

Fort Scott Commission discusses broadcast, demolition, StreetScape

Wednesday, August 20, 2008

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Tuesday night's city commission meeting covered three main topics of discussion; broadcasting city commission meetings, demolition of properties and concerns with the StreetScape project.

A motion to adjourn was interrupted by a citizen in attendance who wished to discuss the work being done on the StreetScape project. Several people reported that the work done on Wall Street was not adequate. City Manager Joe Turner asked the City Engineer to address the issue. It was stated that the work done on Wall Street was not completed to specification and that the materials used were not acceptable. According to statements from city officials, the contractor will be notified of these concerns. The commission said they expect the brick will need to be removed and reconstructed for the street to meet proper specifications.

Marmaton WRAPS was present to give a presentation about watershed districts as well as asking Fort Scott to commit \$30,000 each of the next two years for further funding. Upon the recommendation of City Manager Joe Turner, the commission will review the information provided to the commission and will address the issue at the next commission meeting.

Several local residents also approached the commission to address the issue of televising city commission meetings. The commission stated that they have discussed this suggestion previously and approved a sum of \$1,600 to purchase a digital video camera with an audio input. They will also be in contact with the cable company.

Director of Finance Susan Brown requested permission from the commission to bring a person in to discuss a schedule for moving the water lines, currently under the downtown streets, to a new location under the sidewalks. Permission was granted and the discussion will occur at the September 2 commission meeting.

Three bids were accepted by the commission. The first was for the improvement of the curbs and gutters on 6th Street from Margrave to Broadway. The commission accepted the bid proposed by Rogers and Son Concrete of Fort Scott at the cost of \$9,999. The second was a bid for demolition of an accessory structure located at 1523 E Wall. This project was awarded to Richard Aikens of Mapleton at the cost of \$925. The final bid up for consideration was for the demolition of the structure at 723 Little, which was awarded to Judy's Iron and Plumbing at the cost of \$1,640.

The commission was also asked by the Fort Scott Area Community Foundation to accept donations on behalf of the swim team and the traveling football team who would then receive the money from the city. The commission approved.

In addition, two ordinances, one for a water rate increase and one for a sewer increase, were passed after a final reading by the commission. Also an ordinance regarding the adoption of standard traffic laws was passed.

Other business included:

Setting the public hearing date of October 7 referencing alleged unsafe and dangerous structure located at 750 S. Judson and an accessory structure located at 308 Ford.

Approval of modified street lighting by removing two lights at Scott and 1st, one light at 1 S. Main, one light at 19 S. Main, one light at 10 S. Main, one light at 24 S. Main, one light at 29 S. Main.

Following the discussion about the displeasure with the work done on the streetscape project a motion to adjourn was restated and the meeting adjourned.

The next city commission meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 2 at 6 p.m. in the commission room at City Hall.

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