

MINUTE RECORD
Regular and Special Council Meetings City of Haven

Meeting: REGULAR

Date: November 17, 2008

THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CODY R. LITTLESTAR, MAYOR WITH THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council Member: Amy Hirst

Council Member: Jeff Stringer

Council Member: Charles Arndt

Council Member: Don Ford

Council Member: Paula Scott

ABSENT:

OTHERS: Harlan Foraker, Jennifer Vierthaler, Bruce Trapp, Allen Andresen, Tony Troyer, Allen Blake, Merritt, Sandy, and Sarah Wright, Bo Galvin, Bill Thomas, Ann Chesnut, Jessica Hoskinson, and Cheryl Savaiano

Mayor Littlestar called the meeting to order at 7:00PM in the City Council Chambers with members Hirst, Stringer, Arndt, and Ford present.

SEWER LAGOON PROJECT:

Harlan Foraker with Certified Engineering Design advised that low bid for construction of the new sewer lagoon had been offered by Reed Dozing & Contracting of Sheldon, Missouri. KDHE had approved the construction plans as well as the city's recommendation to accept low bid. The contractor would be required to submit performance and maintenance bonds as well as the contracts to be executed by Council. A separate contract for sludge removal could possibly be negotiated, if levels of sludge were found to be too high. Charles Arndt moved to allow Harlan to send notice of award to Reed Dozing & Contracting in Sheldon, Missouri for construction of a new sewer pond at \$448,651.05. Don Ford seconded, and motion carried four to zero. Harlan advised that contracts should be available by the December 15th meeting.

WELLNESS CENTER:

Jennifer Vierthaler discussed with Council a letter of understanding between the City and Wellness Committee for using the vacant fire station as a wellness center. 4-H and FFA had offered labor and materials for improvements to the building, and a grant application was in process. Several units of equipment had been donated by various sources. Member discussed options for providing restroom facilities, as well as the removal of an antique fire truck and a solar panel from the building. Officers for the committee had been elected, and Jennifer estimated 40 to 50 potential members to participate at the facility. As proposed in the memorandum, the committee would form a non-profit corporation rather than channeling funds through a city banking account. A city architect was not available for submitting plans for a grant application. Jeff Stringer moved to accept a memorandum of understanding between the City and Wellness Committee, excluding the term, "draft" and adding provision for a 20-year lease of the old fire station at the rate of \$1.00 per year. Charles Arndt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

DUMP TRUCK:

At 7:40 PM, and at the suggestion of Bruce Trapp, members left the meeting for approximately five minutes to inspect a 2004 Chevrolet dump truck. Bruce offered title and immediate delivery, with payment expected by January 19, 2009. After discussion, Charles Arndt moved to accept delivery on a 2004 Chevrolet truck pending resolution of the insurance issue and inspection and acceptance by the Mayor. Jeff Stringer seconded, and motion carried with four yes votes.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT:

Maintenance Supervisor Allen Andresen presented a written policy on fire hydrant inspection and maintenance. Each of the 60 hydrants in town would be serviced twice a year with findings recorded in a logbook. There was a question regarding "dead end" water service lines. At 7:58 PM, Paula Scott entered the meeting.

Midwest Iron had mailed correspondence indicating no more payment for scrap metal, while there was no market for sales. They would, however, continue to pick up metals collected in the hopper at the burn site.

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Street improvements had been completed, and millings had been spoken for at the rate of \$7.00 per ton. Some of the chips had also been hauled to the golf course.

A door at the swim pool restroom had been vandalized. In view of past incidents, Council asked Allen to check the cost of a surveillance camera to help identify responsible parties.

Five major water leaks had been repaired since the last meeting. One new line had been replaced, while the rest had been repaired at the meter box.

Tree trimming was almost complete, and the street sweeper had been in operation. It was confirmed that the area between the tree row and houses on the west side of Stadium was an easement.

NEW AMBULANCE:

EMS Director Tony Troyer discussed with members an estimated cost of a new ambulance and the option of committing to a purchase while a unit was available. After discussion, Charles Arndt moved to purchase a Lifeline ambulance from Rocky Mountain Emergency Vehicles not to exceed \$136,750.00, with payment made after January 5, 2009. Paula Scott seconded, and motion passed with five yes votes.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

After lengthy discussion and deliberation with Allen Blake and the Merritt Wright family, members agreed in a split decision to modify the current city ordinance regulating dangerous dogs and consider a revised ordinance in the near future.

Paula Scott moved to accept the resignation of Jennifer Vierthaler from the Ambulance Board. Charles Arndt seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

The Parks and Recreation Board had agreed to a separation of responsibilities. Candidates for membership to the Haven Park Board would be considered at the December 15th meeting.

Members agreed to consider a schedule of incremental rate increase for utilities, so as to avoid large increases in the future.

Council agreed to review employee evaluations on December 15th and address the option of a Christmas bonus for full time employees.

A complaint had been received regarding a strong animal odor in the alley near 4th and Reno.

A concern had also been expressed regarding after-hour usage of the burn site. Fall and winter hours had been revised to 11 AM – 5 PM on Wednesday, and 10 AM – 6 PM on Saturday

New trees had been planted in the alley between South Salina and South Topeka

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:40 PM, Charles Arndt moved for a five-minute executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Don Ford seconded, and motion carried with five yes votes. At 9:45 PM regular session resumed with no action taken.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bill Thomas reviewed a history of Haven's businesses and economy and expressed concern that the city was spending too much money for a community that was not growing.

Ann Chesnut was also concerned about escalating expenses. In view of a general budget crunch, she felt that Christmas bonuses should not be considered.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the November 3, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved, after a motion by Arndt and a second by Scott.

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ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Bills and transfers totaling \$130,870.26 were unanimously approved for payment, after a motion by Scott and a second by Ford. Members were provided a financial statement dated October 31, 2008 as well as a summary comparing receipts between the Jayhawk and Quicken computer programs.

COUNCIL CONCERNS:

With limited discussion, Paula Scott moved to publish an amended 2008 budget and conduct a budget hearing on December 15th. Jeff Stringer seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

For the purpose of paying for recent street improvements, Charles Arndt moved to transfer \$100,000 from public funds to checking. Paula Scott seconded, and motion passed five to zero.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:15 PM, Charles Arndt moved for adjournment. Jeff Stringer seconded, and motion passed unanimously.