

**MINUTES**  
**North Newton City Council – Regular Meeting**  
**June 19, 2019 – 7:30 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:** Ron Ratzlaff, Paul Harder, Gregg Dick, Jim Goering and Dennis Campbell

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

**OTHERS:** Joel Gaeddert, Fred Schroeder, Adam Strunk, Nathan, Marissa and James Murphy

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the May 13, 2019, regular meeting were presented.

**MOTION:** Goering moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to approve the May 13, 2019, minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Citizen Comments**

Marissa Murphy spoke about the need for a park in Campus Woods or the need to update our current parks. Children need to be active and parks encourage outdoor activity. Braun asked her to email her ideas to City Hall.

**4. Consider the Mayor's appointment to fill the expired term on the Harvey County Economic Development Council.**

Mayor Braun recommended Bethel President Dr. Jon Gering be appointed to a three year term on the Harvey County Economic Development Council replacing Councilman Goering.

**MOTION:** Goering moved, Harder seconded, to appoint Dr. Gering to the Harvey County Economic Development Council. Motion carried unanimously.

Braun thanked Goering for his past service on this committee.

**5. Consider the selection of an Engineering Firm to provide inspection services for the KDOT Walking Path Project.**

Torline reported that KDOT requires we hire a certified KDOT inspector to inspect the Walking Path Project. Four requests for proposals were sent out and two responses were received. Schwab Eaton and Bartlett & West sent in proposals and the committee of Braun, Bisoni and Torline reviewed the applications. The committee is recommending we hire Bartlett & West to be the inspectors for the project. Torline stated that we have a previous

## JUNE 2019 Minutes

relationship with Bartlett & West and they have a good knowledge of our community. The project is scheduled to go to bid in August.

MOTION: Ratzlaff moved, Dick seconded, to authorize hiring Bartlett & West to perform inspections on the KDOT Walking Path Project. Motion carried unanimously.

### **6. Consider an amendment to the Bylaws of the Newton/North Newton Planning Commission regarding a change in the start time of regular meetings.**

Torline reported that the bylaw amendment moves the Newton/North Newton Planning Commission meeting start time from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

MOTION: Dick moved, Harder seconded, to approve the amendment to the bylaws of the Newton/North Newton Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

### **7. Consider a 2020 Budget Work Session**

Mayor Braun called for discussion on inclusions or exclusions in the 2020 budget. Torline reported that we can continue to fund programs at current levels without increasing the mill levy. There was discussion about adding or replacing park equipment, replacing curb and gutter on Witmarsum West and continuing to buy smart meters. Most of these expenses would be paid for out of the Capital Improvement Fund or the Equipment Reserve Fund which are not budgeted funds. It was noted that once the walking path is completed there will be extra hours spent on upkeep, mowing, spraying poison ivy, etc. Staff will work on a draft budget for presentation at the July Council meeting.

### **8. Consider a Resolution adopting the Kansas Homeland Security Region Hazard Mitigation Plan.**

Torline reported that North Newton has participated in hazard mitigation planning and training under the direction of the Harvey County Emergency Management Department. This plan is reviewed every five years and makes us eligible for FEMA funds if we experience a disaster in our community. Resolution 370-19 adopts the Regional Mitigation Plan that includes North Newton and other cities in Harvey County.

MOTION: Ratzlaff moved, Goering seconded, to approve Resolution 370-19 adopting the Regional Mitigation Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

### **9. Reports**

**a. Mayor/Council.** Mayor Braun reported that the two incumbents, Paul Harder and Ron Ratzlaff, have filed for City Council along with Kurt Friesen and Mark Jenkins. Braun is the only candidate that filed for mayor.

Councilman Goering reported that the current asset balance of the NNCF is \$243,334 after the grant amounts have been paid out for 2019. There is still \$15,500 left to be matched by the City's funds. On June 20 the Awards Celebration will be held at Mojo's Coffee Bar. At that time, \$8,700 will be awarded to eleven deserving organizations. Braun encouraged council members to attend.

Councilman Campbell reported that Steve Meyer told him there have been some positive changes in how people recycle since the trash/recycling forum a couple of months ago. Meyers appreciates the effort on the part of citizens because this makes his job easier.

**b. Staff Update.** Torline had nothing to report.

Bisoni reported that all the patching is done on Bluestem and it is ready for the overlay later this summer. Some additional patching has been done with bond money at various locations in the City. Bisoni has been working with Middlecreek and requested a revised bid for the 24<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Street water lines. The revised bid is \$10,000 higher than the original bid so Bisoni is looking at other options. Bisoni has talked to two other contractors concerning this project. One isn't interested and Bisoni is still waiting to hear back from the other one.

Chief Jordan reported that the Honda Clarity has had lights installed and the decals arrived today. Jordan is impressed with the car and reports he runs on electricity most of the time. A charging station has been installed in the shop and it takes approximately two and a half hours for a complete charge. Jordan estimates it costs about .35 cents a day to operate. Another location for a charging station is still being discussed.

Attorney Nye had nothing more to report.

**c. Clerk/Treasurer.** Redding presented accounts payable and payroll for consideration.

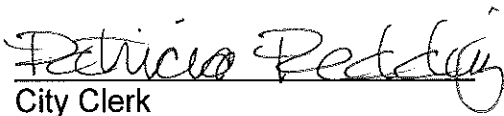
MOTION: Dick moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to approve June accounts payable and miscellaneous checks in the amount of \$123,713.33 and May/June payroll in the amount of \$27,557.09. Motion carried unanimously.

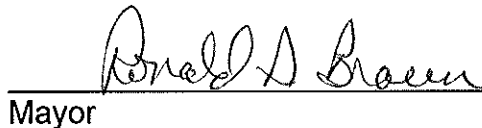
**9. Non-Agenda Items**

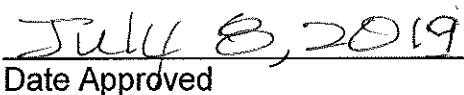
No one presented.

**10. Adjournment**

There being no other business Mayor Braun declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

  
City Clerk

  
Mayor

  
Date Approved