

**ULYSSES CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
April 11, 2018**

PRESENT:

Mayor: John Battin

Council Members Present: Tim McCauley, Larry Velasquez, Jerry Jo Deckert
Sam Guy, Ken Warner, and John Duran

Staff Present: Alan Olson, Sarah Britton, Ruben Flores, and Dave Black

Visitors: Ron Mcfarlane, Jeff Hilger, and Shayla Jaquez

Mayor John Battin called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor John Battin.

Council Member John Duran led the room in **Opening Prayer**.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Velasquez, seconded by Council Member Deckert to approve the consent agenda. Council Members Duran, Warner, McCauley and Guy voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

Visitors:

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Equipment Proposal from City of Johnson

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that the city owns a Versa-Vac model 1000 PD 1998. This equipment is used for cleaning out sewers, and the city no longer uses this. Olson stated that the city of Johnson would like to purchase this piece of equipment.

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that Public Works Superintendent Ruben Flores quoted the city of Johnson \$25,000.00, and they countered \$15,000.00.

Motion by Council Member McCauley, seconded by Council Member Velasquez to sell the Versa-Vac model 1000 PD to the city of Johnson for \$15,000. Council Members Warner, Deckert, Duran, and Guy voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

Sick Leave Policy

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that we would like to update the sick leave policy to make it more user friendly for the employee. Olson explained that in the current sick leave policy it did not state what an employee could use sick leave for. The policy will now state an employee may use sick leave to address the immediate medical concerns of the employee, their spouse, children or parents, or other sick leave request may be considered at the discretion of the city clerk.

Olson explained to the council that we had to update the sick leave policy to help update the voluntary leave transfer policy. The purpose of this policy is to provide a mechanism for the city employees to offer humanitarian assistance to fellow employees who are experiencing emotional and financial hardship due to a long-term catastrophic health situation of the employee or the employees immediate family member.

Olson stated that in 2005 the city had passed a voluntary leave transfer policy, but it never made it in the policy manual. Olson explained that we made some changes to the policy so the employee can donate sick leave or vacation to a specific employee from their own accrual bank.

Motion by Council Member Deckert, seconded by Council Member Duran to approve the sick leave policy. Council Members McCauley, Warner, Velasquez, and Guy voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas.

Motion by Council Member Warner, seconded by Council Member Deckert to approve the voluntary leave transfer policy with a change of only allowing the employee an absence of 24 weeks in a twelve month period. Council Members McCauley, Duran, Velasquez, and Guy voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas.

Grader Bids

Mayor Battin opened the bids, and after some discussion the Mayor and council decided to table the grader bids, and scheduled a special meeting for April 12, 2018 at 5:00p.m.

Motion by Council Member McCauley, seconded by Council Member Guy to table the grader bids for a special meeting on April 12, 2018 at 5:00p.m. Council Members Velasquez, Deckert, Warner, and Duran voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

Opioid Litigation

Motion by Council Member Warner, seconded by Council Member Duran to join the class action litigation against contributors of opioid addiction crisis. Council Members Velasquez, McCauley, Deckert, and Guy voted yea. Those voting nay, none. Motion carried, 6 yeas.

STAFF COMMENTS

City Attorney Black stated that he gave the Grant County Recreation building deed to city Clerk Britton to file. Interim City Administrator Olson stated that in the deed it states that if the city decides they would not want the building it should be deeded back to Grant County Recreation. Britton stated that Grant County Recreation will be filing the deed.

Interim City Administrator Olson stated the city Treasurer Sheila Maxfield is having issues with her printer. This printer prints paychecks and bills. Olson explained that we tried to get some parts in to fix the situation, and it is still not working condition. Olson stated that we are going to order a new printer, and use the old one for a backup.

Interim City Administrator Olson stated that Police Officer Tony Cavazos is here tonight, and he does a great job for the city.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Council Member Deckert stated that she has been traveling around the state looking for poorly maintained areas of towns where buildings are falling down, and she believes that Ulysses looks good. Deckert also stated that Spring clean up will start next week so hopefully the city can get rid of some of the junk in the alleys.

Council Member Guy stated that he is glad that we tabled the grader bids.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Council Member Deckert, seconded by Council Member Velasquez to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 p.m. Motion carried, 6 yeas. Nays, none.

Mayor John Battin

Council Member Jerry Jo Deckert

Council Member Tim McCauley

Council Member Kenneth Warner

Council Member Larry Velasquez

Council Member John Duran

Council Member Sam Guy

Interim City Administrator Alan Olson

City Clerk Sarah Britton