

Meeting: REGULAR Date: December 5, 2011

# THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING IN <u>REGULAR</u> SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:05 PM BY <u>MIKE ALFERS, MAYOR</u>, WITH THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council Member: Adam Wright Council Member: Don Ford

Council Member: John Mitchell Council Member: Don Etchison

Absent: Paula Scott.

Others: Leslie Warden, Allen Blake, Chad Thomas, Amy Houston, Stephanie Rogers, Layla Reese, Bella Oxley, Merritt Wright, and Taylor Milleson.

Mayor Alfers noted that Stephanie Rogers was in attendance to address a concern about the Haven Recreation program.

## Stephanie Rogers: Concern Regarding 6th Grade Girls Basketball

Rogers provided the governing body with a handout detailing her concerns. She contended that there had been a lack of communication between the coach and parents regarding practices, and to her knowledge, there had been no organized, scheduled practices, only two optional basketball camps. She was upset by the fact that the sixth graders were benched while fifth graders played the majority of a sixth grade game, which was for some reason coached by the fifth grade coach, not the sixth grade coach. Recreation Director Merritt Wright, Rogers contended, mishandled her complaints and insulted her daughter with comments about her playing abilities. She requested a refund check of her fees be issued to the Haven Food Bank as a charitable donation.

Merritt Wright addressed the Council and told them he didn't feel like he should have to be at the meeting, that he should be at home spending time with his family. He conceded that the fifth grade coach, Dwight Roper, was indeed coaching the sixth grade girls on that particular Saturday because Allen Shive, who volunteered to coach the sixth graders, acknowledged Roper's strong coaching skills. However, Wright emphasized the need for players to attend practices in order to play the games and noted that Rogers' daughter missed two practices. He noted this was apparent by her performance on the court. Still, Wright felt like she got equal playing time and offered no apologies. He discouraged the Council from offering a refund.

Etchison asked if there was a communication problem between the coach and parents. Wright said no, that Shive had called Rogers about the practices. By the same token, Rogers insisted she received no phone calls from Shive and even offered phone records.

Ford said if Rogers' daughter wasn't getting to play then she should receive a refund. The Mayor took this as a motion, which was seconded by Etchison. The motion passed three to zero. Councilman Adam Wright abstained.



Rogers' daughter, twelve-year-old Bella Oxley, briefly addressed the Council and reiterated that she thought it unfair for sixth graders to warm the bench while fifth graders played a designated sixth grade game.

## Mobile Home Park Operator's Licenses

Steve Taylor, owner of Elliott Courts, and Dinelle & Gavin Hunsberger, owners of Reynold Trailer Park applied for renewal of their mobile home park operator's licenses. The Clerk noted that Hunsberger expressed he was paying in protest because he was never notified of the potential for an increase in fees. A brief discussion regarding public knowledge and notification took place. Then Wright moved and Mitchell seconded to approve the renewal of both licenses. All voted in favor of the same.

## City Administrator / Public Works Director Updates

City Administrator, Allen Blake, provided the following updates:

- Ford moved to adopt Ordinance 603, regarding the annexation of a piece of ground owned by Richard and Una Mae Miller between the City limits and Haven Steel. Wright seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- The Kwik Shop electrical upgrade is at least halfway done.
- Blake will take the Water Operator exam next Thursday at Emporia and then the Sewer Operator exam in March at Wichita.
- Three applications have been received for the open Public Works position.
- Blake will attend the next EMS Board meeting to discuss billing and ownership of the proposed EMS building with the township representatives.
- Due to the departure of Tony Howlett, Blake has been checking the wells and lift stations on the weekends.
- Blake will contact Inman Excavating to see where they are at on finalizing their bid for ditch work on the east side of town.

#### **Executive Session**

Etchison moved that the council recess into executive session pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception in order to discuss wage reviews / employee performance evaluations, the open meeting to resume at 8:05 PM. Wright seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Blake reminded the Council that matters pertaining to all employees must be discussed in open session.

At 8:05, regular session resumed with no action taken during executive session. Then Wright moved for the Council to re-enter executive session pursuant to the same exception for the same purposes with plans to resume open session at 8:25 PM. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

At 8:25 PM, regular session resumed with no action taken during executive session. Mitchell moved and Wright seconded for the Council to re-enter executive session, same exception, same purpose, the open meeting to resume in 10 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Regular session resumed with no action taken during executive session. At 8:39 PM, Mitchell moved to:

1) Provide a 3.5% cost of living raise to all full-time employees, effective 1/1/2012.



- 2) Provide Chief Pell with a 2.5% merit increase for the extraordinary hours he put in to get the police force into place.
- 3) Increase Andrea Williams's wages by \$.50 per house, retroactive to October 1, 2011.
- 4) Increase the City Treasurer's pay to \$2,100 annually.
- 5) Increase the Municipal Court Judge's pay from \$175 to \$225 monthly.

Etchison seconded, and all voted in favor of the same.

## **Yearly Employee Bonuses**

Alfers expressed his desire to have the City earmark \$20,000 to provide bonuses to those involved in the Water Project if the project is completed within specifications, timeline, and budget. It was pointed out that this is not a line item in the 2012 budget, but it is something that could be specifically budgeted for in 2013. Ford asked who might receive bonuses, and potentially, that could include all public works employees as well as the City Clerk. There was a consensus to budget \$20,000 in the 2013 budget for this purpose.

#### **Review of Council Actions Since Last Election**

This item was tabled and will be taken up at the next meeting.

## Minutes

Minutes from the November 21, 2011, meeting were unanimously approved by motion from Etchison and a second from Wright.

#### **Accounts Payable**

Ford moved to approve the accounts payable to Mitchell Hardware, totaling \$517.54. Etchison seconded, and the motion carried. Ford moved to approve the remaining accounts payable totaling \$48,822.00. Mitchell seconded, and the motion carried.

The governing body was provided with a summary comparing payments posted to Jayhawk Utility Suite to deposits posted to utility funds in Quickbooks, dated November 30, 2011. They were also provided a summary of cash receipts, disbursements, and unencumbered cash for the month ended November 30, 2011.

#### Adjournment

At 8:50 PM, Ford moved and Etchison seconded for adjournment. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/ Mike H. Alfers, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Leslie Warden, City Clerk