

MINUTES
North Newton City Council – Regular Meeting
February 11, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.
North Newton Community Room

1. Call to Order

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

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

STAFF: John Torline, Danny Bisoni, Greg Nye, Randy Jordan and Pat Redding

OTHERS: Scott Seirer, Kurt Friesen, Grace Wild, Fred Schroeder, Katie Schmidt, Chris Riesen, Chuck Regier and Wendy Nugent

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the January 14, 2019 Regular Meeting were presented.

Mayor Braun stated that on page four the minutes need to read that Council President Ratzlaff adjourned the meeting.

MOTION: Harder moved, Dick seconded, to approve the January 14, 2019 minutes with the stated correction. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizen Comments

No one spoke

4. Consider an Ordinance that declares Bluestem Street, West 27th Street and Kansas Avenue as Main Traffic Ways in the city.

Torline reported that Kansas statutes allow the issuance of general obligation bonds to improve main traffic ways in the City. In order to have bond money available to do some future projects, Bluestem Street, West 27th Street and Kansas Avenue need to be declared main traffic ways. Ordinance 625-19 authorizes these streets as main traffic ways.

MOTION: Harder moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to approve Ordinance 625-19 authorizing Bluestem Street, West 27th Street and Kansas Avenue as main traffic ways. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Consider a Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds for the City's share of the KDOT walking path.

Torline reported that council previously adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance of \$185,000 to pay the City's share of the KDOT walking path. This amount covers the city's 20% as well as engineering costs and the additional cost of a walking bridge instead of a low water crossing bridge. The KDOT grant awarded was for \$500,000 with KDOT paying 80% and the city 20% of the costs. Resolution 365-19 authorizes an additional \$170,000 which would increase the city share to \$355,000. The reason for the additional money is to cover the cost of a 14 foot walking bridge that

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KDOT is requiring as well as increased construction costs due to inflation since the original bid two years ago. Torline stated he has talked with KDOT and we are still on track for a July letting.

MOTION: Goering moved, Campbell seconded, to approve Resolution 365-19 authorizing issuance of \$355,000 in General Obligation bonds to pay the city's share of the KDOT walking trail. Motion carried unanimously

Since it wasn't 7:30 yet Mayor Braun recommended we address agenda #9.

9. Consider a Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds to overlay Bluestem Street/27th Street between Anderson Avenue and Main Street.

Torline reported that Bisoni has been working with Harvey County to include the overlay of Bluestem Street in a larger county project. The project is scheduled to be completed this summer. Bisoni stated the cost of the overlay is \$200,000 which will include patching, milling, curb and gutter work, replacing wheelchair entrances and a culvert repair. There will be a fair amount of work that needs to be completed prior to the overlay.

MOTION: Dick moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to approve Resolution 367-19 authorizing issuance of \$200,000 in General Obligation bonds to pay for the overlay of Bluestem Street/ 27th Street between Anderson Avenue and Main Street. Motion carried unanimously

Councilman Ratzlaff stated that the intersection at Bluestem Street and Wildwood Way floods easily and inquired if it could be included in the overlay project. Bisoni stated the \$200,000 bid does not include fixing this intersection but if council approved he could get a quote to have it repaired. Bisoni has used PP&J in the past for this kind of repair and has always been pleased with their work. Mayor Braun recommended fixing the concrete valley work at this intersection and the cost would come from city funds. It was the consensus of the council to give staff authorization to work with PP&J on repairing this intersection with the cost to not exceed \$10,000.

MOTION: Ratzlaff moved, Campbell seconded, to authorize staff to work with PP&J to repair valley work at the intersection of Bluestem Street and Wildwood Way. Motion carried unanimously

6. Conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed assessments on improvements to Lakewood Circle; Consider an ordinance levying special assessments on the property benefitted by said improvements.

At 7:40 Mayor Braun opened the Public Hearing.

Torline reported that at the January meeting the cost statement and assessment rolls were approved by council. Kidron Bethel is the sole owner of the property being assessed and they have seen the cost statement and proposed assessment rolls. After the Public Hearing council will be asked to approve Ordinance 626-19 levying special assessments. Kidron Bethel will then have thirty days to pay off the assessments. If they choose not to pay, the cost of the project will be included in the General Obligation Bond Issue.

No one else spoke. Mayor Braun closed the Public Hearing at 7:45.

MOTION: Goering moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to approve Ordinance 626-19 levying special assessments on the completion of Lakewood Circle. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Consider the recommendation of the Contractor Selection Committee regarding the entry way signage project.

Torline reported the Contractor Selection Committee of Irma Voran, Dennis Campbell, Ron Ratzlaff, Chuck Regier, Bisoni and Torline have met to review proposals and interview potential contractors for the project. Regier stated there were three bid proposals and two of the contractors, Regier Construction Inc. and Vogts Construction Co., were chosen to interview. It was the consensus of the committee that Regier Construction Inc. submitted the favorable bid based on pricing and flexibility. The action tonight is for council to decide on a contractor for the project so the project can move forward.

MOTION: Goering moved, Harder seconded, to choose Regier Construction, Inc. to be the contractor for the entrance sign project. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Consider a Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds for the construction of entry way signs.

Torline reported that Resolution 366-19 authorizes \$120,000 be spent on the entry way sign project. Based on the proposal from Regier Construction Inc. this amount could fund four signs. Any cost above \$120,000 would be paid out of city funds.

MOTION: Campbell moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to approve Resolution 366-19 authorizing issuance of \$120,000 in General Obligation bonds to pay for the entry way sign project. Motion carried unanimously

10. Consider authorizing repairs to the intersection of Bluestem Street and Sumac Street, intersection of 25th Street and College Avenue and the chip seal program.

Bisoni reported on Project A – Culvert replacement on intersection of Bluestem Street and Sumac Street. Bisoni received two bids with Vogts-Parga Construction, LLC coming in with the low bid of \$18,920.00. Bisoni recommended accepting the low bid.

MOTION: Dick moved, Campbell seconded, to approve Vogts-Parga Construction, LLC to replace the culvert at the intersection of Bluestem Street and Sumac Street. Motion carried unanimously

Bisoni reported on Project B – Replace valley gutter and wheel chair ramps at the intersection of 25th Street and College Avenue. Bisoni received three bids with PP&J Construction Inc. coming in with the low bid of \$6,986.00. Bisoni recommended accepting the low bid.

MOTION: Ratzlaff moved, Goering seconded, to approve PP&J Construction Inc. to replace the valley gutter and wheel chair ramps at the intersection of 25th Street and College Avenue. Motion carried unanimously

Bisoni reported on chip sealing project to be completed this summer. Bisoni highlighted the history of street sealing for the last ten years. This year he is proposing chip sealing portions of sixteen different streets. Bisoni received two bids with Circle C Paving coming in with the low bid of \$70,554.40. Bisoni recommends we accept the low bid. This project will be paid for out of city funds.

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MOTION: Dick moved, Goering seconded, to approve Circle C Paving to chip seal numerous streets in North Newton. Motion carried unanimously

Mayor Braun moved agenda item #11 after item #13 on the agenda.

12. Reports

a. **Mayor/Council.** Mayor Braun thanked Council President Ratzlaff for leading the council meeting in January. Braun also thanked Councilman Campbell and Councilman Ratzlaff for serving on the Contractor Selection Committee for the entry way signs. Councilman Goering reported that the current balance of the NNCF is \$237,000. The 2018 grant cycle will open on March 4 and will close on early April.

b. **Staff Update.** Bisoni reported that he used 12 tons of salt on the city streets during the past couple of weeks. Braun thanked Bisoni for his work on all the projects that have been presented tonight.

Chief Jordan presented a spreadsheet outlining the proposed rotation of patrol vehicle replacement. The goal is to spread out the replacements so there is only one per year. Jordan reported that all four full-time officers attended a two day FETI (Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview) training. This training teaches interview techniques for those interviewing victims of trauma. Officer Lowe attended for three additional days and reported they were taught to interview not interrogate the victim. The techniques used help fill in the gaps where the victim has experienced memory loss caused by trauma. Lowe received a grant to attend the additional three day seminar. Jordan stated that North Newton officers are the only ones in Harvey County who have attended this kind of training.

Attorney Nye had nothing additional to report.

c. **Clerk/Treasurer.** Redding presented February Accounts Payable and January/February Payroll for consideration.

MOTION: Dick moved, Goering seconded, to approve February accounts payable and miscellaneous bills in the amount of \$267,927.71 and January/February payroll in the amount of \$32,999.03. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Non-Agenda Items

None presented.

11. Consider recessing into executive session to discuss legal matters.

Mayor Braun requested going into executive session to discuss legal matters deemed privileged by the City Attorney.

MOTION: Goering moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to go into executive session for a period of 10 minutes starting at 9:00 to discuss legal matters deemed privileged. Those present were Mayor Braun, City Council, City Administrator Torline, City Attorney Nye and City Clerk Redding. Motion carried unanimously.

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At 9:10 the Council returned back to regular session whereupon Mayor Braun noted that no decisions were made and no actions were taken during the Executive Session.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business Mayor Braun declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Patricia Pedder
City Clerk

Ronald J. Braun
Mayor

March 11, 2019
Date Approved