

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
APRIL 9, 2014
7:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Randy Snyder, Jerry Twombly, Charles Batchelder, Ben Gilmore and Jim Watts.

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Police Chief Brandon Whetstine, City Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Leach, City Maintenance Worker Michael Hunsaker, Assistant City Clerk Joann Karn and City Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh.

GUESTS PRESENT: Pam Twombly, Dennis Lentz, Mike Batchelder, Dorothy Diveley, Scott Sisk, J.W. Twombly, Scott Huss, Kolton Huss, Mari Ann Parker, George Moore, Wanda Adkins, Mike Batchelder, John Petrik, Wendy Simmons, Betty Lewis and Ron and Charlene Huss.

PRESIDING: Mayor Ken Stewart

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m. with all Council members present.

Mayor Stewart asked if there was any discussion on the minutes from the last regular City Council meeting. Ben Gilmore stated he would like to look at adding Data Compromise to the City's insurance policy, as it was decided not to add it at the last meeting. Ken Stewart stated the issue would be added to New Business and discussed later in the meeting.

Charles Batchelder moved and Jerry Twombly seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the last regular City Council meeting held on March 12, 2014. Motion carried 5-0.

Randy Snyder moved to approve the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on March 25, 2014. Ben Gilmore seconded, motion carried 5-0.

Randy Snyder moved to approve the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on April 2, 2014. Jerry Twombly seconded, motion carried 5-0.

Randy Snyder moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to approve the bills for the month of March, 2014. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Betty Lewis of Highland Pride, expressed her organization's concern with the fountain/pond that is in the middle of Degginger Park in Highland. On behalf of Highland Pride she asked several questions of the Council concerning the fountain and if the City had a plan on how to fix it and if there were any funds available to do so.

Mayor Stewart asked the Council and Pride both to come up with some ideas on how to fix the problem in Degginger Park and discuss it again at the next Regular Council meeting in May. Mayor Stewart also asked the Clerk to look into any stipulations on how money in the City's Degginger Fund can be used.

John Petrik, owner/operator of JP Small Engine Repair stated that he thought that Police Chief Brandon Whetstine had been doing a good job. Mr. Petrik continued by expressing his concern with the lack of police presence in the City. Mayor Stewart explained that the City has been shorthanded since Officer Kennedy took a new position in Missouri. He further stated the City had recently hired a new officer who would begin work on April 14, 2014.

Scott Sisk asked when work would begin on resurface of Main Street in Highland. Mayor Stewart said the City did not have a set schedule yet.

George Moore asked when the drop tube would be installed at the end of his driveway that was to be completed last year. Mayor Stewart said it was on the City's list to be done.

Wendy Simmons announced to the Council that she and several other people were at a meeting earlier in the evening discussing options on bringing a Grocery Store back to Highland and she asked if the City could designate someone as a representative to attend any future meetings on the City's behalf. Mayor Stewart asked her to let us know when the next meeting would be and the City would try to have someone available.

Mrs. Simmons also asked as a member of the 4th of July committee, that the City would inform whoever is putting on the adult co-ed softball tournament for the 4th of July, that no games are played on Friday evening (4th) to allow set up time for the fireworks display.

Wendy concluded by suggesting the City needs to come up with an official process for determining what group or organization gets to put on the 4th of July Co-ed Tournament.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS: Mayor Stewart reminded everyone that Clean-Up Day is scheduled on April 15, 2014. There will be some assistance available for removal of large items from 2pm to 4pm. If you would need assistance please call Dorothy Diveley at 442-3718 or City Hall at 442-3765. We cannot take old tires or hazardous waste and there will be no pick up of yard debris.

Mayor Stewart announced the City had received an updated bid from Schmitz Lawn Care to continue mowing the City properties for the summer of 2014. Charles Batchelder moved to accept Schmitz Lawn Care's bid not to exceed \$5865.00 for 2014. Jerry Twombly seconded, motion carried 5-0.

City Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh asked for the Council's approval for Assistant Clerk Joann Karn to attend a Budgeting Workshop on June 4, 2014 in Topeka and for the Council to pay her registration and expenses. Jim Watts moved, seconded by Jerry Twombly to allow Joann Karn to attend the Budgeting Workshop and to pay the necessary expenses. Motion carried 5-0.

The City Clerk also explained to the Council that she had been looking into options for offsite backup of the City's data and that she would bring back suggestions at the next Regular Council meeting.

City Superintendent Aaron Leach updated the Council on Bud's Sewer Service and jetting of the sewer lines in town. He also gave the Council information on summer recreation. Mr. Leach stated that they have approximately 75 kids signed up for the summer K-ball, Softball and Baseball leagues.

OLD BUSINESS: Superintendent Leach presented two bids for sanitary sewer replacement located at E. Main and Elm streets. Engemann Drainage of Troy, KS submitted a bid of \$14,211.00 and MCON of Wathena, KS bid \$11,905.00. Charles Batchelder moved, seconded by Ben Gilmore to accept the lower bid of \$11,905.00 from MCON to complete the repair. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Leach also presented the Council with 2 bids for asphalt sealing on four of the newer asphalted streets within the City. McFadden of St. Joseph, MO submitted a bid of \$10,817.24 to seal all four streets and Lonnie Boller of Horton, KS submitted a bid of \$8500.00 to seal the streets. Charles Batchelder moved, seconded by Jim Watts to accept the lower bid from Lonnie Boller to complete the street repairs. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS: Ben Gilmore moved, seconded by Jerry Twombly to add the coverage of "Data Compromise Protection" to the City's insurance policy for a yearly premium of \$677.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Ken Stewart updated the Council on the Community Center parking lot. Jerry Twombly moved, seconded by Charles Batchelder to proceed with shaping and relaying the base for the parking lot by Doniphan County Road and Bridge when scheduling permits. Motion carried 5-0.

City Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh reviewed with the Council the City's procedure guidelines when a customer might have a leak with excessive water loss. Ben Gilmore moved, seconded by Jim Watts to approve the procedure for leaks. Motion carried 5-0.

8:15p.m. Randy Snyder moved, seconded by Jerry Twombly to go into executive session until 8:30p.m. to discuss non-elected personnel for the protection of the privacy rights of the protected employee. Motion carried 4-1 with Jim Watts voting no.

8:30p.m. Jerry Twombly moved, seconded by Jim Watts to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor

City Clerk