

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
JUNE 12, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Watts, Scott Huss, Randy Snyder, Jerry Twombly and Charles Batchelder arrived at 7:05 pm.

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Attorney Ted Collins, Assistant City Clerk Joann Karn, City Police Chief Brandon Whetstine, and City Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh.

GUESTS PRESENT: Pam Twombly, Dennis Lentz, Jim Twombly, Roger Hopkins, Wendy Simmons, Becky Gilmore, Michael Stonebarger, Cortney Stonebarger and Dorothy Diveley.

PRESIDING: Mayor Ken Stewart

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

Jerry Twombly moved to approve the minutes of the last regular city council meeting held on May 8, 2013. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 4-0.

Randy Snyder moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held May 12, 2013. Jerry Twombly 2nd, motion carried 4-0.

Scott Huss moved to approve the bills for the month of May, 2013. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 4-0.

CITIZENS REQUESTS: Wendy Simmons gave the Council details on the Community Garden on Main Street in Highland. She asked for the City to donate toward the water expenses for this project. Randy Snyder moved not to charge for water used at the Community Garden and to have the meter shut off in months it was not in use. Jerry Twombly 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Roger Hopkins asked if the City could open up a ditch that was filled in on the south side of Spring street just east of Walnut Street. Mayor Stewart said City Maintenance would get it done as soon as possible.

Dorothy Diveley with Highland Pride announced the City Wide Garage Sales would be this Saturday June 15th. She asked if the City could get all the trash cans emptied before the weekend. The Mayor said he would get City Maintenance to get that done.

Councilman Jerry Twombly mentioned that a tube at the north end of West Avenue, close to the George Moore residence also needs to be cleaned out as soon as possible. Mr. Twombly also asked about the use of George Moore's property for access to the new water tower site. Jerry Twombly asked about progress on getting a new tube put in the road at Missouri and Vermillion streets. Mayor Stewart said the tube had been ordered.

Mayor Stewart mentioned that he had received a complaint on a piece of property in the City that was not being used for what it is zoned for. City Attorney Ted Collins advised that policy should be followed and the property owner needs to be notified.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS: Mayor Ken Stewart informed the Council that at this time the City does not have a certified technician to shoot fireworks for the 4th of July. The Council agreed to have the Mayor, the City Clerk, the Asst. Clerk and Mrs. Simmons explore options and make some decisions to set up activities for the holiday.

Mayor Stewart informed the Council that there is a problem with the pipe for the pump at the well. The pipe needs to be replaced. Jerry Twombly moved to purchase a new pipe for the pump. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Twombly expressed his concern with water leaks around town not being repaired in a timely manner.

City Attorney Ted Collins mentioned a sewer back up that occurred at a residence in town and said the sewer line should be replaced due to tree roots that have grown into the line. Mayor Stewart stated that the Maintenance supervisor had been in contact with a company in Kansas City to get prices on what the repairs would cost.

Mr. Collins stated he had looked into the issue of the City obtaining a credit card for City use. He said he did not see any problems as long as proper policies for use of the card were established. The Council agreed to allow the Clerk apply for a credit card and asked the City Attorney prepare policies for the use of the card.

The City Attorney mentioned that Highland Community College had contacted the Mayor with some changes to the City Ball Park Contract. Mr. Collins also stated that USD #111 had not specified that any changes were needed. The Council agreed that the City Attorney would make the necessary changes and bring the revised contract to the next Regular Council Meeting for approval.

City Attorney Ted Collins informed the Council that the Concealed Carry laws were changing as of July 1, 2013.

Police Chief Brandon Whetstine reported that Code Enforcement Officer Malcolm Grier had established a list of derelict structures. Mr. Grier prioritized this list by location, being unsafe and accessibility. After some discussion, the Council agreed to follow the procedures already set by the City beginning with notifying the property owners of the problem structures.

COMMITTEE UPDATES: Jerry Twombly of the Law Enforcement Committee stated the committee agreed that the current policies dealing with the Weed Ordinance needs to be strictly enforced. Councilman Randy Snyder stated the he would like to table the Police Dept. rifle issue until next meeting, the Council agreed.

Scott Huss of the Street and Alley Committee said the committee had not met but he had checked into painting lines on Main Street.

Charles Batchelder asked about the possible sale of the City owned tractor, mower and other equipment. After some discussion, Randy Snyder moved to advertise that the City would be taking bids for the tractor and implements separately. The bids should be sealed and will be opened by the Council at the next Regular Council Meeting on July 10, 2013 at 7:00p.m. The Council reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. Charles Batchelder 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Stewart reminded the Council that the County needs to know which streets we are wanting to chip and seal this summer. The Mayor suggested Missouri Street east of Kansas Street to North Carolina Street and Vermillion Street beginning at Missouri Street and ending at Main Street.

Jerry Twombly asked if some cold patch could be put on the seam between the new sidewalk and the street in front of City Hall like had been planned. Mayor Stewart said he would ask City Maintenance to complete that project as soon as possible.

Jim Watts moved to appoint Janet Tyler as the City Treasurer for the City of Highland for 2013. Scott Huss 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Randy Snyder announced that he had spoken with Terry Moran about fixing the fountain in Degginger Park. Mr. Moran told Mr. Snyder that he would get to those repairs as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS: Randy Snyder moved to reschedule the August 2013 Regular Meeting of the City Council from August 14, 2013 to August 7, 2013 to allow sufficient time for the 2014 Budget to be approved and taken to the County.

City Attorney Ted Collins suggested to the Council they should have a work session very soon to go over budgeting options. Mayor Stewart scheduled a work session with the Council on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at 6:00p.m. at City Hall.

The Council agreed to table the review of the Personnel and Police Manuals until the July 2013 meeting.

City Attorney Ted Collins stated the Fee Ordinance is not complete.

Jerry Twombly moved, 2nd by Charles Batchelder to adopt Ordinance No. 516, an Ordinance of the City of Highland amending the official zoning district map of said City, with respect to a certain described 1.0 acre tract annexed into said City by Ordinance No. 515. By roll call vote: Randy Snyder-no, Jim Watts-yes, Jerry Twombly-yes, Charles Batchelder-yes and Scott Huss-yes. Motion carried 4-1.

8:05p.m. Charles Batchelder moved to go into executive session until 8:20 p.m. to discuss non-elected personnel for the protection of the privacy rights of the protected employee and for City Attorney Ted Collins to remain. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Jerry Twombly moved to have Bobby Edie perform the repairs on Missouri Street with the details of the work to be finalized by the Mayor and Mr. Edie. Randy Snyder 2nd, motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Randy Snyder stated that a tube needs repaired on Chris Gibson's property along Missouri Street. Mayor Stewart mentioned that City Maintenance has contacted Tyler Miller to look into what can be done to fix the problem.

8:30p.m. Scott Huss moved to adjourn 2nd by Jerry Twombly. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor

City Clerk