

## *KEO CITY COUNCIL MEETING November 15, 2021*

Mayor White called the November city council meeting to order @ 7:03 PM. Those present: Mayor Stephanie White, Recorder/treasure Clara J. Hughes, & council members: David Lanehart, Jerry Morton, Chris Collins, and Lynda Staton. There were 3 guests present.

The minutes were presented to the council after a brief discussion on these minutes Lanehart made a motion for these minutes and 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Collins and the council was in all agreement.

The council looked over the city October financials after looking these financials over Lanehart made a motion to accept these financials with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Morton and the motion passed unanimously.

The Keo water & sewer financials were presented to the council after a discussion on these financials Lanehart made a motion to accept these financials with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Collins with all in agreement. Mayor White gave an update on the water department on the plant maintenance that has been done and the makeover to improve the facility. She also informed the council of the tank being inspected. She stated that the water system is improving daily.

The water report was given by Chris Collins stating that things were going well and stated there had been several lines repaired.

Fire Chief Charles Martin was not able to attend this meeting. Patrick McClain gave the report stating there had been 3 runs within the last month.

Mayor White stated that there had not been an update on the tornado siren grant. The ANRC water projects the funding & decisions to January 2022. She also stated we were still waiting on decision on the fun park grant. Last month the council voted to allow the mayor to purchase new benches for the Veteran's park with allowing the amount of \$2500.00. Mayor White stated she was still shopping to find the best deal.

Mayor White asked the council to consider waiving the rental ord. fee for the Keo ladies auxiliary group since the work is for the benefit of the community. After the council had a discussion on this Morton made a motion to waive the

city hall rental fee with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lanehart and the motion passed with everyone in agreement.

Mayor White discussed checking into possible solar options for the city in the future. She also brought to the council the need to update the Keo city website. She stated she had discovered municipal impact that does website design, updates and emergency alerts. The cost would be 900 for the first year and 550 a year after. Morton made the motion to allow the mayor to go forward on changing companies to do the Keo website with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Collins and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor White then brought to the council the desire to relocate the water office to city hall and hire Cindy Nichols to do the books and billing. She also stated she would like to purchase a computer & hardware for the water dept. She stated she would use the ARPA FUNDS to purchase these items.

Mayor White presented a bid of \$2200 dollars to the council, this bid is to paint & re-vamp city hall. After the council had a discussion on this Collins made a motion to accept the bid with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Staton with all in agreement.

Mayor White requested to the council the desire to purchase large rolling trash cans for the residents of Keo, Staton made a motion to allow the Mayor to go forward on getting the cans ordered with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lanehart and all were in agreement for this motion.

She then brought to the council water account owner # 80 had a leak and had the leaked repaired and presented the repair bill to the mayor. Collins made a motion to cut the water portion of acct# 80 in half with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Staton and all were in favor. Mayor White then presented to the council acct# 243 bill to the council asking the council to consider allowing her to waive the late fees with the agreement that the full deposit would be required. Staton made a motion to cut the late fees with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lanehart with all in favor.

Mayor White wanted to discuss mosquito spraying and changing the route this year due to the increasing cost of chemicals and fuel. Lanehart made a motion to change the route with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Collins and the motion passed with all in

agreement. Mayor stated she would do an end of year letter to let the City of Keo know of the upcoming changes being done.

Mayor White asked the council to consider changing the monthly meeting date, after a discussion on this the Lanehart made the motion to change the monthly council meeting to the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Collins with the motion passing unanimously . Due to the meeting date changing and with Christmas holiday the council voted to suspend December's meeting. All were in favor of this suspension.

Mayor stated the next council meeting would be January 24, 2022 at 7 PM.

Morton made a motion to adjourn the November 15, 2021 meeting at 8:20 PM with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lanehart with all in agreement.

There was not a December council meeting.

January 2022 council meeting was cancelled due to the rising numbers of Covid cases.

The City of Keo's next council meeting will be February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

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Mayor Stephanie White

Recorder/treasure Clara Hughes