Meeting: REGULAR Date: June 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, Mary Andresen, Sonia Yutzy,

Merritt Wright, Dave Chamberlain.

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

Mary Andresen: Property Maintenance Issue (Sponsored by Mayor Alfers)

Mary Andresen provided the Council with information and photographs regarding rental property at 204 E. 1st, Lot 16, owned by Joe and Debbie Richardson. While Andresen's son lived there, several severe deficiencies were noted: missing skirting around the bottom of the trailer, a cat living in the wall, holes in the floor, air conditioner draining directly on an electrical receptacle, lack of a furnace. Andresen stated she spoke to the landlord about these maintenance issues, and though they said they would make reparations, the deed went undone. At times during the winter, the renter's electrical bill alone was \$500.

Ford commented that something does need to be done according to the pictures. Scott referenced Ordinance 315 and questioned who should take care of the matter. That responsibility fell to City Administrator, Allen Blake, who advised he had already spoken to City Attorney, Larry Bolton, about the matter. Blake advised he would make arrangements to inspect the premises. Then he would send a letter noting the deficiencies and provide the landlord a reasonable amount of time to make repairs. If the repairs then were not made, the City would then take action.

Sonia Yutzy, Park Board: 2012 Budget Proposal

Yutzy presented the Park Board's 2012 Budget request, totaling \$12,500 for the Park Board Fund and \$27,616.59 for the Wilderness Park. In 2012, the Park Board would like to make repairs to the Community Building and continue upkeep on Veterans' Park.

Fireworks Ordinance

Changes were considered but none made.

Wholesale Fireworks' Application for Sale of Fireworks Permit



Scott moved to approve the sales permit for Wholesale Fireworks. Ford seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief of Police Updates

Chief Pell provided the following updates to the governing body:

- The currently posted police blotter was discussed, as well as a small rash of burglaries that have occurred in the City.
- Pell presented the Police Department's 2012 Budget request, totaling \$173,762.00.

Recreation Board: 2012 Budget Proposal

Recreation Director, Merritt Wright, presented the Recreation Board's 2012 Budget request, totaling \$27,870. Wright also requested an additional \$5,000 by August 2011 for softball field repairs. To consider the request, the Council requested information about the Recreation Department's revenue numbers; none was immediately available, though those numbers were eventually produced by the Clerk. Upon further examination of the project proposal, only \$3,500 would need to be produced for the project this year. The remaining \$1,500 could come out of the 2012 budget. Ford commented that the City's bank account had been hit by too many unbudgeted items this year. Scott suggested looking to eliminate some items from the 2011 budget so that money could be used for the softball field project. Creative budgeting and give and take were used to locate \$3,400 of the needed funds for this year's portion. Wright was directed to use further creative budgeting skills to locate the additional \$100. Scott reminded Wright to be sure to include the remaining \$1,500 in the 2012 budget.

City Administrator / Public Works Director Updates

City Administrator, Allen Blake, provided the following updates:

- Water Project Easements: Kenneth Westfahl and C.B. Showalter request settlements, totaling \$5,925 from the City in exchange for easement access. City Attorney, Larry Bolton, advised Blake that considering the time and money risk of debating the matter in Court, settling is likely the cheapest way to handle the matter. Scott moved to purchase right-of-way access / perpetual easement access from the Kenneth Westfahl Trust for \$3,675. Wright seconded, and the motion passed five to zero. Scott then moved to provide C.B. Showalter and Joan K. Showalter compensation of \$2,250 for perpetual easement. Ford seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Those expenditures will not be reimbursable by Federal funds.
- *Bids on Baseball Diamond Bathroom Rough-In:* Four bids were received: Dave's Plumbing & Heating: \$1,332.00, Stewarts, LLC: \$1,071.90, Drake Plumbing: \$825.00, and Preferred Plumbing: \$975.00. Ford moved to accept Drake Plumbing's bid for the rough-in work. Etchison seconded, and the motion passed with five "yes" votes.
- The Electric Department plans to purchase a 35' hot stick for \$500 as well as 1200' of triplex wire for around \$2,000. Because these are operational expenses, no action from the governing body was necessary.
- *Drainage Project:* Blake provided the engineer's estimate for the work needing to be done. It totaled \$42,021.00. Additional surveying and engineering services totaling \$8,950 would also be necessary. The Council agreed it would be best to obtain bids from dirt contractors for the work Certified Engineering recommends.
- Due to an accident, the overhead garage door at the shop must be replaced. Sturdibuilt bid the project at \$2,091 and Cheney Door at \$1,969. Sturdibuilt's bid includes additional work to raise the header. Blake advised he would also like to have an



electrical opener installed to provide more clearance. He projects that would cost an additional \$745. Wright suggested the Public Works Department perform the header work themselves. Scott moved to approve the purchase of the electrical opener and accept Sturdibuilt's bid for the project. Ford seconded. The motion passed four to one, with Wright casting the opposing vote.

- Minutes from the most recent Capital Improvement Committee's meetings were provided.
- An investigation prompted by a citizen led to the discovery that the City has been drastically undercharging the school district for the electricity powering their air conditioners. The meter, thought to have originally been wired by Kenny's Electrical, was wired incorrectly but was fixed immediately upon discovery of the mistake.
- *EMS Building Project:* While those at the County level seem willing to allow our EMS service to be housed in the new Haven Fire Station, the Fire Chief, Curly Gingerich, and EMS Director, Tony Troyer, are quite opposed to the idea. Logistically speaking, only the front meeting area would be convertible to sleeping quarters, Blake pointed out. Other options will be explored.

KMU Mutual Aid

The City currently does not participate in the Kansas Municipal Utility Mutual Aid Program, but now that we have better resources to offer it would be worth considering. Not only would it allow the City to help others, but if the City experienced a big outage, mutual aid would be available to us. A handout on the program was provided to the governing body members. No action was taken.

Executive Session

Scott moved for the Council to enter into a 10-minute executive session pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception in order to review applications for Utility Clerk with the City Clerk and City Administrator present. Ford seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

At 9:50 PM, regular session resumed with no action taken. Then Scott moved to direct the City Clerk and Public Works Director / City Administrator to interview applicants, check references, and offer the job to the best candidate at \$12 per hour. Mitchell seconded, and all voted in favor of the same.

Amending Meeting Ordinance

Scott moved to adopt Ordinance 597, which would allow for governing body meetings to be held on a Tuesday when a legal holiday falls on Monday. Etchison seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Minutes from the June 6, 2011, meeting were unanimously approved with a motion from Scott and a second by Wright.

Accounts Payable

Scott moved to approve the payables, totaling \$60,777.60. Mitchell seconded, and all voted in favor of the same.



Members were provided a Summary of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the month of May as well as a comparison of each fund's year-to-date expenditures to budgeted expenditures.

Council Concerns

Scott spoke to Harland Priddle about the governing body's desire to review the Visioning Plan and resurrect an Economic Development Committee. Priddle advised he would be delighted to facilitate a revision of the Plan by the City's governing body. Scott suggested holding a special meeting on July 11, 2011, for this purpose. No action was taken due to the uncertainty of a few members' schedules.

Based on input from citizens, Ford suggested the City install signs at the baseball diamonds urging dog owners to clean up any messes after they've utilized the park's facilities as a dog run.

Adjournment

At 10:05 PM, Etchison moved and Wright seconded for adjournment. The motion passed unanimously.

/S/ Mike H. Alfers, Mayor

Attest:

/S/ Leslie Warden, City Clerk