

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 11, 2009

5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Ken Stewart, Donna Parish, Tony French, Mari Ann Parker and Mike Batchelder (5:05).

ALSO PRESENT: Lawrence Mays, Barry & Wendy Simmons, Brandon Whetstine, Randy Snyder, Dick Powell, Ted Collins and Bill Butrick.

PRESIDING: Mayor Marty Allen.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

Tony French moved to approve the minutes of the last Regular Council Meeting held February 11, 2009. Ken Stewart 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

Donna Parish moved to approve the bills for the month of February, 2009. Tony French 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Lawrence Mays, new Doniphan County Economic Development Director, was introduced by Mayor Allen. Mr. Mays stated he would make himself very visible and welcomed any ideas or suggestions anyone may have concerning the economics of Doniphan County. Mr. Mays further stated that his office would be in the Courthouse at Troy and that he would be attending future Council Meetings periodically to keep all the cities updated. Several ideas were discussed by Council members which included signs about Doniphan County being posted on major highways, building a major highway from Leavenworth to Rulo, affordable housing and other issues.

CITIZENS REQUESTS

Barry & Wendy Simmons asked about installing a septic system since the city's sewer line was not deep enough. The Council agreed to give the Simmons' permission to pursue the septic system and to contact the environmental representative from Troy to see if it would meet the necessary regulations.

Wendy Simmons also stated that grants may be available to cities for street repair, sewer lines and other areas through the stimulus package.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Donna Parish reported that Marla Taylor had asked about possibly forming a summer basketball league and that more details may be available at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken Stewart updated the Council on the progress of the Community Center/Fire Station. He presented charts that outlined the parking area available for the Community Center and also a seating plan for inside the Center which would involve the purchase of tables and chairs.

Mari Ann Parker moved to pursue more land from the college for additional parking area at the Community Center. Donna Parish 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

The Council also stated that donations are still being accepted for items needed at the Community Center and that donations can be left at Farmer State Bank in Highland and that work nights at the center for anyone that would like to volunteer are every Monday and Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m.

Donna Parish moved to strike item #6, concerning S. Genesee Street, from the proposed parking changes. Ken Stewart 2nd, motion carried 4-1 with French voting no.

NEW BUSINESS

Mari Ann Parker reported that PRIDE Clean-up is scheduled for March 27th and 28th depending on weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

Tony French moved to approve the contract with Michael D. Peroo, CPA, to perform the city's 2008 audit and prepare the 2010 budget. Mari Ann Parker 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

Tony French moved, seconded by Ken Stewart, to approve Ordinance #481, An Ordinance of the City of Highland accepting the recommendation of the Doniphan County Planning Commission for changes in zoning referred to as the First Addition defining the changes of boundaries as amended and changing the official zoning map of said city amending Ordinance #473. By roll call vote: Batchelder-yes, Parker-yes, French-yes, Stewart-yes, Parish-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mari Ann Parker moved to approve the application, "Request for Construction Project using Recovery Funds 2009", for the culvert project on 240th Road for \$219,300. Tony French 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

OTHER COMMENTS

Randy Snyder asked if something could be done about trees being cut down and dropped on his property and also if something could be done about the same individual driving across his property to cut the trees. The Council agreed to have the Code Enforcement Officer look into the matter to see if it would fall under the "Nuisance Ordinance", however, it probably would be determined it would be a "civil matter".

6:00 p.m. Ken Stewart moved to go into executive session for ten minutes to discuss contractual issues and for Ted Collins and Bill Butrick to remain. Mike Batchelder 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

6:10 p.m. Ken Stewart moved to come out of executive session. Mike Batchelder 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

6:10 p.m. Tony French moved to go back into executive session for ten minutes to continue with same discussion. Mari Ann Parker 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

6:20 p.m. Mari Ann Parker moved to come out of executive session. Donna Parish 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

6:20 p.m. Donna Parish moved to go back into executive session for ten minutes to continue discussion on contractual issues. Ken Stewart 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

6:30 p.m. Ken Stewart moved to come out of executive session. Mike Batchelder 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

6:30 p.m. Mike Batchelder moved to go back into executive session for ten minutes to continue discussion on contractual issues. Tony French 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

6:40 p.m. Ken Stewart moved to come out of executive session. Donna Parish 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

6:45 p.m. Ken Stewart moved to adjourn. Tony French 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor

City Clerk