



**MINUTE RECORD**  
**Regular Council Meeting City of Haven**

**Meeting: REGULAR**

**Date: August 20, 2012**

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

**Council Member: Don Ford**

**Council Member: Paula Scott**

**Council Member: John Mitchell**

**Council Member: Don Etchison**

**Absent: Adam Wright.**

**Others: Christopher Scott, Cole Rush, Josh Wright, Dale Milleson, Hayley Lyda for The Clarion, Allen Blake, Leslie Warden, and Bernard McKinney.**

No additions to the agenda were necessary. No public comment was delivered.

**Executive Session**

At 7:03 PM, Scott moved for the Council to recess into executive session pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception in order to discuss job satisfaction with Chris Scott, Dale Milleson, and Josh Wright, individually, the open meeting to resume at 7:18 PM. Mitchell seconded, and the motion carried.

Council member, Paula Scott, excused herself from the five-minute session with Chris Scott, Refuse Superintendent but returned to the Council Chambers for the other two sessions.

Around 7:25 PM, regular session resumed with no action taken during executive session.

**Public Works Director Updates**

City Administrator, Allen Blake, provided the following updates:

- Last week Blake was on vacation, but City utilities suffered several problems.
- The packer on the trash truck broke, causing trash pick-up to fall behind, though the City did rent a truck from Nisly to continue trash service. The City's trash truck is now fixed and back in service.
- At least three major water leaks were reported; two are already repaired.
- On Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, the City experience brown-out problems and eventually a full outage due to a problem with some Westar lines northwest of town. Westar did come on scene and repair the issue, but the City has asked them to take a better look at that section of line.
- USDA Rural Development approved over \$387,000 reimbursement to the City and also approved the Contractor's Application for Payment No. 1.
- Twelve applications have been received for the maintenance technician position. However, because he just returned from vacation, Blake hasn't yet had an opportunity to afford them research. He requested the Council table their executive session. Mitchell emphasized the need for the position to be filled and suggested a special meeting to avoid prolonging a hire. Scott suggested giving Blake the



authority to hire someone since the Council typically follows his recommendation anyway. Mitchell agreed and moved for the same. Scott seconded, and the motion carried.

- Mitchell noted that according to the Water Project schedule distributed to him, the project is behind, not on track at all. Blake advised there's a revised timeline available, and he will distribute copies to the governing body.
- Mitchell expressed concern about Don Hindman having a key to the burn site. Blake advised he provided him with the key because he understood the Council wanted to assist Hindman in bringing the park back to a satisfactory condition. Mitchell said he thought it was an undue benefit. Mayor Alfery said he felt it was of greatest benefit for the City to help get the park cleaned up and suggested saving the issue for an executive session about communication with Allen Blake. The Council requested this occur at the next meeting on September 4, 2012 along with a tour of the public works facilities.

### **Chief of Police Updates**

Chief Rob Pell was absent. Officer Rush presented the following updates:

- The department has been working to close cases, run traffic, and has begun working school zones.
- A short discussion took place regarding a letter the Mayor received from an out-of-state individual about how she and her husband each received a ticket. The Mayor also spoke with her, and she admitted that she and her husband both were speeding. Her main problem seemed to be that if she hadn't pulled over because her husband was pulled over, only he would have gotten a ticket. Officer Rush advised that several concessions were given on the tickets (from writing them for only 10 over the speed limit when they were actually going over 20 over and also amending the tickets to non-moving violations so they would not appear on their driving records). The Council didn't see any wrongdoing on the part of the Police Department.

### **Hutchipedia Insert**

A recent Hutchipedia insert in the Hutchinson News contained basic information about local communities in the Reno County area. The section on Haven was of notably poor quality. Mitchell thought this was something the City had paid for. Warden advised that she called the News, and they advised it was not a paid section. The information provided was gleaned from public websites.

### **Volunteer Brigade / Community Service Projects**

No school representatives were present to discuss this topic. The Council advised that they are ready to discuss the matter whenever the school is ready.

### **Executive Session**

Mayor Alfery recommended letting Blake handle the hiring of a maintenance technician. Scott agreed and moved for the same. Mitchell seconded. The motion carried. The Council advised the starting wage for the position should be \$12.00 and put Friday as the hiring deadline.

### **Minutes**

Minutes from the August 6, 2012, meeting were unanimously approved with a motion from Scott and a second from Etchison. Motion carried.



**Accounts Payable**

Scott moved to approve the accounts payable of \$681, 218.63. Ford seconded, and the motion passed four to zero.

Mitchell asked if the City had put the Larry Bolton expenses towards the deductible on the Haven Steel matter. Warden and Blake will look into seeing if this is possible.

Council members were provided with a summary of receipts and disbursements for the month of July as well as a comparison of expenditures to date compared to budgeted figures for the month of July.

**Council Concerns**

Mitchell commented on the lousy appearance of Veterans' Park. He advised it is severely overgrown, and he would like to see a plan of the Park Board's intentions to spruce up the area. Ford quickly pointed out several improvements that have occurred since the hiring of Taylor Carlson, including badly needed repairs to the split rail fence. Ford said he was recently in the park with Taylor and gave him guidance for what to do next.

Ford mentioned the prevalence of mosquitoes in the ditches behind Stadium drive since the start of the Water Project, due to the flushing of lines and hydrants. Blake advised that the ditches had been treated with mosquito dunks, but he'll have the guys double the treatments.

**Adjournment**

At 8:00 PM, Mitchell moved and Etchison seconded for adjournment. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/  
Mike H. Alfors, Mayor

Attest:

/s/  
Leslie Warden, City Clerk