

MINUTE RECORD
Regular Council Meeting City of Haven

Meeting: REGULAR

Date: October 19, 2009

THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM BY CODY R. LITTLESTAR, MAYOR WITH THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council Member: Jeff Stringer

Council Member: Don Ford

Council Member: John Mitchell

Council Member: Amy Hirst

Council Member: Paula Scott

ABSENT:

Others: Sonia Yutzy, Leslie Warden, Allen Blake, Mary Andresen, and John Andresen.

No additions to the agenda were requested, and no public comment was provided.

Park Board Appointments:

At 7:01 PM, Mary Andresen, chairperson of the Park Board, brought forth the official recommendations for the open park board seats. The Park Board recommended the appointment of Glenna Norris and Sonia Yutzy. Council member Paula Scott moved for the approval of the appointments. Council member Jeff Stringer seconded, and the motion passed five to zero. No one was certain how the term limits of the new members should be determined since the Park Board has not yet written their by-laws.

Other Park Board news:

Allen and Mary Andresen are going to start digging the pad sites for four benches. Mary noted that they currently have the benches, swings, and a digger on order to put in the park. Additionally, she and Allen think they have located the most promising site in Veterans Park for a small water park-like area, where it could be tied into the community building's water lines. Mary has enlisted the aid of Jeremiah Hobbs, the shop teacher, and his class to remake the signs for the horseshoe pits. Stringer thanked Mary Andresen for the work she has done on the Park Board, and Scott noted the good progress that has been made.

Take Charge Challenge:

At 7:06 PM, Betty Waggoner thanked the Council and City for hanging the Take Charge banner up for the Fall Festival. She indicated the Take Charge committee is looking for a permanent place to hang the banner until the project ends in early April. Various locations for the banner were discussed but no final location was decided.

Betty said the committee is also looking for a home for the CFL bulb they made for their Fall Festival parade float. Council member John Mitchell suggested the old drug store now owned by James Schlickau. Waggoner said she would have to obtain permission.

Also, the committee has some CFL bulbs leftover and would like to distribute them to the local churches, if the Council sees fit. Scott and Stringer said that was a good idea, and Mayor Littlestar noted that the committee does not have enough bulbs to donate another round to the citizens.

In terms of Haven's standing in the challenge, we are currently in fourth place out of five. However, the dollar savings that Haven has shown are quite substantial. Betty thanked the City for shutting off the lights on Industrial Drive as part of the challenge.

Update on Water Project:

City Administrator Allen Blake discussed the progress being made on the water project. Phillip Fishburn has started the environmental report, and the engineer, Willis Wilson will be providing Fishburn with possible locations for an additional well. Wilson is also working on an agreement that complies with USDA regulations. These items are necessary to complete the preliminary engineering study.

Scott asked if any other council members had received additional feedback regarding the water project. Don Ford said a few people had approached him regarding the possible \$20 increase in water rates. Blake clarified that low end users will pay a smaller share of the cost of the project. Ford said that those he spoke to use less than our 3,000 gallon minimum.

Blake showed the City Council a 1972 map of proposed water improvements that he and City Clerk, Leslie Warden, discovered while organizing the back closet. Amazingly, some of the proposed improvements were never made. For example, South Wichita, South Sedgwick, and South Emporia still have 2" water mains. Blake said those lines really do need to be upgraded to larger mains and looped in, and we will look at making that a part of this project.

Ford asked when we might see ground move for the project. Blake noted that Fishburn's eighteen-month estimate is pretty optimistic. He said that we are probably doing well if we have begun construction by next summer.

Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals:

Blake said the Planning Commission discussed the size of accessory buildings at their last meeting and reached a consensus. In general terms, the size of an accessory building should be limited to the size of the main floor of the residents less any attached garage or unfinished area. However, the special use permit process would remain in place. Ford asked if building inspector, Sandy Wright, attended the meeting as required. Blake said she was not there. The Council agreed that her attendance at Planning Commission meetings is important; Blake said he would send her a letter regarding the same.

Maintenance Updates:

Allen Andresen brought the City's new recycling trailer to the lot for those that wanted to take a closer look. It has eight doors and four compartments on it. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding how to unload the trailer. There is an accompanying unloading conveyor available at State Surplus. The council agreed that the most sensible solution for unloading was to haul the trailer to Stutzman's and have them unload it with their conveyor if they have one. Andresen said he would check on that.

The recycling trailer will sit at the lot next to 120 N. Kansas. It was decided we would allow aluminum and steel cans, paper, plastic 1 and 2, and glass to be collected in the trailer. However, repairs to the tongue jack must be made and labels affixed to trailer before it is ready for use. Andresen indicated he could have the trailer ready by November 1. Stringer said he thought recycling would go over well, and Littlestar said it is the City's good deed to the environment.

Andresen passed around a KanCap pamphlet regarding an upcoming training session in Lyons regarding the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act put on by the Kansas Rural Water Association with the support of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The training session is open to city council members, mayors, as well as operators, managers, and administrative staff.

Reno County Head Start contacted Andresen to find out if there are any projects that they could help with in March of 2010. Andresen suggested the City allow them to help the Park Board with the Pioneer Nature Trail project. The Council agreed.

Andresen hoped they would be pouring concrete next week to fix the area around the water meter at Shep Chevrolet. Of course, this will be somewhat reliant upon the weather.

Andresen indicated the maintenance department has been replacing the handrails along the sidewalk on 5th Street and will continue to do so once they obtain some more steel. Additionally, they are still tree-trimming and street-sweeping. A new gutter broom for the street sweeper has been ordered.

Stringer asked if the green tractor is ready for winter. Andresen indicated that it is not and the previously discussed repairs have not been initiated. After a bit of discussion, Stringer moved for an estimate of repairs to the tractor and for those repairs to be made, not exceeding \$4500. Don Ford seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

City Administrator Updates:

Lagoons:

City Administrator Allen Blake said the water level on the new lagoon has dropped since it is not in use yet. Therefore, water was transferred from the old lagoon to the new lagoon so that more seepage tests could be performed.

Burn Site:

The Council previously asked Blake to look into obtaining some sort of shelter for the burn site attendant, especially for the winter months. Blake advised that the City could acquire a 6' X 8' guard shack with windows and a gable roof for \$1907.00 from Sturdi-Bilt. The shack would then be equipped with some kind of infrared propane heater. Mayor Littlestar suggested permanently mounting a vent-free propane heater. The Council agreed the Sturdi-Bilt shack was the best and most cost-effective solution at this time. Stringer moved for the purchase and delivery of the Sturdi-Bilt guard shack, not to exceed \$1907.00. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed five to zero.

Paul Moore Estate:

The attorney for the Paul Moore Estate contacted Blake for an estimate of the Pioneer Nature Trail project. Blake drafted a letter and estimate and received the approval of the Park Board chairperson. The Council agreed with the estimate of \$56,300.00 for the project.

Kansas Power Pool Metering:

The KPP now requires all of their customers to provide constant, live updates on electricity usage. Westar was going to perform the necessary upgrades for the City of Haven by equipping our two meters to transmit the data via telephone lines. This would then cause the City to be billed two telephone charges per month. However, the KPP engineer suggested equipping one meter to transmit data to the second meter via radio frequency, and then equipping the second meter to transmit all of the data via one telephone line, causing the City to be billed for only one telephone charge per month. The estimated cost of this project is \$6735. Don Ford moved for the approval of the KPP metering project, not to exceed \$6735. Stringer seconded,

and the motion passed unanimously. The Council agreed the expenditure should be paid from the utility fund.

Council Concerns:

Mitchell brought up that the community building still needs painting. Blake suggested we look at the schedule to determine the best time for the painting to be completed.

Ford mentioned a citizen contacted him regarding the state of John Herron's business and lot on Main. Blake said he spoke to him in July and they agreed that by Fall Festival Herron would have his impound lot set up appropriately behind his building. Herron has not met his end of the agreement and his current lot does not comply with the City's ordinance. Blake indicated Herron would be at the next court date, November 2, 2009.

Ford said the same citizen pointed out there is still a sizeable stack of tires sitting at Haven Ford, and these are a mosquito attraction. Blake agreed the issue should be addressed.

Scott asked for an update on the previously discussed cat issue on 5th Street. Blake said the feeder of the cats pled guilty, and the Judge ordered a 30-day suspended sentence should she choose to continue feeding the cats outside.

Council member Amy Hirst said the library could use a visit from an exterminator. Blake suggested they call Advance Termite & Pest Control, which the City has used for other facilities. Hirst also mentioned that the front window on the north side of the library is not too sturdy and needs some work.

At 8:14 PM, the Council took a break to step outside for a closer look at the recently purchased recycling trailer.

Minutes:

The meeting resumed at 8:20 PM. Minutes from the October 5, 2009, council meeting were approved by a motion from Jeff Stringer and a second by Don Ford. The motion passed five to zero.

Accounts Payable:

Paula Scott moved for the approval of the accounts payable, totaling \$131,414.29; Hirst seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional Concerns:

Mitchell mentioned the alley between the north 100 blocks of Reno and Hutchinson has deep ruts and needs some work.

Ford asked if something could be done to improve the looks of the burn site. All agreed the site needs to be leveled off, grated, and the water should be funneled to the nearby creek.

Adjournment:

At 8:28 PM, Stringer moved for adjournment. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Cody R. Littlestar, Mayor

Leslie Warden, City Clerk