

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING
AND
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
AUGUST 7, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Huss, Randy Snyder, Jerry Twombly , Charles Batchelder and Jim Watts.

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Attorney Ted Collins, Assistant City Clerk Joann Karn, City Police Chief Brandon Whetstine, Police Officer Blaine Kennedy, City Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh and City Maintenance personnel were absent.

GUESTS PRESENT: Lisa Jeschke, Linda Jeschke, Mike Batchelder, Dorothy Diveley, Dennis Snyder, Dennis Lentz, Kolten Huss, Pam Twombly, Scott Sisk and Deena Simmons.

PRESIDING: Mayor Ken Stewart

The Public Hearing for the 2014 Budget was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with all Council members present.

After a brief discussion, Scott Huss moved to approve the 2014 Budget as presented. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Stewart adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:03p.m.

Mayor Stewart called for a short recess to complete Budget paperwork.

7:05p.m. Mayor Stewart called the Regular City Council meeting to order.

Randy Snyder moved to approve the minutes of the last Regular City Council meeting held on July 10, 2013. Jerry Twombly 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Jerry Twombly moved to approve the minutes of the Special meeting held July 23, 2013. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Charles Batchelder moved to approve the minutes of the Special meeting held July 31, 2013. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Charles Batchelder moved to approve the bills for the month of July, 2013. Scott Huss 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

CITIZENS REQUESTS: Jerry Twombly asked the Council to contribute half of the cost to the install a new curb along the south side of Virginia street from Kansas Street east down to the tube in the street. Charles Batchelder moved to pay \$1650.00 for the installation of the curb as proposed by Mr. Twombly. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 3-1 with Huss voting no and Twombly abstaining.

Jerry Twombly also mentioned to the Council that he was going to alter the curb along Kansas street to allow for a driveway in front of his new business.

Banks Construction was not able to attend the meeting to discuss the Waterline Project.

Lisa Jeschke asked the Council for permission to possibly set up for their Annual Hog Roast on Saturday, August 17th, 2013 in the parking lot of the Community Center as well as inside if the weather permits. Randy Snyder moved to allow Jeschkes to set up outdoors at the Community Center with the conditions all neighbors close to the Center will be personally notified in advance and the DJ will be finished no later than 12:00a.m. Scott Huss 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Stewart informed the Council that the City received a "Thank You" note from Becky Gilmore and Wendy Simmons of the Community Garden for allowing them use of City water at no charge.

City Attorney Ted Collins asked the Council for permission to close off streets at the intersections of Pennsylvania and South Avenue and Pennsylvania and Elmira for an auction at the Pauline Minier home (307 South Avenue) on August 17th and August 18th. Scott Huss moved to give permission to Mr. Collins to have the streets temporarily closed for the Auction. Jerry Twombly 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

7:25p.m. Mayor Stewart had to leave the meeting for an EMS call.

Council President Jim Watts presided over the rest of the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS: A brief discussion was held concerning the possibility of forming a new Recreation Commission.

Scott Huss moved to allow Dennis Lentz a six month extension to complete work/repairs on his property that is on the Derelict Structure List located at 106 East Virginia Street. Charles Batchelder 2nd, motion carried 3-2 with Twombly and Watts voting no.

A brief discussion was held on the July 31, 2013 Street Work Session, trash clean-up, the Water Project and new options for limb disposal.

City Attorney Ted Collins gave the Council information on the Updated Ballpark Contract with Highland Community College and USD #111. Jerry Twombly moved to approve the Updated Ballpark Contract as presented. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

City Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh gave updates on: the City's Sam's Club membership, City credit card, 2012 Audit copies, payment and pick-up of equipment sold by the City and the 4th of July meeting to be held on August 14th, 2013 at 6:00p.m. The City Clerk also asked the Council about getting some ideas on a City Logo from them and the Community. Council President Jim Watts asked the Clerk to look into possible options.

City Police Chief Brandon Whetstine provided updated information to the Council on derelict structures. Chief Whetstine then presented reports to the Council on the structures which property owners had been notified of violations and they had not corrected at this point. The reports were for properties at 418, 422 and 424 West Main Street, 305 South Genesee Street, 805 West Main Street and 106 East Virginia Street. The Council agreed not to take any action on the reports at this time except for the extension given earlier in the meeting.

Councilman Batchelder mentioned that Buds Sewer Service had been seen in town working on the sewer lines. Councilman Huss said that Buds Sewer Service had run into a problem of a broken joint in the sewer line leading to Jason Taylor's home that would need to be dug up and fixed. Jerry Twombly moved to contact Engemann and/or Leudke to get the break fixed as soon as possible. Scott Huss 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Jim Watts of the Law Enforcement Committee recommended to the Council that if the Police officers wanted to use rifles they would need to purchase their own and use them. No further action was taken.

OLD BUSINESS: Jerry Twombly asked if the property donated to the High School to be used for a practice field was going to actually be used anytime soon.

8:15p.m. Jerry Twombly moved to go into executive session until 8:20p.m. to discuss a personnel issue for the protection of the privacy rights of the protected employee and for City Attorney Ted Collins and City Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh to remain. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

8:20p.m. Randy Snyder moved to go into executive session until 8:25p.m. to discuss a personnel issue for the protection of the privacy rights of the protected employee and for City Attorney Collins, Police Chief Whetstone and Clerk Hollabaugh to remain. Scott Huss 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Randy Snyder moved to give Police Officer Blaine Kennedy \$1000.00 for moving expenses upon the condition that he will remain actively employed with the City for at least one year or reimburse the City the full \$1000.00. Scott Huss 2nd, motion carried 4-1 with Huss voting no.

8:27p.m. Charles Batchelder moved to adjourn. Scott Huss 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Mayor

City Clerk