

Meeting: REGULAR Date: January 21, 2011

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

Council Member: Don Ford Council member: Paula Scott

Council Member: Amy Hirst Council Member: Jeff Stringer

Council Member: John Mitchell

Others: Amy Houston with The Clarion, Glenna Norris, Allen Blake, and Victor Steffen Jr.

This was a regularly scheduled meeting.

Public Hearing:

Victor Steffen Jr. plans to purchase the building at 8893 Industrial Dr. from Mr. Matlack and convert it into a shop. He has a business installing irrigation systems and would like to add a shop onto the north side of the building. He will add a pole style building with metal siding. He will also drill a well for water until the city can provide them water.

Motion made by Ford and seconded by Stringer to approve the plans presented by Victor Steffen Jr. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Project Engineer Willis Wilson:

Willis Wilson presented a choice of different styles for the new water tower. This includes towers that hold 300 to 400 thousand gallons of water, multi-legged or single, some with fusion coating that does not require painting for 50 to 60 years and some that include storage space at the bottom. The tank manufacturers will quote a price for all different sizes and styles. The new tank could be placed next to the nitrate plant that could also have storage. Mr. Wilson then handed out a time line for the project. All critical path items are highlighted in yellow with red bars. Mr. Wilson said the end of the project should be January 2013, and requested council approval of the time line.

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Stringer to approve the time line by Aqua Tech as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Maintenance Supervisor Allen Andresen:

Allen reports that we have received back our second sample for the sewer ponds and the TSS level has dropped to 10.3 keeping in compliance with Kansas State guidelines. The ecoli and ammonia tests are not back yet. As of today the new Seed Cleaning project at the Coop is up and running. Allen presented drawings for a new bathroom complex at the baseball fields that would be 24' x 18' with insulated walls and 24 gauge walls and ceiling. It would also include a girls and boys side with handicap accessibility. The council suggested that the complex be supplied with



hot water, and a diaper changing station. Allen will reconfigure the plans with a 2 ft extension in size and return to the council with an estimate at the next meeting.

Hindman Trailer Park Owner Brian Morgan:

Allen Blake had asked Brian Morgan to attend the council meeting to answer some questions regarding the mobile home park. There have been complaints regarding a leaning pole in the park, a top missing off of a water connection box, a broken door hinge on a storm shelter and unkempt lots and trailers in the park. Brian Morgan reports that he has stabilized the broken pole by attaching it to a good pole. As regards to the shelter he said the door is attached to the shelter and he will be welding the top hinge onto the shelter. He has filled some pot holes in the park, and in the spring he plans to replace some meter boxes. He reports that he has raised the rent, but that some people in the park are going through rough times, and struggling with their rent. He says that he has done all he can to make people keep their property clean and orderly. The council has recommended that Brian keep all safety issues in the Park well taken care of.

City Administrator Allen Blake:

There is nothing yet to report in regards to the storm water study being done by Harlan Foraker. Josh Wright will start his employment with the city on Monday January 24, 2011. Allen provided copies of ordinance #595 and resolution #238, regarding employee pay, for review.

Ford moved, Stringer seconded to approve ordinance #595. The motion passed unanimously. Stringer moved, Ford seconded for approval of resolution #238. The motion passed unanimously.

Allen handed out copies of proposed incremental increases in utility rates for sewer, water, refuse and electrical service.

Scott moved, Hirst seconded to approve resolution #239 for waste water/sewer rates. The motion passed unanimously.

Scott moved, Stringer seconded to approve resolution #240 for water rates. The motion passed unanimously.

Scott moved, Hirst seconded to approve resolution #241 for refuse rates. The motion passed unanimously.

Scott moved, Ford seconded to approve resolution #242 for electrical rates. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council discussed requiring employees to pay half the increase in health insurance premiums other than single coverage. Blake reported that the cost to employees would be: Employee and Children is \$21.87, Employee and Spouse is \$6.93, and Employee and Family is \$28.80. He also reported that the City would still be grandfathered under new health insurance regulations. After some discussion, the item was tabled until the next meeting.

Allen requested that the Blue Shield, Blue Cross contract for the year 2011 be approved.

Hirst moved, Ford seconded to approve the 2011 Blue Shield, Blue Cross contract. The motion passed unanimously.



Allen presented a proposal to restructure the maintenance department and call it the Public Works Department. This will include a Director of Public Works who will handle prioritizing, scheduling, and supervision of the department. The Department of Public Works will consist of the department of Electrical Distribution, the Department of Water and Waste Water, the Department of Streets, Buildings and Grounds, and the department of Refuse and Recycling. He proposed that Josh Wright be appointed Superintendent of Electrical Distribution, Tony Howlett be appointed Superintendent of Water and Waste Water, Josh Smith be appointed Superintendent of Streets, Buildings and Grounds, and Chris Scott be appointed Superintendent of Refuse and Recycling. Blake also proposed that each superintendent be given an increase in wages as described in Resolution #243. Discussion followed.

Stringer made a motion seconded by Scott to pass Resolution #243. Motion passed four to one with John Mitchell voting against the motion.

Allen asked approval to purchase office furniture not to exceed of \$850.00 for his office.

Stringer moved to approve the purchase, Ford seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Allen reported that Jay Mattison is having a medical evaluation of his knee next week, and that Aaron Meek does not yet know if he is going to have back surgery.

Stringer moved, seconded by Scott to approve the council minutes from January 7, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

Scott moved, Stringer seconded to approve the payables in the amount of \$144,876.92. The motion passed unanimously.

Stringer requested that the recycle trailer be emptied every Friday and therefore be empty for the weekend.

<u>Adjournment</u>: Stringer moved, seconded by Hirst that the meeting be adjourned at 9:35pm The motion passed unanimously.

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	Cody R. Littlestar, Mayor
	Attest:
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	Leslie Warden, City Clerk

