

MINUTE RECORD
Regular and Special Council Meetings City of Haven

Meeting: REGULAR

Date: April 6, 2009

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: Don Huston, Robb Reeves, Joey Young, Sonia Yutzy, Lloyd Schmidt, John Mitchell, Art Allen, Randi Drake, Dean and Ann Chesnut, Betty Waggoner, Erin Peterson, Bill Thomas, Ryan McCrory, Holly Smith, Adam Wright, Allen Andresen, Allen Blake, and Cheryl Savaiano

Mayor Littlestar called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. Review of swim pool lifeguard applications was added to the agenda.

LEGAL PUBLICATIONS:

Don Huston expressed concern that a publication notifying residents of a Planning Commission hearing had not been printed in The Clarion. A series of miscommunications between the city office and the newspaper staff had prevented the legal notice from being appropriately published. Robb Reeves and Joey Young of The Clarion shared their contact information and emphasized their desire to accommodate the city with its publication requirements. Council agreed to publish two notices in the April 9th edition with special hearings scheduled for May 12th. Robb asked that the notices be emailed to The Clarion with follow up telephone calls to confirm receipt.

TAKE CHARGE ENERGY PROGRAM:

Betty Waggoner and Erin Peterson, as members of the Climate & Energy Project Team, introduced a program designed to conserve electrical usage in six cities. Partnering with Mt. Hope, Haven would be participating in a contest to reduce electrical usage between April 1, 2009 and April 1, 2010. The city reducing KWH by the largest percentage would be awarded one of three valuable prizes. Kansas Power Pool, Phillips Lighting of Salina, the City of Mt. Hope, and the City of Haven would offer energy-saving light bulbs to residents. A “kick off” party was scheduled for May 1, at the community building to introduce the contest to the public. Betty and Erin requested that the city support the program by offering disposal containers for used light bulbs, providing energy audits by city personnel to evaluate electrical usage by household, and promoting “weatherization” projects for homes and businesses, which could be funded through the South Central Kansas Economic Development Program.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT – ALLEN ANDRESEN:

No bids had been received for street improvements.

A nitrate sample had been taken for Water Well #4, with a test result of 12 PPM.

Freestanding road signs honoring Harland Priddle would be installed this week on both ends of Industrial Drive.

Water had been turned on at the swim pool, and minor repairs would be required.

The new mower was expected to be delivered this week.

Snow removal after the March 28th snow storm had proved challenging due to the strong north wind. Individuals had piled snow on top of water drains along 5th Street. As a result, personnel had problems moving water. Despite public complaints, Council agreed that maintenance personnel had done a good job. Citizens had also been helpful with the cleanup. Lloyd Schmidt complained that he couldn't get out after the storm.

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Ryan McCrory had certified as a Class I water operator and Jay Mattison had renewed his certification as Class I water operator. Allen agreed that Ryan would also test for a commercial driver's license, as a backup driver for the trash truck.

Seven or eight fire hydrants were in need of maintenance.

Lloyd Schmidt advised that there were cracks in 5th Street between Haven Road and Kansas Avenue. Allen indicated that 5th Street was on the list for improvements.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR – ALLEN BLAKE:

Tornado sirens would be tested as a coordinated effort between Maintenance and the Police Department. Residents were concerned that sirens had not been activated during a March thunderstorm.

RESOLUTION – RENO COUNTY MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN:

Members reviewed a resolution, which would allow adoption of a Reno County plan promoting disaster management and enhance eligibility for FEMA support in the event of a natural disaster. Allen Blake had participated with county officials in developing goals for reducing damages as natural events occur. After discussion, Jeff Stringer moved to approve Resolution #226 adopting the plan. Don Ford seconded, and motion carried. Allen agreed to furnish copies of the plan to members.

ORDINANCE – REGARDING BAD DEBTS:

With limited discussion, Charles Arndt moved to approve Ordinance #580 establishing administration fees for outside collection of bad debts. Jeff Stringer seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

BURN SITE HOURS:

Council agreed to set hours of 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Wednesdays and 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Saturdays at the burn site for the spring and summer months.

ROOF REPAIR – WELLNESS CENTER:

Members reviewed two bids for repair of the roof at 116 S. Kansas. After some discussion on the roofing problems, Don Ford moved to accept the bid of \$950 from Hamilton Roofing. Jeff Stringer seconded, and motion passed five to zero.

LAGOON PROJECT:

Allen reported on the progress of the sewer lagoon project and advised that the new cell should be operational in the next two months. The contractor had submitted a request for partial payment on work completed. With limited discussion, Charles Arndt moved to approve payment of \$197,727.60 to Reed Dozing LLC. Jeff Stringer seconded, and motion carried with five yes votes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 8:15 PM, Charles Arndt moved for a 15-minute executive session for the purpose of reviewing applications for swim pool personnel. Jeff Stringer seconded, and motion passed unanimously. At 8:29 PM, regular session resumed, with the following action taken.

SWIM POOL MANAGER – MAINTENANCE ISSUES:

Paula Scott moved to hire Mark Robinson as Swim Pool Manager. Don Ford seconded, and motion passed five to zero. Mark had submitted a list of maintenance projects to be addressed. The mayor asked that the solar cover for the pool be installed and that drain covers as required by federal regulations be pursued.

PUBLIC CONCERNS EXPRESSED TO THE MAYOR:

A resident was concerned that police officers were using city vehicles for personal use. No specific examples were presented.

A question had arisen regarding the city's responsibility for city employees participating in District #9 fire runs. The city's workers compensation policy would not apply.

Residents wishing to dispose of reusable items had requested recycling hoppers.

The light bar ordered for the 2007 police car had been cancelled.

USD 312 had requested that the net at the tennis courts be replaced. The tennis coach would be contacted for more information.

The librarian was concerned that handicap parking at the Library had not been cleared after the snowstorm; however, the mayor confirmed that snow had been removed from the area.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Randi Drake accused the Council of pushing young people away from town. Efforts needed to be made to put youth first, as youth-centered activities were dead, resulting in a sad situation.

Art Allen suggested that a two-way radio be issued to the burn site attendant, if the need for communications should arise.

Dean Chesnut advised that the Planning Commission needed to be active with regard to the city's strategic plan and zoning codes. The city's snow policy needed to be found and circulated to the public. Dean was appalled that city ordinances were not read and given proper review.

John Mitchell suggested that the honorary Priddle street sign be covered until it was dedicated. Paula Scott agreed to check with the Chamber of Commerce on plans.

Randi Drake offered her services as a coordinator for running after school activities for young people. Council suggested that she contact the Recreation Board or the Library.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the March 16, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved, after a motion by Scott and a second by Stringer.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Bills and transfers totaling \$118,417.57 were unanimously approved for payment after a motion by Scott and a second by Ford. Members were provided a financial statement dated March 31, 2009, a comparison of account balances to the 2009 budget, and a summary comparing receipts between the Jayhawk and Quicken computer programs.

COUNCIL CONCERNS:

The new ambulance had been parked outside the EMS building pending licensing requirements through the State of Kansas.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:55 PM, Paula Scott moved for adjournment. Jeff Stringer seconded, and motion passed five to zero.

Cody R. Littlestar, Mayor

Cheryl Savaiano, City Clerk