

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 13, 2011

5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Scott Huss, Mike Batchelder, Mari Ann Parker and Jerry Twombly. Kevin Lackey was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Brandon Whetstine, Beverly Holder, Michael Stonebarger, Russ Karn, Robert Powell, Ted Collins, Lori Kelley, Scott Sisk, Randy Snyder and Bill Butrick.

PRESIDING: Mayor Ken Stewart.

5:01 p.m. Mayor Stewart called the Public Hearing to order to discuss the vacating of the alley in Block 115 in the City of Highland, Kansas. Mayor Stewart asked for public comment.

Jerry Twombly moved to approve Ordinance #499. An Ordinance of the City of Highland, Kansas vacating the north-south alley in Block 115. Mari Ann Parker 2<sup>nd</sup>. By roll call vote: Batchelder-yes, Parker-yes, Twombly-yes, Huss-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

5:03 p.m. Mike Batchelder moved to adjourn the Public Hearing. Scott Huss 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

5:04 p.m. Mayor Stewart called the Regular Council Meeting to order.

Jerry Twombly moved to approve the minutes of the last Regular Council Meeting held March 9, 2011. Mike Batchelder 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Mike Batchelder moved to approve the bills for the month of March, 2011. Scott Huss 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

### PRESENTATIONS

Ted Collins requested the City to waive the deposit for the Community Center for the Alumni Reunion to be held on May 28, 2011. Scott Huss moved to waive the deposit as requested. Mike Batchelder 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

### CITY OFFICERS REPORTS

Police Chief Brandon Whetstine presented the monthly activity report for the Police Department: 6-arrests, 10-citations, 22-verbal warnings, 45-calls for service, 3-assists to other agencies, 2-accident reports, 14-criminal reports.

Chief Whetstine asked about purchasing a new video system for the police car. He informed the Council that he had received four bids ranging from \$2900.00 to \$5000.00, with the lowest bid being from Martel Digital. Mari Ann Parker moved to purchase the system from Martel Digital and to have it installed and all costs to be taken from the Law Enforcement Diversion Fund. Scott Huss 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Mayor Ken Stewart reported that Robert Powell and Bill Butrick would like to upgrade to iPhones for scheduling purposes and other advantages. Mayor Stewart also said that the City Maintenance crew

would like to have texting added to their current phone plan. Stewart explained that the additional costs per month for the iPhones would be about \$20.00 and the texting would cost \$5.00 extra per month. He further stated that the land line at the City Shop would be discontinued to offset the increase in cost. Mari Ann Parker moved to upgrade to the iPhones and to allow texting at their expense, for City Maintenance and also cancel the shop land line. Scott Huss 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

#### CITIZENS REQUESTS

Beverly Holder asked if something more could be done about handicap accessibility at the Highland Med Clinic. Mayor Stewart said he had talked with a representative from the Hiawatha Hospital about this issue and that hopefully something will be done within the next month.

Scott Sisk asked about asphalt and street repairs coming up for this year. Mayor Stewart informed him that West Avenue would be asphalted as well as five or six additional blocks that would fit in the City's budget.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mari Ann Parker stated that College football players and City workers would be working on Saturday to help with Pride Clean-up. Mayor Stewart said the City workers would be given comp time for this project.

Scott Huss moved to give the City of Denton six of the City's old Christmas decorations. Mari Ann Parker 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Mari Ann Parker wanted it stated in the minutes to thank everyone that helped with the Pride fund raiser for the purchase of the new Christmas Decorations.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Stewart reported that five new fire hydrants would be installed this year and that Fire Chief Joe Florence and Superintendent Jeff Riley would choose those that will be replaced based on which hydrants were in the worst shape.

Mayor Stewart also reported that City Maintenance had replaced ten water meters so far this year and that they will replace 30 more to reach the annual replacement goal.

Scott Huss asked if community service workers would be available to brush off and repaint concrete street signs. Chief Whetstine stated that workers are available and he would begin this project as soon as possible.

Mayor Stewart reminded everyone that the next Regular Council meeting would be at 7:00 p.m. as well as all future meetings.

Mayor Stewart presented plaques to outgoing Council members, Mari Ann Parker and Mike Batchelder in appreciation for their many years of service as a member of the Highland City Council.

Mayor Stewart informed the Council that relations between the Highland Police Department and the Doniphan County Sheriff have developed some communication problems that need to be addressed. He asked that the Council go into executive session to discuss these issues.

5:34 p.m. Scott Huss moved to go into executive session for twenty minutes to discuss personnel and for City Attorney Ted Collins, Police Chief Brandon Whetstine, City Clerk Bill Butrick and newly elected council members Lori Kelley and Randy Snyder to remain. Mari Ann Parker 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

5:54 p.m. Scott Huss moved to come out of executive session. Mike Batchelder 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Mari Ann Parker stated she would continue to work in Degginger Park even though she would no longer be on the Council.

Mayor Stewart said a meeting between the athletic directors at Highland Community College and Doniphan West School would hopefully be held in the near future to discuss use of the baseball field.

6:00 p.m. Scott Huss moved to adjourn. Jerry Twombly 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

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Mayor

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City Clerk