

Regular Council Meeting
January 12, 2015

Council President Roger Jensen called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Present were council members Bruce Swihart, Dale Weeks, Paula Keller and Carla Lampe. Also present were JR Landenberger, Mike Day and Glorianne Milne.

Minutes from the December 22 meeting were read. A motion was made by Dale and seconded by Bruce to approve the minutes as corrected. A motion was made by Bruce and seconded by Carla to approve the minutes of the December 26 special meeting.

Consent Agenda: It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Carla to approve the following items on the consent agenda: permission for clerk to pay insurance and utilities at time of billing; permission for clerk to pay utility incentives before the 25th of the month and permission for clerk to pay theater bills when due. The following dues were also approved: Kansas Mayor's Association \$50.00, League of Kansas Municipalities \$689.77, Kansas Rural Water Association \$812.00, and City Attorney's Association \$35.00.

Police Report: Shane read the incident report for December. It was a light month and things went really well. It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Paula to accept and file the police report.

Old Business:

Keller's Pond: JR reported that the city crew will patch the fence at the Riverwalk Entryway. A permanent solution will be addressed with the architect's plan. Roger will be involved in a conference call with the architect on Friday. Roger asked if the city would be interested in applying for the Sunflower Trails grant to improve the walking trail. It was agreed to wait and see the architect's plan before a decision is made on the grant.

New Business:

Park Chemical Bids: Bids from Bartlett Grain and St. Francis Equity were opened. Both bids need some clarification so JR will get the correct information.

Tree Trim Licenses: It was moved by Dale and seconded by Carla to approve 2014 and 2015 tree trim licenses for Abel Tree service.

Bird City Recycle Agreement: Roger and JR reviewed the Recycling Agreement with Bird City. Currently, Bird City pays 135.60 per month plus \$.50 per water meter. This totals roughly \$1.00 per meter. St. Francis residents pay 1.50 per month for recycling and this seemed a fair amount for Bird City to pay in total. Mike will draw up a new agreement and Roger will present it to the Bird City council on February 2. The agreement will also address the need for better sorting of the recyclables.

EMS Building Agreement: It was suggested that the county take over ownership of the Emergency building. Seventy-five percent of the cost and use of the building is the county's and they have full time employees working there. It will be left on the agenda for further discussion.

Utility Incentive – Tinker Tots: It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Carla to approve a utility incentive for Rachael Morris at Tinker Tots. Motion carried.

Clerk's Applications: There were five applications for the city clerk's position. Roger requested 20 minutes of executive session to review them.

Building Permits: It was moved by Dale and seconded by Bruce to approve the following building permit: Glenn Schliep, shed. A chicken permit for Mike Blehm was also approved upon JR's inspection.

Superintendent's Report: JR has been unable to get a second bid for a trash truck. Downing Sales has brought two trucks out for the city to try and their bid of \$130,704 is comparable to what other city's have paid for a truck. It was moved by Dale and seconded by Paula to buy the 2015 Freightliner Trash Truck. Roger McQuigg is no longer in the plumbing business and has a \$7,000 camera/locator for sewer lines. He would like \$3,000 for the camera which would be very beneficial for the city. It was moved by Carla and seconded by Bruce to purchase this equipment. JR was also interested in buying a commercial grade rodder line from Roger. The city has had to wait a long time for repairs and it would help to have some of this equipment available for the city crew to use. There was a frozen water line at the Roadside Park. Heaters are being used to try and minimize the damage. The low bidder on the line contract for the electrical upgrade has asked about the time frame for the repairs. No decision will be made until the talks with Prairie Land are completed. Dollar General is considering the purchase of ~~has purchased~~ the old Windmill property on the south side of West US Highway 36. They need a street to come off of the highway. They will do the initial improvements and then it would become a dedicated city street. It was agreed to extend Cherry Street for this 30' by 60' stretch. Dollar General also asked for a letter of support from the city so that they could apply for a Brownsfield grant to remove the old fuel tanks. Mike will write a letter for JR to sign. Kip Rethke of Eagle Urethane will be looking at the roof of the power plant to find a solution to the freeze/thaw problem. Gordon Ross is working on the hand rails. The city's water tapper has disappeared. It was borrowed by the City of Bird City and returned to the door of the Power Plant. A new one is over \$6,000. We will borrow Goodland's to do a water tap on Friday and an insurance claim filed on the missing one. It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Paula to accept and file the superintendent's report.

Clerk's Report: Glori had recycling calendars available for those who were interested and shared some information from Helen Dobbs on "Go and Grow" your social media marketing. It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Carla to accept the clerk's report.

Council Comments: Paula has checked the website and will be visiting with Helen about needed updates. She appreciated the council's comments about the police department at the last meeting and would like to have it on the agenda to discuss the police department and possibly filling the third position. Dale reported that RC &D has had some response to the Honor Flight trips. Carla asked for 30 minutes of executive session for law enforcement personnel. Bruce will soon be advertising for lifeguards. The pool committee will be compiling a handbook for their employees. All bills on **Ordinance #974** were reviewed. It was moved by Paula and seconded by Carla to approve these bills.

At 8:56 it was moved by Dale to go into executive session for 20 minutes for personnel. Shane was excused from the meeting. At 9:15 it was moved and seconded to come out of executive session. The list of city clerk applicants was reviewed and interviews for the five candidates will be scheduled for January 22 at the Kite and Day office. Mayor Scott Schultz will be included by conference call. Council members will excuse themselves as appropriate. At 9:20 it was moved by Dale to go into executive session for 30 minutes for personnel. At 9:50 it was moved and seconded to come out of executive session. The council determined that they would contemplate the discussions

held during executive session and come back with their recommendations at a future meeting. It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

City Clerk