

Meeting: REGULAR Date: June 6, 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, Erin Peterson, Mary Jane Biltz, Jerri Taylor, Tony Troyer, Cheryl Savaiano, Stephanie Carlson, and Ryan Warden.

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

Tree Board: 2012 Budget Proposal

Tree Board Chairperson, Stephanie Carlson, presented a proposal for the 2012 budget. She asked that the funding remain at \$13,000 as it has for the past two budget years as the Tree Board is spending about \$12,000 each year.

Library Board: 2012 Budget Proposal

Erin Peterson presented the Library Board's proposal for the 2012 budget. In order to continue receiving state funding, the board must increase their budget each year. The proposed increase for 2012 is \$125, making the total requested budget \$50,007. Of that, \$8,232 would come from the mill levy, and \$39,775 would come from the City's utility fund.

Ambulance Board: 2012 Budget Proposal

EMS Director, Tony Troyer, presented the Council with the Ambulance Board's 2012 budget proposal, totaling \$206,248.35. Of that amount, \$20,000 would be transferred to the Capital Improvement Fund for an ambulance building, \$9,000 to the Equipment Fund for an ambulance, \$5,000 to the Equipment Fund for a repeater, and \$3,000 to the Equipment Fund for a handheld radio. The Council discussed options for a new EMS building.

Chief of Police Updates

Chief Pell provided the following updates to the Council:

- A used heavy-duty dog kennel has been donated to the City for housing strays.
- The blotter is now up and running at the City's website.
- The Click It or Ticket Program was completed successfully by the department, earning them a \$4,500 grant for traffic equipment.
- Two full vehicle cages, two shotgun locks, and a trunk organizer were purchased for \$300.



 Letters from Lester Banman and Vera Aikman, giving praise to officers for their professionalism and courtesy, were acknowledged. Mayor Alfers also praised the department for their good work.

City Administrator / Public Works Director Updates

At 7:45 PM, City Administrator, Allen Blake, addressed the following with the Council:

- The Capital Improvement Committee has met twice; minutes from those meetings as well as a wish list were provided to the Council. At this time, Mayor Alfers mentioned "Visioning-Haven," information produced from a 2006 community visioning effort, that was included in Council packets. He suggested the Council review the useful information as we continue to make improvements and work towards the future.
- Utilities have been hooked back up to 115 S. Emporia, a home that has not been lived in for years.
- The pool slide was installed.
- Repairs to the pergola were made.
- Some work on the basketball lighting project has been completed.
- The lights and irrigation system at the ball diamonds have been adjusted and fixed.
- Some clean up was necessary after the recent windstorm.
- Information regarding condemnation procedures was provided because a citizen was expected to address the Council regarding a dilapidated structure in town. That issue will be taken up at the next meeting.
- In regard to the Water Project, there are still some easements out but no need for action.
- The appearance of the burn site was discussed. All agreed that the signs there could use some work, if not total replacement. Wright suggested seeing if the County would be interested in the dirt / compost there.
- A "roster" of governing body members, complete with their contact information, was passed around for the Council to review for inclusion in the proposed Water Project informational mailer.
- No bids have yet been received for the plumbing project at the ball diamond bathrooms.
- Mitchell reminded the Council of the work that needs to be done at the Community Building sheetrock repair, painting, and better acoustics. Blake advised that the Public Works department could probably handle most of that.

Policies & Procedures Manual

Tabled.

Minutes

Minutes from the May 20, 2011, meeting were unanimously approved with a motion from Scott and a second from Ford.

Accounts Payable

Scott moved to approve the accounts payable to Mitchell Hardware, totaling \$1,332.53. Ford seconded, and the motion passed four to zero. Ford moved to approve all other payables, totaling \$73,382.77. Scott seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Council Concerns



Mayor Alfers received correspondence at his address from a citizen. A copy of the correspondence with the author's name redacted was provided in the Council packets. Alfers advised he did speak with the author and clear up some misinformation. Scott reminded the governing body that she gladly reads, accepts, and responds to signed letters of concern. However, anonymous letters with "wild allegations" are not of interest to her.

Stanley Juhnke, the City's Municipal Court Judge, submitted a letter requesting his salary be increased to \$225 per month rather than \$175, effective January 2012. The Council agreed it best to discuss the issue during the budgeting session with the auditors.

Mayor Alfers noted the inability of small towns to grow their communities and expressed his desire to resurrect an Economic Development Committee. Mitchell agreed and said he would like to see 9th Street developed. Scott said she thought it was worth pursuing along with taking another look at the Visioning Program.

The idea of a retreat for Council members was discussed, which gave way to clarification of the Kansas Open Meetings Act laws. Scott advised she would support a special meeting to discuss economic development.

Etchison requested and moved for the addition of five seconds of silence to the beginning of the Council meeting to honor the men and women who have served or are serving in the military. Wright seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Scott expressed her appreciation for the positive notes submitted by Vera Aikman and Lester Banman.

All agreed that the first meeting in July should be held on Tuesday, July 5th to allow for the celebration of Independence Day on the 4th.

Adjournment

At 8:40 PM, Scott moved and Mitchell seconded for adjournment. The motion passed unanimously.

		/s/
Mike H.	Alfers,	Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Leslie Warden, City Clerk