

Meeting: REGULAR Date: May 20, 2011

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

Council member: Paula Scott Council Member: Adam Wright

Council Member: John Mitchell Council Member: Don Etchison

**Council Member: Don Ford** 

ABSENT: None.

Others: Leslie Warden, Allen Blake, Robert Pell, Amy Houston, Josh Smith, Sonia Yutzy, and

Glenna Norris.

#### **Addition to Agenda**

None.

#### **Public Comment**

None.

# Sonia Yutzy: Park Board Requests

The Park Board requested authorization to purchase a slide for the pool at a cost of \$2,349.99. Our insurer indicated a rider to cover the slide would cost around \$75 per year. The Council discussed rules that may need to be in place for a slide as well as how installation should be accomplished. Eventually, Scott moved to allow the Park Board to make the purchase. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Yutzy also mentioned the Park Board plans to purchase four lounge chairs for the pool as well as shade cloth to cover the west area behind the purgola.

# **Council Packet Procedure**

Mayor Alfers suggested that in the interest of increasing transparency, it may behoove the City to offer council packets free to The Clarion, Hutchinson News, and Wichita Eagle. Scott said she didn't think it was necessary to provide the packets to those who haven't requested one. Warden advised that for as long as she has been employed with the City, of the three, only The Clarion has made requests. Warden requested clarification, particularly on fees. Mayor Alfers said he thought they should be provided to the media for free. Scott disagreed, then, with charging taxpayers for the packets. Finally, Mitchell moved that the City furnish council packets at no charge to those that request them. Wright seconded, and all voted in favor of the same.



# **Harlan Foraker of Certified Engineering Design: Engineering Estimates**

This issue was tabled so that more complete estimates could be obtained. Wright suggested the City get bids from dirt contractors for cleaning out the Haven Buhler Road ditches as well as the drainage ditch to Gar Creek. Mitchell suggested the County be pursued regarding the insufficient size of the bridge over Gar Creek.

# City Administrator / Public Works Director Updates

City Administrator, Allen Blake, addressed the following with the Council:

- Pole storage. The poleyard is now leveled for fencing to go up. A quote for \$5,000 for a 160' fence with gates was presented. Blake advised he thought the crew could complete the project for half the price. Wright moved to allow the Public Works Department to install the fence for \$2,500 or less. Ford seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- We are still awaiting the arrival of poles to complete the basketball lights project.
- The shell of the bathrooms is up at the ball diamonds.
- The bucket truck underwent repairs.
- Some work was done on the exhaust filter of the trash truck.
- The Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on fencing and sign regulations on June 14, 2011.
- The Capital Improvement Committee has met once. Scott requested an updated copy of the Plan.
- Blake advised he planned to have Drake Plumbing rough-in the plumbing at the ball diamond bathrooms. Mitchell suggested the City take bids on the work. The Council agreed.
- City-wide Clean Up will take place June 6-9. The City will advertise.
- Mitchell advised the sidewalks need weeded.
- Animal control / storage of dogs was discussed.

# John Mitchell: EMS Building Update

Mayor Alfers advised he talked to the County Administrator, Gary Meaghers, about housing the ambulance and the ambulance employees in the Haven Fire Station. He was open to the idea. However, Fire Chief, Curly Gingerich, and EMS Director, Tony Troyer, have reservations about the set-up. Alfers noted that Blake has also looked into the possibility of leasing a building. The Council agreed that no matter which option is pursued cost-sharing is the preference. Alfers encouraged John Mitchell, liaison to the Ambulance Board, Tony Troyer, and Allen Blake to continue to work on this issue.

# **Chief of Police Updates / Blotter**

Once again, animal control / storage of stray dogs was discussed. Chief Pell will present estimates at the next meeting.

A page has been added to the City website to accommodate the Police Blotter. There all cases will be posted. Those with sensitive information will be posted very generally.

#### **Water Project Mailing**

The Council would like an information mailer to go out. It would contain facts and the timeline of the Water Project as well as the Mayor and Council's contact information. The Council would like to see the mailer before it is sent so the City Clerk and City Administrator will work to



present something at the next meeting. At that time, the Council will decide through which channel the information will be distributed.

#### **Department Head Spending Policy**

Mitchell argued that the acquisition and placement of sod in front of the City Shop was extravagant and unnecessary. Though the purchase of the sod was under \$500, once the labor to install it was accounted for, the project certainly exceeded the \$500 limit, which is the amount a department head may spend without prior Council approval. Blake noted that the policy has never been interpreted to include labor. The Council agreed and made no changes to the expenditure policy. Mayor Alfers said he thought the purchase of the sod was not out of line and that the placement of it was a good improvement. Wright said he thought the greenery looked appealing.

#### Minutes

Scott moved to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2011, meeting with the removal of doubly listed attendants. Etchison seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

# **Accounts Payable**

Scott moved to approve the accounts payable, totaling \$140,230.52. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

# **Council Concerns**

Wright asked about the City's procedure for street patching and suggested the use of hot mix.

Mayor Alfers did attend the Governing Body Institute. He said that 70-80% of what was presented was in the book provided, but he still felt it was valuable training.

#### Adjournment

At 9:00 PM, Scott moved and Etchison seconded for adjournment. The motion passed unanimously.

|         |         | /s/   |
|---------|---------|-------|
| Mike H. | Alfers, | Mayor |

Attest:

/s/ Leslie Warden, City Clerk