

**City of Tonganoxie**  
**City Council Minutes**  
**06/02/11**

The Governing Body of the City of Tonganoxie met in a special joint work session with the Tonganoxie Planning Commission in the Tonganoxie City Council Chambers on June 2, 2011, at 7:00 pm for the purpose of discussing the 2012 Budget Plan for Comprehensive Plan Implementation Strategies and Priorities, Appendix A & B from the adopted Comprehensive Plan.

The following members of the governing body were present. Mayor, Jason Ward, Councilmembers; Andy Gilner, Bill Peak, Dennis Bixby and Jim Truesdell. The following members of the Planning Commission were present: Chairman Joel Skelley, Commissioners; John Morgan, Pete Gaumer and Robert Bieniecki.

Mayor Ward called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Joel Skelley, Chairman of the Planning Commission lead the discussion. They were going over the previously set time line and priorities. He said the Planning Commission previously completed the Conveniently Connected Trail Plan and the plan was adopted by the City Council as part of the Comprehensive Plan.

The work session continued with brainstorming various ideas. Skelley continued discussion by suggesting a good addition to the regulations would be to address the buffering between residential development and arterial roadways similar to Eagle Valley and Willis Park and determine maintenance requirements. Kevin Kokes, city planner, said with these types of developments they are required to have a master landscape plan and a required homeowners association would be responsible for the upkeep of any landscape buffers or common areas. Councilmember Dennis Bixby suggested we rebirth the Tree Board and once again become a Tree City USA city and celebrate Arbor Day again. He continued by stating that Dodge City, Augusta and Lenexa landscaping and entrances to their cities would be a good place to start when developing master plans.

Next, discussion centered on parks, small pocket parks and connectivity to other parks. It was decided that donations of land for parks or a park fee added to a building permit in lieu of donations may be a good option; however, the city would have to maintain any additional parks acquired. The Planning and Zoning can work with developers to negotiate a good fit between park areas to ensure viable options. The bigger discussion will be what type of parks does the community want. Do they want larger parks or several small pocket parks? Discussion about the possibility of a large park near or adjacent to the industrial park would be a good fit for that area. The Planning Commission agreed that a Park Plan with connectivity would be something they would be willing to take on with the support of the Recreation Commission and citizens and developers. The plan would be a grass roots effort because the funding is not there to have a consultant prepare the plan.

With no further discussion, there was a **motion** by Bixby to adjourn. Second by Gilner. Motion carried. All Ayes. Aye 4. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Y. Bard  
Asst. City Administrator/City Clerk