CITY OF STILWELL

Special Meeting – May 22, 2014

Stilwell Community Building – 6th & Poplar

6:00 p.m.

Roll Call Mayor Ronnie Trentham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll: Alex Mink – present, Jean Wright – present, Norman Isaacs – present, John Sharp – present, Jim Spray – present, Mayor Trentham – present, City Attorney Joe Adair – present, and City Clerk-Treasurer Shelldon Miggletto – present. Also in attendance were 12 guests.

Special Agenda

1. Discussion regarding proposals from Ambulance Service Providers: Samaritan Emergency Medical Service and Southeast EMS of Oklahoma for contract with the City of Stilwell to provide ambulance services. Councilman Mink said Kevin was promised a chance to turn this around. He said he thought we needed to give him Time. Councilman Isaacs agreed. Charles Vetters with Samaritan EMS introduced his company and his business partner Brett Selvidge. Mr. Selvidge reviewed their proposal and stressed that they wanted to keep all current personnel and would be entertaining hiring some of the part-time employees as full-time employees almost immediately. Council members asked about benefits in addition to their compensation. Samaritan committed that they would either provide equivalent benefits or cash in lieu of benefits and allow the employees to either purchase benefits or keep the cash. They currently have contracts with the City of Stroud and also Cotton County, Oklahoma. They also said they had just been awarded a contract to staff two trucks at Tinker Air Force Base. Mayor Trentham said that the administration had studied this issue for more than a year and had spoken to five potential vendors. The other vendor who submitted a proposal was Southeast EMS of Oklahoma. Clerk-Treasurer Miggletto said that SEEMS proposal was not as thorough as Samaritan as it left several questions unanswered. He informed the council that SEEMS had emailed and said they wouldn’t be able to make the meeting to review their proposal. Councilman Mink asked Samaritan if they would be willing to consult with the city and train someone within the city to operate the service in a better manner that would allow the city to continue to operate the service itself. Samaritan representatives said they would not be willing at this point to entertain that option. Miggletto said the contract would be for one year and that near the end of this first contract a review would be conducted to see how the service was meeting the needs of the community. Councilman Sharp said he was hesitant to make this change but that the losses of over $2.5 million dollars over the past 8 years was enough motivation to try something different. Councilman Spray said he wanted to make sure the employees affected would essentially be as well off if not better with a private company. He said he spoke to the clerk-treasurer and he explained the retirement option that the two employees affected would have. Miggletto said that the two employees were vested in the retirement fund and that as soon as age 55 they could begin drawing out of the fund. They could draw out their contributions plus interest or could leave the money there and at any point draw them out. He recommended leaving the money in place and set up another retirement fund with their new employer, and have two plans to draw from in the future. Mayor Trentham said that his concern along side the health of the city would be the welfare of the employees affected. Samaritan again said they wanted the local professionals who knew the patients, the hospital, the nursing home and the county to remain with them.
2. Discussion and possible decision for the City of Stilwell to enter into Ambulance Service Agreement with Samaritan Emergency Medical Service or South East Emergency Medical Service to begin July 1, 2014 or as soon as possible thereafter. A motion was made by Jean Wright seconded by Jim Spray to contract with Samaritan EMS effective July 1, 2014. After City Attorney Joe Adair raised a question about the automatic renewal language An amended motion was made by Jean Wright seconded by Jim Spray striking the automatic renewal language from the proposed contract. *Alex – no,* *Jean – yes,* *Norman – no, John –yes, Jim – yes MOTION CARRIED*
3. Discussion and possible decision for the City of Stilwell’s discontinuation of providing ambulance services and termination of all employee positions in the Stilwell Ambulance Department. THIS ITEM WAS TABLED
4. Discussion and possible decision to terminate the services of Mediclaims Inc. for Ambulance Billing Services and to enter into agreement with EMS Billing Services, Inc. to provide Ambulance Billing Services for the City of Stilwell. NO ACTION TAKEN

Adjournment A motion was made by Norman Isaacs seconded by Jim Spray to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. *Alex –yes, Jean – yes, Norman – yes, John – yes, Jim – yes*

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Ronnie Trentham, Mayor Shelldon Miggletto, City Clerk/Treasurer

Posted: Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

 Stilwell Community Building, 6th & Poplar

 Stilwell City Hall, 503 W. Division