

MINUTES
North Newton City Council – Regular Meeting
November 11, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.
North Newton City Hall

1. Call to Order

Mayor Braun called the meeting to order. Those present and constituting a quorum were:

COUNCIL: Gregg Dick, Ron Ratzlaff, Jim Goering and Dennis Campbell

ABSENT: Paul Harder

STAFF: John Torline, Danny Entz, Gregory Nye, Randy Jordan, Cindy Hiebert and Pat Redding

OTHERS: Grace Wild, Fred Schroeder, Kurt Friesen and Joyce DuBois

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the October 14, 2019 regular meeting were presented.

MOTION: Dick moved, Goering seconded, to approve the October 14, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizen Comments

No one spoke.

4. Receive Andi Andres regarding North Newton's contribution to the Kauffman Museum Kansas Day Project.

Andi Andres wasn't present so Mayor Braun asked that this agenda item be postponed until the December meeting.

5. Consider the Proposal from Knudsen, Monroe & Co. for an audit of the City's 2019 Financial Statement.

Consideration was given to the proposed engagement letter for an audit of the 2019 financial records at a cost not to exceed \$8,350.00. The proposal reflects a \$100 increase from last year's cost.

MOTION: Ratzlaff moved, Dick seconded, to accept the Knudsen Monroe & Company 2019 audit proposal not to exceed \$8,350.00. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Consider approval of the proposed matching share for the KDOT Path Project.

November 2019 Minutes

Torline reported that KDOT is seeking confirmation that the city has funds available to pay for our portion of the KDOT Path Project. Torline stated that the city issued General Obligation Bonds earlier in the year to cover the city portion of the project. Plans have been approved and bid letting is planned for December 18. Construction could start in early spring.

MOTION: Goering moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to approve the City Clerk to sign the letter stating we have funds available to proceed with the project. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Reports

a. Mayor/Council. Mayor Braun stated that he has had further conversation with Barth Hague, a representative from the Newton City Commission, regarding a sewer agreement. Newton has raised some issues so Braun and Torline will be checking with staff to research these items. Braun thanked citizens who participated in the election. Councilman Ratzlaff and Kurt Friesen are the unofficial winners.

Councilman Goering reported that the North Newton Community Foundation's (NNCF) assets are approximately \$260,645. In the past months, there have been several donors that requested their fund be moved into the NNCF. Approximately \$183,000 has been added to the NNCF making the new asset total \$443,615. The NNCF board is going through a time of transition and considering moving to a committee format. The board is also in the process of recruiting new board members. Goering thanked the City of North Newton for their continued support.

Councilman Goering also thanked Entz and McBeth for their hard work during Fall Clean-up. Braun stated that Fall Clean-up is a great service for the residents of North Newton and also stated his appreciation for their diligent work.

b. Staff Update. Torline reported he met with Chuck Regier and Irma Voran regarding the sign project. Torline stated that it will be more cost effective to have all the signs constructed at the same time. One of the proposed sites for a sign is at the corner of 36th Street and Anderson Avenue. The KDOT path will also be going through this area so it might be beneficial to wait on the construction of all the signs until the path project is complete. Torline also reported that Angela Sharp of Bartlett & West is still gathering information regarding the drainage study. Torline anticipates that Sharp will be on the December agenda to report her findings.

Entz reported that the overlay on Bluestem is complete. Some of the millings from this project have been spread on the gravel streets in town. Fall clean-up is wrapping up and it went well this year. Entz reported they had 24 truckloads of limbs this year compared to 18 truckloads last year. Both years they had ten truckloads of leaves and brush. Entz complimented residents on following the guidelines outlined in the ECHO.

Police Chief Jordan reported that the charging station has been used by thirteen vehicles in the past month. The total hours vehicles charged was nine at a total cost of \$8.80. The radar sign has been on Regal Crescent for the past six days. This is a low traffic area with a speed limit of 20 mph. Jordan stated the compliance rate was over 90%. Jordan spoke of the ongoing investigation that his department has been involved in regarding a North Newton resident. Jordan thanked Torline for his support and perspective throughout the

November 2019 Minutes

investigation. Jordan stated that KWCH interviewed him last week regarding the investigation and this piece will be aired tomorrow evening at 10 pm on Channel 12.

Attorney Nye had nothing additional to report.

c. Clerk/Treasurer. Redding presented November accounts payable and miscellaneous checks and October/November payroll for approval.

MOTION: Dick moved, Campbell seconded, to approve November accounts payable and miscellaneous checks in the amount of \$79,078.73 as presented and October/November payroll checks in the amount of \$27,026.52 for a total of \$106,105.25. Motion carried unanimously.

Redding stated that the new council members take office at the January meeting. Redding reminded everyone that the Christmas dinner is planned for December 14 and invitations will be sent soon.

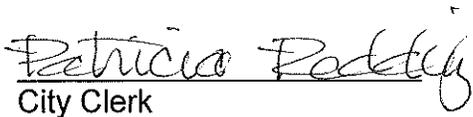
Hiebert reported that 12 tree coupons of the available 20 coupons have been distributed to residents. The tree program runs through December 1st.

8. Non-Agenda Items

None presented.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Braun adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.


City Clerk


Mayor

December 9, 2019
Date Approved