

Meeting: REGULAR Date: March 19, 2012

THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING IN <u>REGULAR</u> SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM BY<u>MIKE ALFERS, MAYOR</u>, WITH THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council Member: Adam Wright Council Member: Paula Scott

Council Member: John Mitchell Council Member: Don Etchison

Council Member: Don Ford.

Others: Leslie Warden, Allen Blake, Amy Houston, Larry Bolton, Francis Schoepf, Cole Rush, Robert Pell, Christopher Scott, Tom Oxley, Jack Parker, Nita Johnston, Marlon Cohn, Mike Kennalley.

There were no additions to the agenda nor any public comment provided.

<u>Public Hearing Pursuant to Resolution 248 Regarding Annexation of Haven Steel Property</u> City Administrator, Allen Blake, addressed the Council and went over the City's plan to provide services to Reno Manufacturing / Haven Steel as well as the sixteen considerations for annexation provided by K.S.A. 12-520(a). Handouts were provided.

Mike Kennalley, attorney for Reno Manufacturing, provided several exhibits to the governing body. He contended that the proposed annexation meets neither of the tests listed in the proposed ordinance. He furthered that the City would not benefit that much from the increase in tax revenue (around \$7,000). Kennalley also noted that even though running a water line out to the Haven Steel area is currently in the Water Project plans, estimated at \$202,000, Haven Steel now doesn't want it. They are happy using a well and treating the water, though it was pointed out that the City is allowing Blake to serve as Haven Steel's certified water operator, as required by KDHE.

Kennalley mentioned that the City and Haven Steel Products have had an excellent working relationship for a very long time, and the owner, Mr. Cohn, would like to see that continue. However, if the property were brought into the City, he may have to rethink his options for future expansions.

Mayor Alfers explained that Haven Steel Products is reaping all the benefits of an entity inside the City limits but without shouldering any of the financial burden, and he thought it time for an equalization of that responsibility.

City Attorney, Larry Bolton, said he thought this annexation was valid, passed the statutory tests and would withstand any sort of a challenge.

Cohn did speak and said he did not think government should interfere with his business. He also noted that he has alternate uses for his capital and alternate locations for his business.



At 8:15 PM, Scott moved to continue the public hearing on this annexation June 4, 2012. Ford seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Consider Bid on Liability, Property, and Work Comp Insurance Policy

Nita Johnston, with Haven Insurance Agency, presented the bid. Last year the City paid \$47,490 for insurance. This year the City will pay around \$60,000. The increase is due in large part to an increase in City payroll as well as an increase in the City's experience rating. The Council asked Johnston to look into implementing a deductible for work comp claims. Ford moved to accept the bid with the aforementioned adjustments. Wright seconded, and the motion carried five to zero.

Public Works Director Updates

City Administrator, Allen Blake, provided the following updates:

- Blake asked the Council to approve an expenditure of around \$750 for the Planning Commission to mail surveys out to citizens to obtain their input for updating the Comprehensive Plan. Scott moved and Ford seconded to approve the expenditure. The motion passed unanimously.
- The City will advertise for pool manager / lifeguards with an application deadline of April 16th.
- A draft letter to Reno County Commissioners regarding Gar Creek Bridge was provided. Scott suggested eliminating the words "if possible" from the letter. Etchison moved to send the letter. Wright seconded, and the motion carried.
- Wright moved to adopt Resolution 257, authorizing the sale of bonds for the Water Project. Mitchell seconded, and all voted in favor of the same.
- Scott moved to adopt Resolution 258, offering the City's support of the local PRIDE program. Ford seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Christopher Scott, Refuse Superintendent, requested approval to purchase 17 additional Roll-A-Wastes, making a total of 42 for the year. Etchison moved to approve the expenditure. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed five to zero.
- Blake requested an executive session to discuss acquisition of real estate.
- Mitchell inquired about the progress of Hindman Trailer Park. Blake advised that
 nothing has been done, but there are supposed to be some things in the works.
 Mitchell said he thought the City should set out in specific terms what the park owner
 needs to accomplish with firm deadlines. Mayor Alfers agreed.

Chief of Police Updates

The 2012 truck is now in operation, complete with City decals, but still in need of wiring and lights. The 2007 Crown Victoria has been re-stickered to match the appearance of the newer vehicles. The 2003 Crown Victoria will be fully decommissioned over the weekend. The City will advertise to take sealed bids.

Approve Increase of Credit Card Limit to \$2,000

Because the City makes many more purchases online, use of the City credit card has increased. City Clerk Warden noted that increasing the limit to \$2,000 is workable, but increasing it to \$3,000 would be easier. Etchison moved and Ford seconded to approve the increase to \$3,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Appoint Katie Cooprider to Serve 2-year Term on Ambulance Board



Scott moved and Mitchell seconded to appoint Cooprider to serve a 2-year term on the Ambulance Board. All voted in favor of the same.

Executive Session

At 7:30 PM, Mitchell moved that the Council recess into a ten minute executive session pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception in order to discuss employee performance with Allen Blake present. Etchison seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

At 7:40 PM, regular session resumed with no action taken during executive session. Consideration of a wage increase for maintenance worker was tabled.

Minutes

Minutes from the March 5, 2012, meeting were unanimously approved by motion from Mitchell and a second from Etchison. Motion carried.

Accounts Payable

Scott moved to approve the accounts payable (excluding those to Mitchell Hardware), totaling \$78,175.97. Mitchell seconded, and the motion carried. Then Ford moved to approve accounts payable to Mitchell Hardware, totaling \$1906.78. Etchison seconded, and the motion carried.

The Council was provided with a report showing receipts and disbursements for the month of February 2012 as well as a comparison of actual to budgeted expenditures for the year through February 29, 2012.

Council Concerns

Mitchell initiated a discussion about the City's financial policy for issuing checks, concerned specifically about checks issued prior to the Council reviewing the accounts payable. Blake noted that the policy does allow for checks to be cut prior to Council approval to keep payments on time and to avoid late payments. Mitchell said he disagreed with the policy. Mayor Alfers suggested the Council / Clerk look into revising the policy and see what other cities do as well.

Etchison presented 5-6 questions about the Water Project from a citizen who wished to remain anonymous.

Executive Session

Etchison moved that the Council recess into a ten-minute executive session pursuant to the acquisition of real estate exception in order to discuss acquisition of real estate. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

At 10:00 PM, regular session resumed, and Etchison moved for adjournment. Mitchell seconded, and all voted in favor of the same.

/s/ Mike H. Alfers, Mayor

Attest: /s/ Leslie Warden, City Clerk