe because he doesn't give me an exact, like what needs to be done. He just says get -- take care of the code violations. And I'm looking at, okay, what's code violation and it's left up to so much interpretation that I'm just sitting here with my head spinning confused.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Are you saying that you're being issued a citation that doesn't have a code section?

**MR. BOSWELL:** Oh, it has a code section, but they're left open to interpretation. It's like four-wheelers for instance.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. So, I'm going to ask Mr. Wempe -- we don't need to litigate it here.

**MR. BOSWELL:** Yes. Yes.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Mr. Burton, if you would work with Mr. Boswell, I want to make certain there is no confusion.

**MR. BURTON:** Right. So, I just asked Mr. Boswell what time I could go by his house tomorrow.

**MR. BOSWELL:** Yeah. He did.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** When can Mr. Burton come by tomorrow.

**MR. BURTON:** [Inaudible; talking off mic.]

**MR. BOSWELL:** Yeah. We're --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Oh, you've already [inaudible].

**MR. BOSWELL:** I just wanted to voice my concerns with Council.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Very good. Okay.

**MR. BOSWELL:** So, that way we're on the same page.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yes.

**MR. BOSWELL:** Okay.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Mr. Burton, thank you very much. Anything else, Mr. Boswell?

**MR. BOSWELL:** I appreciate your time and I'm hope -- I'm looking forward to the discussion about the golf carts.

**MR. LEATON:** And also, he mentioned the grass across from the old pool.

**MR. BOSWELL:** Oh, yes.

**MR. BURTON:** I wrote that down too.

**MR. LEATON:** I just wanted to make sure [inaudible].

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay.

**MR. BOSWELL:** Thank you.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Thank you very much.

**MR. BOSWELL:** Thank you.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** The floor remains open. Hearing none, we'll go ahead and close that portion of the program and we'll move on to Item Number 7, which we're taking out of order.

(The Council moved on to discussion of Item Number 7)

## DISCUSSION

### 7. Golf Carts and Low Speed Vehicles in the City

**MAYOR ELLIS:** This is a discussion on golf carts and low speed vehicles in the City. Mr. Jenkins, is it you or Chief Henson? Both names are listed. All right. Chief, very good.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Good evening. Earlier this year, we began to -- my glasses will fog up here -- began to receive some inquiries on the legalization of golf carts, especially in the neighborhoods where there are pools. As a result, I began to explore some options for your consideration.

There are several cities in Miami County that have legalized golf carts and UTVs for use on city streets with the most recent being the City of Louisburg. In Johnson County, Lenexa is the only city that legalizes golf carts. No other city in Johnson County authorizes golf carts and none in Johnson County authorizes UTVs. ATVs are excluded from private use on city streets by all cities.

So, I have put this picture up because there's differences. And so I wanted to be able to describe the differences between them of what an ATV is, a UTV, a slow or a low speed vehicle, and a golf cart. An ATV is usually meant for single riders. It's smaller and usually the driver straddles the seat. A UTV is typically a side-by-side set-up with a steering wheel and they may have a roll cage enclosure. Low speed vehicles are designed to travel above -- up to 25 miles per hour and they're typically electric vehicles. A standard golf cart is light. It's about 1,800 pounds and it's designed to travel no faster than 25 miles per hour. However, you can modify these golf carts to travel at higher speeds, which would then classify them as a low speed vehicle or a utility vehicle, UTV, depending on the modifications.

The state of Kansas does require UTVs and low speed vehicles as motor vehicles and, therefore, they need to be equipped with lights, mirrors, brakes, et cetera, as well as being registered and insured. Golf carts,

typically they're not allowed to be driven outside of sunrise to sunset unless they are equipped with lights and a slow-moving sign placard on the back.

So, our current ordinances that we have and the STOs basically, we do not allow for any of these vehicles to be on any city street within the City limits. We just don't allow it.

So, there are some things that I'd like you to consider. Options for consideration of authorizing golf carts and UTVs and low speed vehicles. Both, for all of these vehicles, it is our recommendation that the drivers be non-restricted valid licensed drivers, which means they all have to be 17 years of age. Golf carts may only operate from sunrise to sunset unless we want to extend that to nighttime in which case, they would have to have lights and things of that nature.

UTVs and low speed vehicles, they would also be required to have insurance and go through a registration and inspection process. And then we could specify the streets for UTVs and low speed vehicles either anything under 35 miles an hour or specific streets. With golf carts, it would be 25 miles an hour or less, which limits them pretty much to residential streets.

We'd also need to address the issue with golf carts, UTVs, ATVs on private property where there's acreage. Because currently the ordinances would read that that is not even allowed on property with acreage.

Based on my conversations with agencies who have allowed golf carts and UTVs for a while, they have not seen an increase in traffic crashes or issues. Lenexa reports that most of their calls for service have been underage drivers, unlawful riding or under the influence drivers. Paola, when they instituted the rules, they anticipated issues. But the reality is it hasn't been a big problem that they've seen so far. They have about 30 UTVs registered. And all drivers, regardless of type of vehicle used, has to have an unrestricted driver's license, 17 years or older. The state requires low speed vehicles to be registered, carry insurance, and have a valid ID, have seatbelts. And obviously like I said earlier, if you modify a golf cart to meet the definitions of a low speed vehicle that golf cart would have to follow under those same guidelines.

Traditional golf carts don't require registration or insurance but would require a license to operate on public streets. And again, as I said before, if you wanted them at night, we'd have to have lights and low reflectors and slow moving emblems.

Louisburg, Paola, and Osawatomie all have very similar ordinances. All three require the driver's to be licensed without restrictions, so the graduated license requirements would not apply in these cases. Both of them -- all of them use some sort of vendor that gives tags and renewal stickers. There are fees that are associated with those registrations and renewals. And then, of course, all traffic laws would apply, including driving under the influence. You've got to stop at the stop signs, use a turn signal or a hand signal. You can only carry the number of passengers per seats, et cetera.

When looking at our accidents from last year, we had 119 in 2019, which was up from 2018. However, due to COVID and the limited amount of traffic we've been seeing in Spring Hill, we have 30 accidents to date, which is half of what we had this time last year. Last year, we had 14 injury accidents and to date we've had 6.

So, these are the basic facts and information that I have for you today. Should you decide to move forward on the creation of an ordinance to legalize golf carts or UTVs and/or both, I have several examples to work from to be able to provide you an ordinance.

Any questions?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I think there's been a general appetite for it. I'd like to hear from at least Mr. Holland and Mr. Stecklein. Those are the two people who have signed up to talk tonight. And, of course, anyone else who would like to be heard on the subject is welcome to as well. Mr. Holland, you were first to sign up.

**MR. HOLLAND:** Hello.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Welcome.

**MR. HOLLAND:** It's good to see you all again. I, first of all, wanted to come up and advocate for the use of UTVs and ATVs and the worksite utility vehicles, all these vehicles on the City streets. I think it would be awesome for the community. I think there's a lot of community members that weren't, you know, they weren't in a position to be able to come down here today and advocate for it, and I'd like to be here to advocate for them.

I have a UTV myself. I love it. My kids love it, being able to use it around town. A few highlights though that, you know, I agree with a lot of what the Chief said, you know, having a driver's license, you know, make sure you have liability insurance. I think those are very important things. Lights if you're going to be up and everything after dark. One thing I would like to encourage the Council, you know, is that, you know, pass something that we can get out there and enjoy these vehicles on. I'd really appreciate that.

Also one thing, in my research, I also looked around Kansas, the state of Kansas to see all the different cities and how they implemented it in different ways. And one thing that I saw was some cities had fees and registration fees and yearly fees that were very cost prohibitive, you know, some up to like \$100-150 a year, which in my eyes I think that's, you know, I don't want to price community members out of being able to partake in these activities every year. So, while I personally am not necessarily against some, you know, type of payment, you know, get a sticker, something like that, you know, other people may feel differently, but I would like to encourage to keep fees low if we do decide to go that route. That way more community members can participate in this.

And on my UTV, I have a rearview mirror. I actually have three of them. But, you know, just having one I think is very important. I'm not sure if that was mentioned earlier. But some type of rearview mirror I think is very important too, and I'd also like to encourage the vehicles to have a rearview mirror.

And that's it.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Thank you.

**MR. HOLLAND:** Thank you very much.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Mr. Stecklein. It is nigh on impossible to recognize people from the eyes up, so welcome.

**MR. STECKLEIN:** Thank you. I'm here to show my support for the golf carts. I kind of stirred the pot on it maybe of getting it in here. Thank you for all the information. That was awesome.

This golf cart on the right, top right, that's actually a street legal vehicle. Our neighbor has one of those. I have a lot of neighbors that have golf carts, spend a ton of money on golf carts. And now instantly two years into moving into my subdivision they all stopped going on golf carts. Like my golf cart is ragged out, barely goes over eight miles an hour. But me and the boys and the wife like cruising the neighborhood. I mean it's very socializing. Like especially during COVID, I'm not admitting that I was driving on the roads, but going around to neighbors' houses, I mean you talk --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** If you wanted to you could, right?

**MR. STECKLEIN:** You talk to neighbors that you would never talk to. Like you see somebody, you say hi while you're on a golf cart. It's very open and mine goes eight miles per hour. So, somebody mow faster than me literally. My kids race down the sidewalk just to beat me all the time.

I think it's smart. It's extra revenue. Like I mean it could only be 30 bucks a year for a permit or make it a \$300 lifetime pass. So, that way if somebody moves in five years you've still got their money. Or I mean most people probably won't live in Spring Hill for more than ten years. So, you'll cover it for the next ten years. I don't see any issues with it besides if people are naïve and tear through people's yards. I mean I could see it being an issue then. But living in Brookwood Farms, I've never seen anybody -- I have seen one guy, it was like that's questionable, but it was never -- it's more of something to take to the pool. I mean my wife goes by herself with three kids and 20 floaties and 10 scuba gear. Like there's a lot -- we only live a block away, but there is a ton of stuff to take. And also, we're going to have a lake soon for fishing. It would be nice to be able to take our fishing gear there and not have to park our car in somebody's, you know, in front of their house or worry about our car being out there by the road or whatever, getting hit.

I do think insurance is smart. I would like to ask that the driver's license thing be a little lenient for the fact of I was probably six years old, seven years old when my dad taught me how to drive sitting on his lap going down the country road. I mean not the smartest thing in the world, but nobody ever pulled us over. I would like to teach my kids how to drive on an eight mile per hour golf cart as long as there's a valid driver's license in the golf cart. Just I think that's a lot safer than here is a car. A car does 90 miles an hour or whatever. And I don't have a brake like a driver's ed teacher.

There's a lot of people on board with it, but it's hard to get people to show up on an issue unless it affects them directly like the internet, not Brookwood Farms though. But I would like to ask that we take it to a vote on an ordinance if we could. And that's it. That's all I got.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** If we could go back, Mr. Boswell.

**MR. STECKLEIN:** One last thing.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Oh, certainly, Mr. Stecklein.

**MR. STECKLEIN:** I don't know if it's possible, but I wasn't looking for like people to go drive to Casey's. I mean I get it. Everybody is going to want to do that or go to the trails or Veterans Park or whatever. That makes sense, but it would be kind of dangerous crossing a highway. I know Lenexa has an ordinance of if you do cross a major road you have to go from one road to the other directly. You can't, you know, go on the highway or like I'm not asking for what bicycles get or --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Thank you, Mr. Stecklein. Mr. Boswell.

**MR. BOSWELL:** I'm elated that the conversation came up about the golf carts. I also want to make sure that the older part of Spring Hill is included as far as being able to use them because from what I've heard we're talking about running to the private pools and the newer areas, et cetera, and so on. But I do know that people in the older part of Spring Hill also like to congregate. And my neighbor uses his -- my neighbor has a golf cart. And I won't say whether they or they don't but go around and visit with others because it's also good if you're less mobile, can't walk that good, stuff like that. It helps get people out more into the community. And I think it's a good thing.

As far as registrations go, cost of registration is fairly reasonable and a great idea because these light vehicles don't really damage the roads. And we can use -- maybe we could use some of that money to start fixing some of the road damage that we have from the registration, you know, and get the roads back up to par which would be wonderful. And I think it could be good for honestly just the community in general.

But I appreciate the Chief bringing those -- the list of facts. That's an excellent list. I would also request a possibility on at least the golf carts or what they call the slow moving vehicles. And maybe we should require an age minimum, not necessarily a driver's license on those, just an idea. But as far as the UTVs and the LSVs, you know, I absolutely agree a driver's license would be necessary. I think it could actually help slow down some of the traffic in our town honestly because a lot of times people are traveling at much higher rates of speeds than those things go down our streets and their cars, hustling and bustling. And that's understandable. But when you have something in front of you going a lot slower than you want to go, then you have to follow the speed limit. But the other thing is that with the golf carts and ATVs or UTVs and everything else, in the MSO, I noticed she said that they're not even allowed on private property right now to be driven. And that really does not need to be addressed, not just because I want it to be addressed because I love riding mine around my property, but because we have actual areas that have been annexed in our town that is still farm use type properties. And I know we're kind of looking the other way right now for them. But they're annexed into our City and they have to follow the codes just like everybody else. And so instead of having to look the other way, we need to find a way to make it right for those folks too. And that being said, that can also allow more people that are hesitant to be -- or to allow annexation into the City. It might allow them to feel a little freer to do so. Because if you look at the City map from the police point of view there is a -- it's like almost like a spotted dog. You've got here and here and here, and you can't go here or here. And that's all due to annexation and being allowed into the, you know, in following codes and stuff. So, I know that a lot of the farmers that are in these voided spots would appreciate being able to use their equipment and it might very easily grease the wheels to allow the City to annex into more of a clumped area. Thank you.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Thank you. Yes. Is that Mr. Peterman?

**MR. PETERMAN:** Yes, sir.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay.

**MR. PETERMAN:** I'll be short.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** By the laughter, Mr. Peterman, I think somebody was making --

**MR. PETERMAN:** Bill Peterman, 19431 -- I've been short all my life.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I think they've been making reference to your height back there.

**MR. PETERMAN:** I just want to --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** We'll let you just talk about that when you get back there.

**MR. PETERMAN:** Yeah. I just do want to say that I live in Brookwood Farms and there are people that drive golf carts. But they are very respectful. I think it is a good thing for the community. I don't know if there's a possibility of just having them stay in the small streets and not go out on like 199<sup>th</sup>. But I think liability is an important thing that as a City if you pass something, you're going to have to say that they have to have liability insurance or something or they're, you know, so it don't fall back on your guys, but. My biggest thing is I do see a good thing that comes from it in our neighborhood. And it's fun. It's fun. It gets people together. And that's what we want is a tight-knit kind of community. So, I just -- with those guys trying to talk, I just -- I thought that was an important factor to bring up. If there's a way that they can keep them just in the neighborhood and not let them running around too much, it might be a good thing to have too. So, just an --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Thank you, Mr. Peterman.

**MR. PETERMAN:** Thank you.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yes, sir.

**MR. OLSON:** Heath Olson. I'm in Brookwood Farms too. It's just going to be real quick. I obviously have a golf cart too. And what's really cool about it is when you have like Halloween and when you have Fourth of July parades. You know, three or four years ago there was like six or seven golf carts. This last time we did on the Fourth of July there was two because five other people sold their golf carts because they didn't, you know, want to get pulled over and stuff like that. But decorating it, and I've seen other neighborhoods that were doing it as well.

You know, to the point of a registration and stuff like that, I don't think any of them would have any problems with it. In Brookwood Farms, like these guys said, I know at least 10 or 15 people that would buy it if they could. And the pool, you've been to us. You've done a great job. Thank you, Chief. The last time I met you there there's not a lot of room. So, if you have six cars there, and Brookwood Farms is getting much bigger now so it's a lot more walking. The walking we don't have necessarily sidewalks everywhere. So, you are putting people maybe at risk when they're walking on the streets. And to the point what he was saying, my big concern is speeding in the neighborhood. If you're on a golf cart, they have to -- they don't go faster than 10-15 miles. And I did spend a lot on my golf cart, and I think mine goes 12 miles per hour. So, thank you.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Mr. Olson, could we get your address? I know we have Mr. Peterman's, he's spoken before. But I want to make sure the Clerk gets your address?

**MR. OLSON:** Yeah. It's 19920 Balsam Street.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Thank you very much.

**MR. OLSON:** You bet. Thank you.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Anyone else? All right. With that, Chief, could you explain for me again the efficacy of a registration fee?

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Sure.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I tend to be a little more open to remedial factors as opposed to a tax on responsibility people.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Well, Paola, Louisburg, Osawatomie all have tags. So, they issue a tag that they have each person come and verify for inspections. Does the UTV, low speed vehicle have proper working lights, taillights, signals, the mirrors, the side mirror, the rearview mirror, brakes, that sort of thing. Paola charges \$150 for the initial inspection and licensing and then \$25 every year for that to keep it renewed. Louisburg is charging \$100 with a \$50 renewal. And Osawatomie is \$200 annually regardless. I don't know what Lenexa does. Some of them, you know, I didn't ask them about their fees. There would be some time involved in that. And especially if we want to go beyond the residential.

If we are looking at strictly golf carts as an option, and to Mr. Boswell's point, we do have residential areas that aren't necessarily included or a contained subdivision, 25 miles an hour would be all it would be allowed. So, if you were in other subdivisions you could drive around in your area, or if you weren't in the subdivision like Old Town or wherever, you'd be able to drive on those City streets, but you couldn't go on Webster or any of those other places. If we were doing just golf carts, then those registrations wouldn't be required. But then there is that insurance if there is an accident that owner of those golf carts, those drivers are responsible for any accidents that they may have been involved in that would deem to be their fault if you will.

For the UTVs, this would allow people to get outside of their subdivisions to drive on streets that are 35 miles an hour, for example. It covers most of our streets. It would not cover coming outside of the subdivisions up

around 199<sup>th</sup> because there's a 45 mile an hour right there. So, you don't get to 35 until you're just right there by Woodland and Boulder Springs and that sort of thing, so.

Paola does allow -- they do allow those UTVs out and about. There's been a few of them out there.

I do have some hesitations about loosening driver's license restrictions. You know, I had to consider, and thought was would you do a graduated license and letting them start at 14 with permits or anything like that. I, you know, there are golf carts, I've seen golf carts with kids being -- driving them. And despite the best intention parents may have, kids don't necessarily always follow the rules parents ask them to do.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Shocking.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Yeah. And they're quite dangerous. And so I would want to be at least have a little bit more maturity in those vehicles because there are other motorized cars driving and you have to be alert, and so.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Well, I guess my feeling on a registration fee is that first of all, I'd rather have police officers out patrolling than I would inspecting golf carts, UTVs, et cetera. A well-drafted, well-publicized ordinance puts everyone on notice as to what's required. If they are stopped by an officer and they're not in compliance, they'll be issued a citation and they can be heard before the municipal court judge. I'm not a fan of one more fee that we put on something for somebody's recreation. I've got the same issue with dog licensing fees. So, my general feel is a well-crafted, well-detailed ordinance, publicize it. It's everyone's own responsibility to understand what the law is. And a failure to comply with it may simply result in a citation. That's my two cents. But then again, I don't get to vote on the ordinance. So, put that in the for what it's worth category. Councilmembers.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Sure. And I would want to have -- something else for consideration is would there be a limit if there are no registrations or anything like that, if there are 10 or 15 people in one subdivision that want it would we go beyond 30, would it be a hundred, will it become the norm, the typical vehicle to be driven through here? If it is and that's what we want, great. If it is something that we want to try to manage that's something to consider as well.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** But if we manage it by way of a registration fee, then that's a regressive tax. So, I'm not comfortable with that concept.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Sure. I'm just pointing out the different options --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Sure.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** -- for everyone to consider.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** No. I understand. I'm just throwing out --

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Sure.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** -- some alternatives as well. I don't know that everybody in a subdivision would end up getting one. If nothing else, I think that might end up being somewhat self-cleansing in subdivisions if they felt like they couldn't, at least in subdivisions, felt like they couldn't park anywhere, go anywhere. I have a feeling that a majority of those homeowners might make amendments to their bylaws. But that's something that each of those communities can address on their own. For the City core, I just -- I don't know that -- I don't know that it'll be a problem there either. But again, I just wanted to throw that out for the Council's consideration.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** And the other thing is the ATVs versus UTVs on a consideration on whether or not you want to include the ATV, which is the straddle more off-road type of thing. UTVs, ATVs, if they are going to be street, my recommendation would be they would follow the statutes on muffler and noise, so that we don't have -- because they can be very disruptive if those are not included.

**MR. LEATON:** So, I do have -- is it open yet?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Go ahead, yes. Absolutely.

**MR. LEATON:** So, one is speed limits. I don't like the idea of me or anybody driving down Webster and coming up on something who's going eight miles an hour. That's kind of a safety issue. So, what I'd like to have are some of these main thoroughfares, Webster, 199<sup>th</sup>, those make me nervous especially if we start talking about putting kids in front of these things on those major roads, a safety issue. That makes me a little nervous.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Sure. Well, if you have a golf cart, you would only be able to drive it on speeds under 25.

**MR. LEATON:** That's the one thing I just wanted to make sure of. Then the one thing I would possibly think of is that maybe in the ordinance provide the -- you allow it in the City as a whole. But if the HOA decides that they don't want them or this vehicle or not that vehicle, there's still a lot of the HOA possibly who have their own restrictions within the HOA because that's their own area. I don't know if you could do that or not because then --

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** I don't know if they do --

**MR. LEATON:** -- you could have somebody from the outside the area come in. So, I don't know if you'd be able to do that or not.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Yeah.

**MR. LEATON:** That's just a thought. If we are ending up going down the road that -- the other direction of the Mayor doesn't support it, but doing a license, not a license but an inspection and such, I don't support a one-time. If you're going to really do it, then you need to do it yearly. I'm not saying do a big cost to it. But the whole point is to make that it's safe and if it's on the road, then do it that way yearly. And I'm saying is that the cost, we just need to cover, I mean the fee would just need to cover our cost. That's what I would be on if we were going to go in that direction. I'm not saying I support going that way. But if that's where we go, we just need to support our cause.

**MS. HUGHES:** And if we're just doing sunrise to sunset, do we really need to go the extra length of making sure that neighborhood uncommon vehicles have --

**UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** We can't hear.

**MS. HUGHES:** Sorry. I was just wondering how significant it would be for our time for us to be going out and inspecting uncommon vehicles that are meant for neighborhood when we could just -- when we stop them, we could look and say are you compliant.

**MR. LEATON:** I wasn't advocating for it. What I was saying is if we were to go through that route.

**MS. HUGHES:** Yeah.

**MR. LEATON:** That's where I'd want the fee to be set at.

**MS. HUGHES:** Yeah. If there was one, I would agree a very small yearly fee. But I kind of lean the other way too. I think that, you know, it's more something that you take upon case by case not all at once maybe.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Well, and throughout the state we don't do vehicle inspections either.

**MS. HUGHES:** Yeah.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And any inspection is just a snapshot in time. It was compliant at that moment or it wasn't, so. And certainly, you know, if it's a matter of headlights out versus no headlights, you still have the option to issue a fix it or ticket citation, right?

**MR. LEATON:** Would we want to, you know, here is the other thing though we need to think about is if we allow them on the roads, but we don't post where they can or can't be, like I can guarantee there's going to be people driving them down Webster. So, I have to think about that there might be a cost for us to put some type of signage up or something saying don't put this type of vehicle on that road.

**MR. GRAVES:** Well, and the other thing is like knowing that those other cities do it, and they charge for it, is there something they know or have accounted for that we're not thinking of in the moment? Like Osawatomie, I think \$200 is quite high, but is there some sort of cost that we're not thinking of that justifies those type -- or is it just to get that money?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I think with Osawatomie it's revenue generation. There's not a lot of options to make money in the City of Osawatomie.

**MR. OWEN:** Well, I don't have a problem. But like the Mayor said, if we have a well-written -- actually that it explains everything and makes sure that the police know that, hey, if you check with somebody and they're in violation, they're going to get a citation, I think that's good. I would like to see some type of a liability insurance for all of them because I think there could be an issue. You know, even a golf cart going eight miles an hour and runs into somebody's car or parked car, we have a problem. And I do think licensed driver is important. So, I'd be willing to do that. Now, signage, if we want to put signage, then I think we may have to do a fee to cover the cost of that for the golf cart if we're going to pay for those signs to go up on Webster.

**MR. LEATON:** And maybe it's not an inspection fee, maybe it's just a registration fee. I don't know.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Again, somebody has got to deal with the paperwork on it. They've got to collect the money. Last year, what we collected on dog tag registrations was \$1,000 when you took into account the time, the touch, everything, all of the expenses. That is a ridiculously small amount of money for the time that it took and it's responsible people that are doing it. People who are not being responsible are not going to register their -- are not going to register their vehicles, their golf carts, and they'll just take a chance on getting cited. So, I think personal accountability is probably important. The statute, or the ordinance rather should state that liability insurance is a requirement. Licensed driver is a requirement. Just good common sense safety things. I've seen them in my neighborhood tear around corners, running stop signs with five, six people hanging onto them. So, you know, those are things that would get somebody pulled over and cited. The question though then becomes when it's an underaged driver who are we citing? Because if we cite the child, it has to go to district court. Municipal court doesn't have jurisdiction over juveniles. So, the ordinance is going to have to detail that. Is it going to be the owner of it or is it going to be the child? Does it become a juvenile offender charge?

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Well, if it's a traffic charge, if you're 14 or up, it will still go through City court.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Unless it's a misdemeanor that is --

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Right.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** -- punishable by any jail time, in which case then it has to go to district court.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Right.

**MR. OWEN:** Hopefully if they understood that, they would realize don't put your child in that situation.

**MS. HUGHES:** Well, I think we all are kind of leaning towards we would like to see an ordinance. Maybe we could have a couple drafted or one drafted, then we could talk about specifics.

**MR. OWEN:** Would there be anything from stopping us that -- we do like we talked about a written-written code -- ordinance and that's it. If we come up in four or five years and go, you know what, people are not really following this or however --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Four or five months. We could come back in four or months.

**MR. OWEN:** Yeah. We could do it -- come back and say sorry because we're going to make you pay half.

(Inaudible; Councilmembers talking over one another)

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yeah. I would rather start out less restrictive and tighten it if we need to. I think that's better than coming in so tight that nobody feels like they can actually do it or only those that can afford to at the highest level do it.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** One thing I would want to add too is that if these golf carts are left unattended, stolen, you know, put in a lake, if there's no identification on those golf carts there's no way to return them to the owner or to find out who belongs -- who the owner belongs. So, having some sort of mechanism to know who owns what could be beneficial in those particular cases.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** So, would you like to see some type of a registration?

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** I'm open to whatever you guys want.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I think the ordinance ought to say that if you reclaim one and it is unclaimed after X-amount of time, then it's sold. If I'm missing something that's important to me, I'm going to go look for it.

**MS. HUGHES:** Uh-huh.

**MR. OWEN:** And that would just show people to put some identification on it somehow.

**MS. HUGHES:** Know your serial number.

**MR. OWEN:** Or serial number or whatever you want to do.

**MR. ECKERT:** I think all of them have serial numbers and identifications.

**MR. OWEN:** Yeah. You just document it yourself so you'd have it.

**MR. ECKERT:** I think it would serve us well to review surrounding areas and review what they've put into place. That would probably benefit us. Like Councilman Graves said, we're just kind of flying by the seat of our pants here. We need -- we're not reinventing the wheel by any means. I'm certainly open to it if we could get some kind of reference point.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Mr. Peterman.

**MR. PETERMAN:** I just want to say I honestly say I honestly think that there's two different things here. There's your ATVs and your golf carts. I see people getting golf carts and they drive, well, they can't go over 12 mile an hour. I see people get on ATVs and they try to get them on their back wheels, and they go faster than 25 miles an hour in a 25 mile an hour street. So, I think there's two different things that I do want to bring out what we're thinking on.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Well, like I said, we can amend the ordinance. So, if what we want to do is start out with golf carts and similar vehicles and then revisit ATVs later as we see how the golf carts pan out that's certainly appropriate. But coming up with a draft ordinance that gives a couple of different options I think would be an excellent starting point. Mr. Boswell.

**MR. BOSWELL:** I actually think that it would be an excellent idea for registration like a tag that can be placed on the back because that way if you have an irresponsible driver and the police are trying to pull them over and they're unable to get them, perhaps they go through a field where they can't follow that way it can be tracked back to where, you know, I mean it's something that, you know, people need to be held accountable for their bad behavior and actions and putting others at risk.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Understood. But you still have to be able to identify the driver. So, was there another hand up over here? Okay. Very good. So, consensus opinion, let's come back with a couple of drafts. Let's discuss those.

**MR. LEATON:** I'd say let's handle like the golf cart like you said. Let's start with that piece instead of trying -- biting off too much is where I'd like to see us go instead of trying to go all the ATV, the UTV, the LSV.

**MR. OWEN:** Well, the LSVs are already -- they can be registered and driven on the road [inaudible].

**MR. LEATON:** I know. But I'm just saying instead of muddying the water --

**MR. OWEN:** Right.

**MR. LEATON:** -- I'd like to see if we could just kind of keep it --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yeah. Those things that are already street legal would be exempted out anyway.

**MR. OWEN:** Yeah.

**MR. LEATON:** Right.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** But, yeah. You know, if you start out with a modular approach that we can add things to it as we go along, certainly that makes it a little bit easier to make those amendments, but it does maybe also give us a better idea of what the workload might be. If we start with golf carts, for example, and you're writing 25, 30 citations a month, wow. But if what we're seeing is a lot of voluntary compliance, then maybe we can expedite things for that next step. But I think we'll learn from the first and be able to build on the second, starting with golf carts and then work up to whatever the next thing is.

**MR. LEATON:** I mean my opinion on it is I'm less concerned about fees and more concerned about safety. That's what I'm concerned about.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yes.

**MR. LEATON:** So, whatever the safety is is where I would want us to be. I'll always stand behind if we have to stand on safety wherever we end up being. Fees, that's another story. But safety, this is where I want us to be. So, if it's the way the direction the Mayor wants to go and not have a regressive tax, so be it. If it's the other way with fees, I don't care. What I want is the safety for me personally, so.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yeah. Just bring back a recommendation. Mr. Holland.

**MR. HOLLAND:** As far as the safety aspect, UTVs [inaudible] have roll cages where the ATVs do not. So, a UTV [inaudible] a lot more stable [inaudible]. And I'd just hate to see to include their language in there to not include that safety is concern when we are probably being more safe in an incident than a golf cart would be [inaudible].

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Very good. Mr. Olson.

**MR. OLSON:** You were talking about the HOAs, you know, maybe something put in there where they kind of have some responsibility for it as well for the paperwork and stuff like that. Maybe put [inaudible; talking off mic].

**MR. LEATON:** I'm an ideas guy. I threw -- I throw something on the wall and see if it sticks. That's all. So, I'm not going to get offended if it comes back and says that's a bad idea, so.

**MR. OLSON:** [Inaudible; talking off mic.]

**MAYOR ELLIS:** So, Chief, you, and Mr. Jenkins and whomever your designees are work on something and let's bring it back. How much time would you like to have?

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Certainly more than the next Council meeting.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Certainly.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Definitely would like that.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I was thinking a special meeting next week, but whatever.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Yeah. Well, then you would get Paola, Louisburg, and Osawatomie has minus a few things.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Second meeting in August?

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Sure.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Are you sure? That's about 45 days.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** We should be able to put something together.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. In the meantime, what, Mr. Hendershot, I'd like to see is if Ms. Shupert might be able to put together some wildly informal, non-scientific polling of what aspects people might think are most important from a regulatory perspective. And I want everybody to put their parent hat on not their user hat on. If these are your kids out there using these, and by kids your lawful licensed drivers, what is it that you want to see for them. So, if Ms. Shupert could put a poll out on Facebook or Instagram or on our website, use SurveyMonkey, something, hopefully people might engage in that and offer some insight. And maybe if

there are five or six items on there that they could prioritize it might help to give Chief Henson and Mr. Jenkins and their team to give them a little bit of idea as to what --

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** I'll get with her in the morning.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** -- what might be important. All right. Thank you very much. Anything else on this subject? I appreciate -- Yes. Mr. Stecklein.

**MR. STECKLEIN:** What's the timeframe you think that whole [inaudible; talking off mic.]

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I don't know if it's even possible. I'm sure that it probably is. If it is, I would say probably in the next week. I know we've got a few other things coming up that Ms. Shupert is working on, the newsletter being one of them. But if she uses SurveyMonkey and puts it out, I don't think it would take terribly long.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** And she can spread the word on Facebook about where to find it and how it might work.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Right. Right. I would say in the next 7 to 14 days, somewhere around in there. And then, yes, she will announce it on multiple platforms. All right. Anything else? That will go ahead and conclude Item Number 7's discussion.

(Council Meeting resumed with the agenda at Presentations)

## PRESENTATION

- **Cemetery Board Annual Report, Christine Hecke and Larry Sumner**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** This takes us to our one and only presentation, Cemetery Board Annual report. Ms. Hecke and Mr. Sumner, welcome.

**MR. SUMNER:** You know, there are people that live here more than ten years. I've been here 64.

**MS. HECKE:** We're life-timers and we're not going anywhere.

**MR. SUMNER:** You're stuck with us.

**MS. HECKE:** That's right. So, our cemetery 2019 year-end report, we started our year with \$16,701.54 in our checking and ended with \$13,231. And our savings, we call our perpetual care account, we opened it with \$14,000 and ended with \$18,500. And that perpetual care, half of that money, when we sell a lot, half of that money goes to perpetual care, half of it goes into our checking account. So, that's why we had an increase on that. We have two CDs. We have one for \$14,476.26 and one for \$60,034.08.

And last year we sold 39 spaces, which was more than we had for quite some time. And most of those spaces were pre-need spaces that we had sold.

We started something new last year that we're pretty proud of and that was our Parade of Flags or Avenue of Flags. If you had been at the cemetery you've probably seen that on Memorial Day, Veterans Day. We put them up several day. And we're just really excited about that project and it just looks really nice to honor our veterans. And we have -- the income from that \$1,801.

The City money that we got from the City was \$28,000 last year. So, we had a total of \$49,301. That was our income. Our expenses for mowing and last year it rained a lot, and so they mowed every weekend, every Saturday they were mowing. It started out like that this year too, but we've had a couple weeks where it's

been kind of dry. Last year we didn't have that. So, our mowing for last year was \$23,850. We did some tree trimming to help maybe solve some problems down the road. If any of those limbs would happen to fall on a stone or something like that, so we did trim some trees. And that was \$3,500. Maintenance that we have done on leveling graves and trying to straighten stones, we had \$3,240 spent on that. Our miscellaneous expenses, this was stamps, papers, our bonding insurance, and then replacement flags, the Kansas flag and the U.S. flag, and that was \$621.68. Settlement, we had with an owner over an issue, was \$2,000.

And then we are pretty excited about this. Larry has worked pretty hard on this project with his wife inputting information. That's our computer software program that we are -- I'm just excited to get that going. It's so much easier than using the paper map. Because right now when I go out, I have a map that I take out to show people. So, this is exciting for us. And Larry said right now he's on letter --

**MR. SUMNER:** I just finished the P's today.

**MS. HECKE:** The letter P, so --

**MR. SUMNER:** We're getting there.

**MS. HECKE:** So, we're getting closer and closer which is pretty exciting. Then we had stake fees and two grave openings. Those are cremation openings. And that was \$650 for stake fees and \$200 for the grave openings. That is money that actually monument companies or funeral homes would send to the cemetery. And then we would use that money to pay someone to do staking and do an opening and closing of creation burials. So, that was a total of \$35,011.68.

We have some more flags that we want to add to our Avenue of Flags. And we're just waiting to get that done when we can get some help from -- the American Legion has volunteered to help us. The Ruritans and then Home Depot have helped us on that project. So, we're planning on putting several more flags out to the north down by the dirt pile. So, that's exciting for us when we get all of those. And then the American Legion is helping us with the branches of service that we plan on putting on the west side. So, hopefully when you're driving down the highway you can see those flags flying. And again, the COVID-19 has kind of slowed us down on that project right now, but that is our goal, and we will get that done. So, that's exciting for our cemetery and we're pretty happy with that. So, in our flag fund right now we still have \$1,091.27 in that. So, that's what our cemetery expenses and income was like for the 2019 year.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Any questions?

**MR. LEATON:** I'm just glad to hear that you're actually putting it into a database and getting that put out there because years and years ago we would be asking these questions and we weren't really getting really good answers because we were working from the best information that we had at the time.

**MS. HECKE:** Which is a paper map.

**MR. LEATON:** And I'm happy to hear that, we're making those improvements, so.

**MS. HECKE:** I'm pretty excited about it also because it's so much easier if someone needs a lot, we can go easily look it up. And it's so much better than carrying that map, but -- it has some tape on it.

**MR. SUMNER:** And the program will also generate deeds when they are sold. It will generate work orders, you know, as see something that needs to be fixed it'll print them out for us. So, we kind of have more control on what's being done, what we see out there.

**MS. HECKE:** I'm really excited to just have the deeds printed because I handwrite out the deeds for perpetual care and ownership of the lot, so that's one thing I'm excited about.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Very good. Anything else? Well, we appreciate the commitment and dedication of the Cemetery Board. It is a lot of hard work and it doesn't go unnoticed. Thank you both very much.

**MR. SUMNER:** We are, just to let you know, we are short three members.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Uh-huh.

**MR. SUMNER:** And we are looking forward to getting them. We've been two short since the first of the year and one since last month.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yep.

**MR. SUMNER:** We had elections last night on the new president. She will be the secretary and we're going forward.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Thank you very much.

**MR. SUMNER:** All right. Thank you.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Appropriation Order No. 2020-07-09**
2. **Consider Approval of Special Event Permit: Movie in the Park, Spring Hill Aquatic Center Parking Lot**
3. **Consider Approval of Agreement with WaterOne for Relocation of Equipment in Private Easements for the 199<sup>th</sup> and Ridgeview RDB**
4. **Consider Approval of the Engagement Letter for Gordon CPA**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** The next item is the Consent Agenda.

**MR. LEATON:** Mayor, I move that we approve the Consent Agenda.

**MR. ECKERT:** Second.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** We have a motion and a second. Is there any discussion? If not, all those in favor?

**COUNCILMEMBERS:** Aye.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Motion carries 5-0-0.

*[Therefore, the motion was made by Councilmember Leaton and seconded by Councilmember Eckert to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion carried 5-0-0.]*

**FORMAL ACTION****5. Consider Ordinance: Regulating and Licensing Procedures for Pawnbrokers and Precious Metal Dealers Pursuant to K.S.A. 16-706 et seq. and Charter Ordinance No. 38**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** This takes us to the first of our Formal Council Action items, consideration of Ordinance 2020-09. This is an ordinance regulating and licensing, I'm sorry, regulation and licensing procedures for pawnbrokers. Mr. Jenkins, you have the floor.

**MR. JENKINS:** Mayor, members of the City Council, this matter has been before you two previous times. And this is the third step that's going to be necessary in order to complete this effort. You'll remember that this is -- basically we are adopting the safe statute that governs pawnbrokers and precious metal dealers with making some changes to it which is customary. And those changes are, one, it would be to establish the fee, the annual fee, and we're going to be doing a companion matter, which is the resolution establishing that fee to be, instead of \$25, which is state statute, it's going to be \$150. In the future, we'll be able to make those changes.

Secondly, there is an issue of -- the state statute talks about a two-year residency requirement for the owner of the establishment. And my recommendation would be to stick with that. However, I do note in the memo to you that some jurisdictions have modified that because if you have a large corporation, they may not have a residence, but I think that's something that you could address if that's a problem in the future.

And the last point would be that the state statute is a little unclear as to who is going to be handling it as far as registration, the issuance of licenses, and we've got a provision in there specifically stating that it's the City Clerk.

With that said, the recommendation would be to pass a motion to adopt the Ordinance No. 2020, and I missed the number, Mayor.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** 09.

**MR. JENKINS:** 09, pertaining to the licensing of pawnbrokers and precious metal dealers within the City.

**MR. LEATON:** Hold on just real quick. But it's Charter Ordinance No. 38 on the agenda?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** We're doing both. It's charter -- which is it? I've got Ordinance No. 2020-09 and Charter Ordinance No. 38. Are they concurrent?

**MR. JENKINS:** No, sir. I've confused you. You already have done the Charter Ordinance.

**MR. LEATON:** Okay. Okay. That's what I was asking. So, the Charter Ordinance is out of the way. Now, we're just approving the ordinance that goes underneath that umbrella?

**MR. JENKINS:** Correct.

**MR. LEATON:** Okay. I just wanted to make sure because on the agenda it said 38, so.

Mayor, move to approve Ordinance 2020-09.

**MR. ECKERT:** Second.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** We have a motion and a second. Is there any discussion? If not, it's an ordinance, we'll vote by roll. Madam Clerk, would you call the roll of the Council, please?

**MS. GERRITY:** Mr. Graves.

**MR. GRAVES:** Yes.

**MS. GERRITY:** Mrs. Hughes.

**MS. HUGHES:** Yes.

**MS. GERRITY:** Mr. Leaton.

**MR. LEATON:** Yes.

**MS. GERRITY:** Mr. Eckert.

**MR. ECKERT:** Yes.

**MS. GERRITY:** Mr. Owen.

**MR. OWEN:** Yes.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Ordinance adopted 5-0-0.

*[Therefore, the motion was made by Councilmember Leaton and seconded by Councilmember Eckert to approve Ordinance No. 2020-09. The motion carried 5-0-0.]*

**6. Consider Resolution: Resolution Establishing Annual License Fee for Pawnbrokers and Precious Metal Dealers Authorized by the Spring Hill Municipal Code**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** The next item is consideration of resolution establishing annual licensing fee for pawnbrokers and special, I'm sorry, precious metal dealers. This is would be Resolution 2020-R-07. Mr. Jenkins.

**MR. JENKINS:** This is companion to the preceding matter. The recommendation would be establishing the annual fee to be \$150 as the state statute talks about it being -- or states that it's \$25. It's a real old statute. Talked to staff. They feel that that's a cost right now that would compensate the City for the processing of the annual license. Also the Chief of Police has some other functions too involving the monitoring of this project. So, we may have to be revisiting that. But right now, we're recommending \$150.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay.

**MR. LEATON:** This is Resolution 2020-R --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** 07.

**MR. LEATON:** The only thing that I was noting, and I just was picking up on, there was a misspelling on "ordinance." It has two N's in it.

**MR. JENKINS:** At the beginning of the ordinance?

**MR. LEATON:** "Whereas, the City of Spring Hill has adopted Ordinance No."

**MR. JENKINS:** Oh, okay. You're talking about the resolution.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I would entertain the resolution in substantial in form.

**MR. LEATON:** That's fine. I was going to make sure, so.

Mayor, I move to approve Resolution 2020-07 (2020-R-07) in substantial form.

**MR. ECKERT:** Second.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** There's a motion and a second. Is there any discussion? If not, all those in favor?

**COUNCILMEMBERS:** Aye.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Motion carries 5-0-0. Thank you, Mr. Jenkins.

*[Therefore, the motion was made by Councilmember Leaton and seconded by Councilmember Eckert to approve Resolution No. 2020-R-07 in substantial form. The motion carried 5-0-0.]*

## DISCUSSION

### 8. Expenditure and Use of Local Alcoholic Liquor Funds Relating to K.S.A. 79-41a04(d)

**MAYOR ELLIS:** This takes us to the second of our Discussion Items, expenditure and use of local alcohol liquor funds under K.S.A. 79-41a04. Mr. Jenkins.

**MR. JENKINS:** This is an item also that has been before you where we adopted a charter ordinance exempting the City from K.S.A. 79-41a04(d) as in dog. We're ready now for the regular ordinance which enabled you to make some changes from the state statute. And those changes are with respect to giving the City flexibility in terms of how to make the expenditures.

The legislation of the history dates back to 1979 with the state statute. There's a lot of confusion about how the wording is in the state statute. But the recommendation would be to make some changes that would give us some more flexibility. And that's what this ordinance is for. I have submitted this to you previously on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

I would emphasize that this statute, this ordinance, excuse me, gives you the authorization to utilize those funds as such. But it's not the actual exercising or -- that's making a decision as to how they're going to be spent. That'll be something through the budgetary process. So, the recommendation would be to approve this motion for adopting the ordinance number --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** This is just discussion, Mr. Jenkins.

**MR. JENKINS:** Excuse me. I'm sorry.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** You'll bring back an ordinance?

**MR. JENKINS:** Are there any questions?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Something about laws and sausages come to mind. Okay. All right. Anything from Mr. Jenkins on this subject? We'll look forward to an ordinance on that, Mr. Jenkins.

## 9. Payment of Taxes and Issuance of Permits

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And then the last item for you, payment of taxes and issuance of permits.

**MR. JENKINS:** If I may defer to the Finance Director as a preliminary background information.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Sure. Ms. Landis.

**MS. LANDIS:** Just to open the discussion. Early in 2020, and actually even prior to that time more than once we've had a discussion about issuing building permits is what they -- the conversation began as about issuing building permits to those property owners that may owe taxes or assessments on properties in the City limits of Spring Hill. And earlier this year staff was asked to -- we did have a discussion. We talked about having -- asking Mr. Jenkins to look into a way to write that into our municipal code. Mr. Jenkins has done some research on that and had a few items for you to mull over. And then also staff has had conversations, which just to reiterate I think we've discussed before, but our staff has talked more about how that we would be able to consistently do this through our new process of the online application process for building permits. And so we do have a resolution to be able to do that. We are just waiting to be able to implement it based on how the Council decides to move ahead. And so really that's all I had. Do you want to talk about your research?

**MR. JENKINS:** Thank you.

**MS. LANDIS:** Sure.

**MR. JENKINS:** Mayor, members of the Council, you may remember this came up several weeks ago, maybe a couple months ago when this issue came up and Councilman Hughes did some quick legal research with respect to the possible ordinances. And she cited to me the City of Topeka has an ordinance, and I have looked at that. And it would be applicable to -- for consideration by the City Council. That particular ordinance focuses on not only ad valorem taxes, special assessments, but also states that it would apply to any amount of money that is owed to the City.

The issue that I see is for the Council would be on the ordinance whether you want to be able to focus just on ad valorem taxes that are not paid as a basis to enable you to refuse to issue other licenses or permits or whether you broaden that out to looking at any other amounts that are owed to the City such as say if they are paying for a particular license on -- it could be anything. So, that's the issue. My suggestion would be if you have to start with just special assessments and ad valorem taxes that seemed to be the focus before, and historically has been an issue for the City. But, of course, that's a decision for the City Council to decide how you would focus on this.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Well, you know, one of the -- if we're looking at just those two things, it may not take into account what could be other large ticket items as we start to see more and more development of larger units. So, for example, if somebody has got a \$10,000 water bill they haven't paid, one question that I would have, is there a mechanism -- I do not have a \$10,000 water bill.

**MR. LEATON:** No. I just that reminded me of something from years and years and years ago.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** One question that I have is, is it possible to go ahead, so, for example, we want somebody to be able to make money. If they're not making money, they're not going to pay us. Is there a way to put a lien on what, you know, if we're issuing them a building permit, put a lien on that property so that at closing we get paid first? Still be able to issue the permit, but only if there's a consensual lien on it. And then if they refuse the consensual lien, then the ordinance says you just don't get a permit. Is that a possibility?

**MR. JENKINS:** Yes, there is. I mean you could --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** How does everyone feel about that?

**MR. JENKINS:** You could have a mechanism which is in this Topeka ordinance talking about a suspension of, or maybe you could delay the process and not invoke it, make it a conditional approval or something like that. Not to make this too complicated, but there's a Massachusetts state statute that is very, very broad and talks about a hearing process. But to answer your question, yes. I think that you could fold into the ordinance something that would enable you to have some flexibility administratively to handle the issue of the arrearage or non-payment.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And aside from just -- you said ad valorem and what else?

**MR. JENKINS:** Well, I said special assessments.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Right. Judgments would be another one.

**MR. JENKINS:** Yes.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Because we've had that issue before where we've had a judgment pending. We want to have an ordinance that says you don't get to build if you have a judgment against you that has not been satisfied.

**MS. HUGHES:** I just think financial delinquencies is appropriate.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** That's what I'm saying too. But I just want the word judgments in there as well.

**MR. JENKINS:** And something --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** So, with regard though to the consensual lien and allowing them to continue, how does Council feel about that as a mechanism to get paid first?

**MS. HUGHES:** If it's consensual, I'm fine with that.

**MR. LEATON:** I'm okay with A, B, C, D, that you've all mentioned.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay.

**MR. LEATON:** So, all of the above.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. So, it sounds like you know your direction, Mr. Jenkins.

**MR. JENKINS:** Thank you.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Thank you very much.

#### **10. Budget: Utility Funds Review**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Ms. Landis, Budget Utility Fund review. Always a popular discussion item.

**MS. LANDIS:** I know you were looking forward to it. I might be a little loud here on the speaker.

**MR. LEATON:** Ironically, I'm actually excited about it.

**MR. OWEN:** You're a sick person.

**MS. LANDIS:** Okay.

**MR. LEATON:** That's what my wife says.

**MS. LANDIS:** So, what I've done here is in the packet there were fairly lengthy memos regarding each utility. And I didn't want to regurgitate that information for you. It is good information if you want to learn about the utility and the comparisons. And I put a little bit of that in here. But really it was more -- the way I've structured this presentation is just to give you a little more background about both of the utilities and where we kind of stand today. And the discussion topic being more of where would you like to see it go from here.

Just to start with the water utility, our customers, the number of customers we serve average 1,800. Our customer base growth average is less than one percent annually. And our new building permits are estimated about 20 to 25 annually. And as a reminder the Spring Hill Water District is much smaller than the sewer district is as it's only a portion of the Spring Hill city limits area.

We did replace 180 meters in 2019. That is significant for us. If you remember or if you're not aware, we do have some again meters. And as opposed to going out and spending everything at one time to replace all of them, we had elected to start just changing out the ones that needed to be changed. And so some of those older meters are making it into the new meters. The newer meters actually offer us a great opportunity to be able to show reports to those customers. So, if they were to have a water leak it shows them when it's leaking, at what times of the day it's leaking, how many days in a row it's leaking. And we can get them the information they need to talk to a plumber to get that fixed in their household.

We do purchase our water, our potable water from Miami County Water District No. 2. The City does not own or operate a water treatment facility. That's very important when looking at our overall water utility. Our purchase price per 1,000 gallons is \$2.55 currently. It does fluctuate slightly from year to year. We did just recently receive information from Water District No. 2 that that price per 1,000 gallons will go up to \$3.10 in 2023 with the new construction or expansion and improvements to the facility.

Outstanding debt in this fund is from 2021 forward is approximately \$940,000 with a payoff year being 2025 if we don't incur any new debt going forward.

We have talked in past presentations about the potential for pursuing a water system merger. There's lots of ways to describe those. But basically, we are wanting to make sure that our residents have long-term access to quality potable water at reasonable rates. And with a small water utility with -- as we approach maxing out on the number of properties within that district area, this was an important exercise for us to pursue. And in December of last year when we last discussed this, the Council asked staff to increase our efforts in researching the potential for a system merger with another district. And we have had initial conversations with three water districts, and we are moving forward on some further research with them.

Considerations for us, if this were something we were pursuing, would be that we would have an addition of operating dollars to our General Fund for City facility water use. What we would need to identify debt payoff, the timing of that payoff, what is convertible debt, plus any of those options, whether that is something that would be taken over, whether that's something we could pay-down ahead of time. Delaying or suspending future planned infrastructure projects. If we are not wanting to -- or if this is a direction we would like to go, we would not want to incur any new debt. We wouldn't have any future revenue to offset that. And as in our discussions the possibility of needing to conduct a study or update the study that has already been conducted several years ago in our distribution system to give a sense of -- a sense of how our water distribution system sits right now and what types of improvements any other district might have to make in the near future.

I would anticipate that coming back to you later this year whenever you would like to have that come back to you. But we have started those conversations and we are pursuing those to get you some more information. There we go.

So, I wanted to just review our debt because we've just briefly talked about. We do have three outstanding issues. One being a loan for some movement of lines. That pays off here in next year. In addition to we have the two -- we have the KDHE revolving loan, which pays off in 2025. That was for the construction of the connection between Water No. 7 and No. 2 in order to transport that water to Spring Hill. And in 2016 -- or 2015, was the construction 2016, the water tower maintenance loan or bond issue that we did and that pays off in 2025. So, right now there is an outstanding amount of about \$940,000 in debt in the water utility.

If we were to continue our water utility as it stands today, which is a viable possibility, these are the types of things that are sitting out there that we need to consider for future improvements to our system, including we have some vehicle and equipment replacement needs in the out years. If we were to want to replace all of those -- the remaining older meters at one time, we'd place that in an out year as well, we do need to construct some looped water mains in the Woodland Ridge area and around 207<sup>th</sup> Streets. Those are two separate projects, but they've been combined and they can be done under one construction contract.

We do need to replace the raw water submersible pump at Hillsdale Lake. We do have two out there. One is in working order, the other is not. We do have a water main replacement project that's been in the CIP for a little while, and then the elevated water tower repainting again in 2025, so that we are doing that every ten years as recommended.

If we were to heavily consider the possibility of a system merger, I believe we want to halt all of those items, not spend anymore cash, look at the best way to pay down any outstanding debt, make sure that we're prepared for what that may look like.

Our water contract, current water contract with Water District No. 2 ends in June of 2023, so we'll be looking at that being a renewal of some sort regardless of what we need to do, timing would be attached to whatever decision is made at some future point here.

This is just an overview of what you can do with the rates model that we have available to us. So, we use a rate model internally. We're plugging a lot of information into that rate model and we're producing some outcomes. And what I attempted to do here is that the blue line is if you make no increase at all, this is revenues over expenditures. And you want your revenues to cover your expenditures. In this case if there is no increase made because the expenditures continue to grow every year and I wanted to be able to illustrate if we make no adjustments to the rates or continue that your revenues will eventually not going forward be able to cover your expenditures due to your debt payments and your -- any capital expenditures and any of those. If we were to carry this out in the future. If you were to make a one-time increase in one upcoming year of, say, three percent, you can see that the redline is just slightly better, still not where we need to be but it does actually make an impact long-term. If you make small consistent increases in your utilities, the green line is where you get to and that is where we want to be in our utilities is trying to maintain the fact that we have revenue over your expenditures where it's just barely above zero. Most of the time there is, you know, you know, a small spike at the end after a debt is paid off and there was not as many expenditures in those years. But as you can tell this isn't a situation that's going to solve itself anytime soon. In the water utility because it is small, yes, we do have some lots that are sitting out there that when they are developed, they will come into our system. There will be system development fees that are collected. However, it doesn't put this utility in a great financial situation. And it's much different than our sewer utility. And so I just wanted to illustrate that there for you. Again, I'm not trying to make any decision -- or sway your decision in any way. But when we talk about the need for an increase to the rates, this does illustrate why that's important because at some future point you're going to get back to that situation where we were 10 or 12 years ago where we just didn't have enough cash to cover the expenditures from the utility.

And for that reason, the recommendation that I'm making is to work towards a water system merger and to increase the water rates beginning in January 2021 by 3 percent. We did make the recommendation in 2019 for the current year of 2020 and we had decided -- made the decision to not raise rates in 2020, and that was a great decision. And you all -- it was a great decision with COVID coming up. It was good timing not to raise those rates. It turned out to be a good decision there. But going forward, we're going to need to at some future point make an increase. So, whether you determine that we need to make it the 3 percent or something less that's really up to you all. But I wanted to show you just a graph or a table here of what we've done in the past with the small incremental increases.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** There was also a minor adjustment in the service fee as well. Is that my recollection?

**MS. LANDIS:** That we adjusted it upward.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Service fee was going up a little bit.

**MS. LANDIS:** Yeah. So, it is. I'm sorry. It would be a percentage fee on the per thousand gallon --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Right.

**MS. LANDIS:** -- and also to the service fee. In the water utility, we've traditionally done that with the service fee and the per thousand gallons.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Right.

**MS. LANDIS:** In the sewer fund we've done something different there.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. One of the things that I want to just highlight for everyone, and I'm sure everyone remembers though, those system development fees, when we talk about a potential merger of our utility with another utility, whether that would be Water 1, Water 7, compare those system development fees, and that can have an impact on development.

**MS. LANDIS:** Yes.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I still advocate and have constantly advocated for a merger so that we could to rate stability. I'm hopeful that Mr. Burton is going to be bringing some good news forward in the next 30 to 60 days with regard to some additions in our water utility that I think will help to drive a little better financial picture for us and I think also make that risk less if we can take some -- if we can take some vacant ground and make it productive before we have to -- to try and move this utility to another utility. \$7,000 versus \$2,900 for a standard 5/8-inch pipe is a significant difference when you're dealing with nickels and dimes trying to make money on building a house. And then on larger developments I mean you can see there is a huge disparity between what we charge on a system with development fees versus what our surrounding agencies charge. But that's just my two cents on that.

**MS. HUGHES:** Do we have any numbers -- I know we talked about it last year when we looked at making the increase. We only charged a standard rate per 1,000 gallons, whereas, other districts can charge more if you go over like maybe the average. Our average is 4,500 gallons per customer, but we do have people who exceed that. And in other jurisdictions like Olathe or Gardner, if you go 6,000 to 10,000 there's an additional charge. Is there anything we've looked at to kind of meter that out, to look at maybe that additional charge for more gallons when you get 6,000 average or 6,000?

**MS. LANDIS:** No. We have not actually looked at the details on that, and we can do that. It's just that's not an exercise we run. We could certainly take a look at that. Because we only have \$1,800 customers, and the bulk of them being residential, where our average is, that's an average of all of your customers. So, the 4,500, you're probably not, I mean, you will have some larger families that are obviously using above that 6,000 that we could raise the rates there. We can do that. We can take a look at and see if --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Again, my concern with that is that again it's regressive. Your higher users have a tendency to be your larger families. I don't want to make it harder for big families to be able to do right by their kids. So, I've never advocated for --

**MS. HUGHES:** The higher uses would be your sprinklers not your larger families. That's what I was trying to figure out. I mean how many --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Well, we can't delineate between those two, so.

**MR. ECKERT:** We can seasonally but that breaks it down --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Not necessarily. You have to have a second meter. That's the only way you can --

**MR. ECKERT:** Oh, is that right?

**MR. LEATON:** Yeah.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** So, because it looks like everybody else on their additional charges are charging a higher right for that next tier, so.

**MR. LEATON:** I guess what I'm looking at is, well, back up. Did we renegotiate that contract where it was - we got rid of that regressive thing where they were wanting us to pay --

**MS. LANDIS:** We did.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yes.

**MR. LEATON:** Okay. That's what I thought.

**MS. LANDIS:** Yes. That's been a few years ago.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** In 2015.

**MS. LANDIS:** I think so.

**MR. LEATON:** I just wanted to make sure we got rid of that. But the 2023 year that's kind of like when our contract, current contract is up?

**MS. LANDIS:** Yes.

**MR. LEATON:** I mean, to me that's kind of a period of time where we should be working for that merger or renew a contract into 2023, I think.

**MS. LANDIS:** We did have an initial discussions with Water District No. 2 about that contract and just the idea of our -- are there standard amounts of times that you renew for, those types of things. And it sounded like those are conversations that we could have if it were for a shorter period of time than a five or ten-year renewal. And, you know, in looking at our debt payoff schedule, 2025 might be a better year to be targeting. Lots of things could change in that period of time or maybe they won't, but at least we would have a better idea. But that's certainly something we can take into consideration. We had talked early on about bringing on a company to do an outside utility rate study to take the information, not just the information I have, but run in a different model just to see what that picture looks like for the need for some sort of a merger. And there is, you know, we have not moved in that direction yet, but that's still our intent to do that, so you can get a little bit different picture.

**MR. LEATON:** I'd just like to have an idea about where we're going to sit with that kind of the -- because my concern is, and this kind of happened when I was -- before I was on Council and we took this thing over, the deferring of maintenance. And so deferring and deferring and deferring, and all of a sudden, and then they didn't even -- they'd bought the water and now we don't even produce our own water, that was before. And then we're -- we've gotten to the point after, what, 15 years now, where we're in a stable condition. So, my concern is we've got to figure out a little bit of where we're going to head. Because what I don't want to be doing is deferring things that need to actually occur way down the road when they need to happen now. Because we're sitting there trying to make ourselves more, let's see, marketable by keeping our debt down, right, on a certain sense?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Well, I think the concern at the moment is that if we incur a lot of debt and we sell the utility or we merge the utility we now don't have a --

**MR. LEATON:** Revenue.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** -- revenue source for that debt. So, now the taxpayers as a whole as opposed to the users of the system.

**MS. LANDIS:** Correct.

**MR. LEATON:** Right.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Because there's not necessarily a belief that they would accept the debt and maintain the rate structure and pay it off that way.

**MR. LEATON:** That or the debt's loan would take it on based off of the value of the utility.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Right.

**MR. LEATON:** I'm just saying all of that plays into is. And my concern is is that we've got to have a better idea of where we're going to do that breakpoint and what we've got to do for decisions. Because deferring these down the line is only to catch up with us in the end if we end of keeping the utility.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I think we've got this year. I mean we've had these discussions before. We do have some new people in place at WaterOne I think that has some renewed interest. And remember, the only way you make money in water is in volume and we're never going to have that volume.

So, Jim, you had something you wanted to add?

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** Yes, sir. I'd just add that our initial conversations with the three water districts, the primary purpose of that was to see if there was an interest on their behalf. Two of those three said yes. So, now our conversations with them can begin in earnest and on a very routine scheduled basis to see what that merger looks like. Of the two that said yes, there's some interest. There was some wide differences of what that might look like just from what I'll say is the 30,000 foot. But now it's time to start narrowing those down and that's where we'll head in the coming weeks and months. But just to determine that yes, we have two water districts who are absolutely interested in what that might look like, I felt was very positive. And now we can start, Mr. Leaton, to your point, zeroing in on the details and what that might look like.

**MS. LANDIS:** And one of those things might be updating that study that was done so that we can see where the infrastructure sits now and what those things might need to be. And again, this is just something that when Mr. Boyer was here, we had worked on this plan. We have a plan for both utilities and this is just kind of where these fell out. The water meter replacement because we're still replacing 180 at a time and that's already built into the budget, that's an adequate amount to stay on top of what we're doing right now. Could we increase that? Absolutely. We have the, you know, some excellent staff who are out there, you know, working their tails off to get those replaced as quickly as they can. But doing a large contract. But the only reason I moved that out is because it doesn't necessarily need to be done right now. We may want to, you know, do a cleanup and just get it done all at one time at some future point. But we can -- I think the study, an updated study might tell you infrastructure-wise if any of these are being pushed out too far. And I don't know what that would cost. I really don't have any clue what that would be as a cost to us, but. And then also getting the study, I know that there is a group that does the outside rate studies for free. I know there's other groups that, given the information that the work is already pretty much done, it's just plugging it into a model and look at it at a different -- from a different angle, those are great resources for us.

**MR. LEATON:** Because currently the rate study that was done was purely from the financial company that did that. Wasn't it the --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Wasn't it Springsted that did it?

**MR. LEATON:** Springsted.

**MS. LANDIS:** Springsted did one about 12 years ago, 12 or 13 years ago.

**MR. LEATON:** They're the ones that did it, and it's not really not kind of like some of the rate studies that are done out there. I know when I worked at Black & Veatch, we used to do rate studies and things like that which --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I remember that that particular rate study from 12-13 years ago also considered a number of new homes insistent of development fees that we had never achieved historically.

**MS. LANDIS:** That's right.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And there were a lot of problems with that rate study. As a matter of fact, we went back and demanded some renumeration for that study because of how flawed it was.

**MS. LANDIS:** Right.

**MR. LEATON:** And that's where I'm kind of --

**MS. LANDIS:** I'm not -- I don't use their study, but I do use their model. And that is the model that we purchased and that's I'm coming up with these numbers. But we are plugging in the information based on our best estimates and based on the information we have. So, I traditionally will talk to Mr. Burton and say, okay, what are you looking at, you know, for potential residential development, and it's a ten-year look. And so, and then had sat down with Mr. Boyer and said, okay, what are we looking at here and you can plug in the CIP by years and it calculates the debt and the potential of any cash payments, those things. So, it is a pretty comprehensive model, but it doesn't give you the opportunity to look at -- it does talk about rates and rate increases, but it doesn't talk about different -- it doesn't have the option to plug in different rate models, if you will, something where it's maybe an inverted model or something where you might have a different level. It doesn't contain those types of things. That's something we could do outside of that model.

**MR. LEATON:** I mean, and one of the problems we have with the utilities and how we set the rates is most of it is fixed cost. We don't have a lot of variable costs. So, that's one of the problems that we run into with this utility is it's a fixed cost, not with a fixed cost and variable cost like some utilities can have.

**MS. LANDIS:** Sure.

**MR. LEATON:** So, and we're just trying to transfer cost to our users at a little -- at the lowest possible rate.

**MS. LANDIS:** And before you this evening is not a resolution. You're making no commitment to anything. It's just an idea to get this in front of you. We typically had in the past, or several years ago during the budget season so that we could establish a budget. We're not shortchanging ourselves by not making a decision this evening. The budget is pretty much our forecast for what those projected expenditures are going to be going forward. There is no need for a rate decision before that's published and/or approved, and there is no mill levy attached to a utility. And we do budget for all of the reserves in those funds. So, should we decide to do any of those expenditures like we have in the sewer utility fund, we were capable of being able to do those because we budget those reserves. So, right at this one second you don't have to make a decision. I don't know how you want that to come back to you. I'm able to hear what ever you -- however you'd like to approach it.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And I'd like to see it come back the first meeting in August.

**MS. LANDIS:** Okay.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** So, I'd like everybody to have the opportunity to again maybe review this in a little bit more detail if they've not had the opportunity to yet sit down with you, ask questions if they have them, and be able to discuss it as a group again if we need to and then have the resolution.

**MS. LANDIS:** Sure.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Is that amenable to everyone?

**MR. OWEN:** Yes.

**MR. LEATON:** Yeah. I'd like to have more information about where they're coming up with the \$3.10 versus what they are now and how they're justifying that.

**MS. LANDIS:** Okay.

**MR. LEATON:** I think it was, what it was -- it was three -- they were going up to like \$3.10 or something like that?

**MS. LANDIS:** Yes. From \$2.50. They added a \$.50 cent fee to all of their customers because of the improvements made to the plant.

**MR. LEATON:** I just want to make sure that they're not actually just trying to use us as a mechanism to kind of cover some of the additional debt that they've taken on that they may not be transferring over to the other constituents in their districts. I just don't want to be having us --

**MS. LANDIS:** Oh. That wasn't my understanding. This was for all customers. But certainly --

**MR. LEATON:** I just want to make sure. I just want to know how they came up with this number and make sure it's equitable between our users and their users.

**MS. LANDIS:** Sure. Great. Okay. So, to move on to the wastewater utility, again, this one it does sit a little bit differently. Our wastewater utility is for the entire city limits of Spring Hill. We do have about 2,610 customers currently. That's what we billed this last month. Our base grows about 3½ to 4½ annually depending upon the number of building permits and the move-in timeframe and how quickly those are -- those new residential homes are selling. So, we've estimated out about a hundred plus annually going out the next ten years or the next several years and then we've dropped that down a little bit on the conservative note because of the financial position of this utility at the current time. It's not necessary to ramp those up in order to make sure that we're covering debt. I would rather be a little more conservative in that arena just to see where the market goes, things over the next couple of years. And we can actually adjust those anytime we want to, and it wouldn't put us in any different financial position right now.

Outstanding debt at this time is \$8 million with the final payoff year being 2036. And I have a table to show you the breakdown here. And as you can see the total current debt being \$8 million. The items within that debt are a small KDHE loan about to pay off, the BNSF loan about to pay off. The larger debt here is related to the City-at-large portion of benefit districts, both the South Sanitary Sewer and the North Sanitary Sewer No. 1 and No. 2. The City took on a portion of debt for those projects. Now, the South Sanitary Sewer assessments are going to pay off in the next year. But the City's portion of debt had to be refinanced and stretched out because several years ago our sewer utility could not actually cover the debt that was originally structured. So, we did refinance that, stretched those payments out to 2036 to make it more manageable in all three of those GO bonds, they were all refinanced. So, as you can see this is how we're averaging.

It does actually jump a little so that we are, you know, paying quite a bit more starting in '23 and the years on out. So, we do have to take that into consideration. While it may look like we're sitting in a good position now, we do have to make sure we're still covering the expenditures going forward in future years.

These are some capital improvements that have been presented to you already in the list of CIP items that you've reviewed as well as a few items that are maintenance driven that Mr. Boyer and I had came up with, I'm sorry, that Mr. Boyer came up with, and his team, and that I have plugged in here. They do have a replacement kind of a schedule for I want to say it's 10 or 20 years where they've looked at all of the vertical and linear improvements that need to be made both to the plant and the system itself overall. And so a lot of that is built into this.

I did not have a chance to sit down with Mr. Carr to review this right before presenting it to you. I don't know that any of that has changed. One of the items that Mr. Hendershot had asked me about earlier is built into this that the expenditures for the improvements being made this year, and they are, although a portion of those improvements may not actually occur until next year in the model I built the expenditure into this year just to give us a good starting point, a good look at the out years.

**MR. LEATON:** But those would just be encumbered into next year, right?

**MS. LANDIS:** They would be in their contract. So, they're sitting there in the cash balance anyway, so the payments would just be made as the expenses occurred.

**MR. LEATON:** So when they come in with their request --

**MS. LANDIS:** Yes.

**MR. LEATON:** -- it gets paid out of there?

**MS. LANDIS:** Uh-huh. Yes. This is just a different look, the same chart as in the water utility, but just to give you a different look at how we sit with revenues over expenditures. And the reason I didn't put net income here is because it does also include long-term debt, which isn't those principal payments aren't generally included in the net income in this model. So, if at no increase, you can see that's the orange line. You can see that we jump a little bit. We drop down because those debt payments do jump up a little bit. So, your expenditures are higher meaning that your graph overall jumps down not as much, revenue over expenditures. The 2½ increase in 2021, just a one-time increase makes a very small adjustment there. And doing small consistent increases over time is your green line on the top. And you can see that it does tend to build over time. The one thing that I would say as maybe a downfall of this graph here is that included in those revenues are your system development fees. They weren't intended to be coverage of your operational costs but more for future improvements. But since the future, the cost of future improvements is built into the model, I left them in there. I can't say that they're a year for year comparison, but it does give you a little bit of a view of what that might look like over time.

The recommendation then being that if you would like to stick with the small consistent increases over time to match your operating increases -- expenditure increases that we would recommend a 2½ percent increase beginning in January 2021. And this fund, the way that we bill is a little different. So, the first 2,000 gallons is a fee, is a set amount. And then the additional 1,000 -- or each additional 1,000 gallons is yet a different structure, obviously less based on the chart. And then the service charge was in previous years \$9. Over the last couple of years we lowered that service fee in the sewer utility when we had increased it in the water utility. So, the net effect for those that are in both utilities would not see a change in their overall bill.

Do you have questions about the sewer utility?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I'll say one thing. I know that Mr. Leaton and Mr. Owen have already started having some discussions with Mr. Hendershot about how we can start pushing for some growth in that South Sanitary benefit district. So, I'm very excited about those discussions happening.

**MS. LANDIS:** Yeah.

**MR. LEATON:** And that's where I want to --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** There's a lot of debt there.

**MR. LEATON:** That's where I was going to back just to show that one slide with that debt. Go back on that.

**MS. LANDIS:** Sure.

**MR. LEATON:** Right there. We're carrying 2021, \$228,000 of debt. This predates us. Okay. But I understand that. But that's how big that South Sewer benefit district. That's why it is crucial for us to find some way of a mechanism for that area to generate revenue for us. Because without that there is other options they could do. Because that debt actually keeps us from doing other things which are like take the system development fees out to put that for when we actually have to do capital improvements, which is where that should be put in place. But that's not what's able to occur because we're carrying that debt load.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I think we're a lot closer to that scenario today than we ever have been.

**MR. LEATON:** Oh, yes.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I mean there was a time where, like you said, we had to refinance debt because we just flat out didn't have revenue to pay for it.

**MR. LEATON:** Well, back in --

**MS. LANDIS:** Yes.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Those are things that predated everyone here, but it's our responsibility to ensure we don't find ourselves in that posture again.

**MR. LEATON:** Well, that's what I've been working on ever since I've been here trying to do. I mean we had to do -- what was the -- what did we have to do from the water loan to the sewer loan? How many years ago? Was it a million dollar?

**MS. LANDIS:** It was 11 years ago, and we did loan money from the water fund to the sewer fund. And I want to say it was around 500,000. It might have been a million. I don't remember.

**MR. LEATON:** I can't remember, but it was significant.

**MS. LANDIS:** It was.

**MR. LEATON:** And my point is when you look at where we were, I mean I also want to let people know is look at where we were and where we are now. We are in so much a better position than what we were before.

**MS. LANDIS:** Sure.

**MR. LEATON:** It's taken us time and we've had to be very strategic with what we're doing. But another real big strategic piece that we need to do right now is the South Sewer benefit district. That is a big thing that will allow us to open up some other avenues to be able to do other things for our constituents in the benefit districts. Because I mean that's the big bubble you see right there.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And hopefully also open up the west side of the City south of County Line. So, those are all excellent goals.

All right. Anything else for Ms. Landis? Opportunity for everybody to review. Get with Ms. Landis if you have questions. We can discuss it again at our next meeting.

**MS. LANDIS:** Okay.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And then we'll look for resolutions back first meeting in August.

**MS. LANDIS:** Okay. Thank you very much.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** So, does what work for everyone presumably? Yes. All right. Thank you very much.

**MS. LANDIS:** Thank you.

**11. Spending Plan**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Last week, Ms. Hughes had sent an email looking for a spending plan. I had instructed Mr. Hendershot to work with staff, come up with some ideas and bring those back to the Council today and report back to us. So, Mr. Hendershot.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** Okay.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** What do you have for us?

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** Mayor, I'll be honest with you. I didn't understand the directions. I thought there was going to be a discussion tonight to set some expectations and hopeful guidance for what you would like to see.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** So, that's where we're at for this evening.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Ms. Hughes.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** I apologize for the misunderstanding.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Take it away, Ms. Hughes.

**MS. HUGHES:** Sure. So, sorry. I get tongue-tied sometimes on these reports. There's a lot of financial projections that Ms. Landis has put together where the City anticipates loss of revenue from sales tax, City sales tax, county sales tax. Additionally, we're also looking at a loss of revenue when our ad valorem taxes come due in December. And I'm wanting to see in writing some kind of analysis that we're doing; we're saying we've set parameters. Is there a month to month expectation of the income, whether it be a projection that we currently made or a comparison to last year? And if those revenues go down in that month's time, what do we correspond to our expenditures being cut during that month's time or the next month's time? So, if it goes down 5 percent over projections or last year's number, then we're saying to ourselves this is the first area we're going to start freezing our expenditures. Is it going to be vehicles, equipment, consultants, legal fees? Is it going to be just general maintenance or something in the building? You know, I want to make sure that we're not down to the wire after several months of loss and say now we've got to cut something and we're still losing money and it goes to employees or it goes to some other kind of thing that I don't want to have at the top of the list. That's just my feeling about it. And I wanted to kind of see that in more detail. Because we know it's coming. We're starting to see the numbers come out of the county coming out lower just looking at year over year, let alone the expectations that we had for 2020 when we set the budget. So, I'm just wanting to see something.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And keep in mind tapping into reserves is the absolute last resort for us because that's one of the things, one of those factors that the rating agencies look at in setting our bond rating which, of course, correlates to the interest that we pay.

**MR. OWEN:** I know in talking to Mrs. Hughes the concern I think both of us agreed on is I'd rather look at the possibilities on cuts that we may or may not have to make now before we're put in a spot that we have to do it. At least have an idea of where we're going where we might need to go. Does that sound right, Mrs. Hughes?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** We've talked about freezes on non-essential spending.

**MR. OWEN:** Right.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And we've talked about freezes on hiring and understanding what that tax looks like, what the impact to our taxes look like going to help to drive what it is that Ms. Hughes is looking for. So, I'd like to see a plan come back at the next meeting. Okay. All right. Very good. Anything else?

**MS. LANDIS:** Mayor, do you mind if I just throw out something?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Certainly.

**MS. LANDIS:** From the standpoint of it changes month to month to give you an idea.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Uh-huh.

**MS. LANDIS:** And you will actually get these later this evening as all this stuff goes out. But just our sales tax revenue, you know, we were very concerned about April and it was up 20 percent, which is a --

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Our own.

**MS. LANDIS:** No. Across the board.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Across the board. Okay.

**MS. LANDIS:** Across the board overall. And so I don't think that's going to be every month. But, you know, we had -- we had estimated a 25 percent overall decrease [inaudible]. But right now we're sitting at a plus. So, it does change month to month. But it is a great idea to have something more [inaudible].

**MAYOR ELLIS:** But keep in mind too though what we've talked about, particularly with our own and likely what we've seen county-wide is that that's because of the mad rush to Price Chopper, to Target to Hy-Vee. That's what we're not going to continue to see. I don't think we've begun to see the impact of revenue for alcohol tax funds, for sales tax on restaurants, et cetera. And that's going to be a significant impact.

**MS. LANDIS:** Plus the potential of [inaudible] outbreak again [inaudible].

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Right. And I --

**MS. LANDIS:** So, leaving something in reserve and [inaudible]

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I've seen -- I've seen Home Depot jam-packed, but I don't see people rolling large appliances out. So, there is a lot more sales tax revenue in a refrigerator than there is in a couple hundred pounds of dirt.

All right. Very good. Anything else on that subject?

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. We will go ahead and move on to Announcements and Reports. Those of you that were able to attend, we had just around a hundred people at Veterans Park at the dedication last Saturday on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Couldn't think of a more fitting day to make a tribute to our veterans. So, for those of you who were able to make it, thank you very much.

We do have a budget special meeting. An email just went out on that not terribly long ago. That will be on July 27<sup>th</sup>, is that correct?

**MS. LANDIS:** Yes. And that's a Monday.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** So, that is the public hearing on the budget. We had to make some adjustments there because the *Miami County Republic* is not publishing a newspaper in the week in which we need to publish our notice. They've made that determination due to financial impacts that they're experiencing from COVID-19. So, if everybody could make certain that they are available that night and available at 6. Ms. Hughes, I know you're generally coming from downtown or used to be, is 6 o'clock still -- is that a good time?

**MS. HUGHES:** It is fine.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Very good. Will everyone be able to attend?

**MR. LEATON:** I think so.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Excellent. Excellent. So, very good. Those two things. Mr. Owen.

**MR. OWEN:** No reports tonight, Mayor.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Mr. Leaton.

**MR. LEATON:** Just to piggy-back onto the Veterans Park and the opening. I was so delighted to see it all open. It's very nice. Took my family out there that day and they were -- they were impressed with a lot of what's out there. So, I'm excited about it. I think that there will be a lot of people going out there. I'm appreciative that we got it done. And then there's just a lot of things I could say about it. But also seeing the hundred people out there in support of it, it shows how much the community supports these types of quality of life amenities that we need to be somehow, even though we're looking at limited revenues of how we can try to keep some semblance of a quality of life for them because, you know, they're appreciative of it.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** What did we see, Jim, about 20 dogs and one horse out there. That dog was huge.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** That dog was the size of a horse.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** That dog was like -- he was huge.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** That's my best guess is somewhere around 20.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Good. So, seeing people already out there. It was also, just to not lose sight of it, it was an opportunity to honor the long-time fire chief, Spring Hill Fire Chief, when we used to have our own City fire department, Melvin Murry. So, that was a great opportunity for us as well.

**MR. LEATON:** The one thing I didn't catch is when -- what is the timeframe for the Veterans Memorial Park to get kind of going out there?

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** It depends on donations. It depends on grants. It depends on a lot of different things, you know, to make that true. But, you know, the concept was very well, I think, received by the public. So, hopefully that generated some really good conversation amongst themselves and perhaps -- we are actively pursuing grant opportunities.

**MR. LEATON:** Are we looking at year? Are we looking at five years?

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Again, it's going to depend on the donations. Remember, we had the Knaebel make a significant contribution.

**MR. LEATON:** Right.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** But we've also not even begun to tap some of our traditional larger contributors. Now, that we have that concept now down going back to some of those, I think that we'll be able to generate -- I think we'll be able to generate a lot of enthusiasm.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** It's such a wonderful tribute to veterans in that concept drawing. And we've a really good team who put together the concept including the American Legion, the Knaebels and others. It's a dream that I would love to see come true as soon as possible.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** What I'd like to see, Jim, is what the total dollar amount necessary is, and then we'll put together an actual fund drive for it and keep people apprised of that on our City Facebook page, have an opportunity for people to contribute.

**MR. LEATON:** And that's what I'm looking for because I don't want us to lose momentum.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Yes. I suspected. So, let's get on that if we could.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** We do have an estimate that Verio is going to look at kind of [inaudible].

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Good. If you could have Ms. Shupert work on the other aspects of that.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** Sure.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** And then we can start identifying our list of traditionally large donors that we -- there's a group of companies that we go to on rare occasions when we're looking for more significant contributions and they've always been very good to us.

**MR. OWEN:** I know the Rotary Club is waiting to hear prices on the flag poles.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** Okay. We'll do that.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Anything else, Mr. Leaton.

**MR. LEATON:** I just have a funny story about the flag poles but that's it. Also, fireworks. It seems like this year people did a good job of following the rules. I'd kind of like to know at the next Council meeting if, you know, if we had any citations or, you know. Okay. Excellent. You're ahead of me. And also just kind of curious to see, people were asking me, and I can't remember the number, I'd kind of like to see historically about how much money we generate in sales tax revenue for the fireworks, approximately.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** What that increase is we typically see in July over prior Julys.

**MR. LEATON:** Right.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** I mean we don't have a separate line item.

**MR. LEATON:** Right. That's what I'm looking for is just a general idea because I did have some people asking me, well, how much does -- they think it's this enormous number. And I'm not like, well, it's not quite like that and we don't get all of it either. So, I'd like to be able to provide them the actual true information because they're thinking it's like this big and I'm thinking it's maybe about like this big.

**MS. LANDIS:** And I can give you a past year's. We won't know this year's until [inaudible].

**MR. LEATON:** Right. I have a feeling this year is, just based off of what I saw in my neighborhood, it might be actually up a little bit. But, yeah, I'd kind of like to have that information so we can get that provided to some people that were asking those questions.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Anything else, Mr. Leaton?

**MR. LEATON:** No.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Thank you very much. Ms. Hughes.

**MS. HUGHES:** No report.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Mr. Eckert.

**MR. ECKERT:** No report, good sir.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Mr. Graves.

**MR. GRAVES:** No report.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. We'll move on to Staff Reports. Mr. Hendershot.

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** I would just briefly mention that Councilman Owen and Councilman Leaton and I have met twice now on the 223<sup>rd</sup> Street area. And looking at that development as one potential area, are there others, and we're looking at it from an entirely economic development standpoint. Going to reach out and make some contacts and see where that's going. But, you know, my thanks to these two gentlemen for their input. It's been educational. It's been stimulating as well. But we are progressing, sir.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Very good. Anything else?

**MR. HENDERSHOT:** No, sir.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Madam Clerk.

**MS. GERRITY:** No, sir. Thank you.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Ms. Landis.

**MS. LANDIS:** I think we've covered everything.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. Very good. Chief Henson.

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** Fireworks, we had 22 calls for service. However, most of them occurred after June 28<sup>th</sup> where we had 20 of them. So, we had two in May. During our approved times and dates of fireworks, we had eight calls for service that were outside of those, like they were after 11 o'clock. They were things of that nature. No contact or the violators were warned when we did contact them, so there were no citations issued of those 22 calls.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Any known injuries or property damage?

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** No.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right.

**MR. LEATON:** That's kind of what also I was looking for.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Very good. Anything else, Chief?

**POLICE CHIEF HENSON:** No.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Okay. Mr. Jenkins.

**MR. JENKINS:** No report, Mayor.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Mr. Burton.

**MR. BURTON:** No report, sir.

**ADJOURN**

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All right. That concludes our business for tonight. I would entertain a motion to adjourn.

**MR. LEATON:** So moved.

**MR. ECKERT:** Second.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** All those in favor.

**COUNCILMEMBERS:** Aye.

**MAYOR ELLIS:** Motion carries 5-0-0. Thank you very much.

*[Therefore, the motion was made by Councilmember Leaton and seconded by Councilmember Eckert to adjourn. The motion carried 5-0-0.]*

(Spring Hill City Council Meeting Adjourned)

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

/das \_\_\_\_\_ September 13, 2020

Deborah A. Sweeney, WriteAway Transcription

Approved by the City Council on October 22, 2020.

/gg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glenda Gerrity, City Clerk