

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING
AND
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
AUGUST 13, 2014
7:00 P.M.**

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

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

GUESTS PRESENT: Mike Batchelder, Dorothy Diveley, Pam Twombly, Rocky Ruhnke, Jerry Bruns, John Petrik, Terry Moran, J.W. Twombly and David Diveley.

PRESIDING: Council President Jerry Twombly

The Public Hearing for the 2015 Budget was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with all Council members present.

After a brief discussion, Randy Snyder moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to approve the 2015 Budget as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Randy Snyder moved and Jim Watts seconded a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:07p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

7:08p.m. Council President Twombly called the Regular City Council meeting to order.

Charles Batchelder moved, seconded by Randy Snyder, to approve the minutes of the last Regular City Council meeting held on July 9, 2014. Motion carried 5-0.

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

CITIZENS REQUESTS: Jerry Bruns requested the City install “No Parking” signs on the west side of the 500 block of North Prairie Street. He continued by asking the City to spread the millings from Main Street on Colorado Street.

Jim Watts moved and Randy Snyder seconded a motion to install “No Parking” signs on the west side of the 500 block of North Prairie Street. Motion carried 5-0.

Jerry Bruns suggested that the millings from the Main Street surfacing project be used to improve Colorado Street. Discussion was had and City Attorney Ted Collins suggested School District 111 and Iowa township be contacted about using the millings.

John Petrik asked for the millings to be used on the alley way in Block #6 to provide the home owners access to their properties. Councilperson Jerry Twombly stated that the Street and Alley Committee had met on the issue concerning the proposed alley and it was in their opinion that driveway access should be a private matter between home owners. Following discussion, City Attorney Ted Collins advised the issue should be further

investigated, the existing survey map be reviewed and asked for the Maintenance Department to assist by using their metal detector to try to find the actual survey boundary stakes to help determine what the correct course of action for the City could or should be. The matter was referred to the Street and Alley Committee.

Rocky Ruhnke asked what the City's plans were for the area around the Old Depot. He mentioned that he and others were interested in possibly purchasing or leasing the area to set up a diesel fueling area in town. Attorney Collins advised that there would be many factors for the City to consider and suggested that Mr. Ruhnke might present a specific proposal for consideration at the next Regular Council meeting. He also suggested the appropriate committee look into possible options for the City and make a recommendation at the next meeting. The matter was referred to the Parks and Rec. Committee.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS: Councilperson Jerry Twombly stated that the Council might look into possibly selling the Roadside Park area west of the City.

A brief discussion was held concerning the City's newly acquired property on the East edge of town known as the "Anthros/Babcock area". City Attorney Ted Collins suggested that he and the Parks and Rec. Committee meet and look into ideas for clean up, fencing options, security and other issues concerning the area.

City Attorney Collins stated he had been working on the application to the state historical society and the procedure for the old water tower demolition and hoped to soon have it ready for signing by the mayor and submission. Attorney Collins also mentioned that he had not heard anything from the State concerning the speed limit coming into the City on South Kansas Street as of yet.

Assistant City Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh stated that Jeschke's are planning their Annual Hog Roast on September 13th and have reserved the Community Center again this year. Lisa Jeschke, who could not attend the meeting, asked for permission to set up both inside and outside in the parking lot area as they did last year. The Council agreed to allow the Jeschke's to proceed as planned.

Assistant Clerk Hollabaugh mentioned that there were some conferences coming up that she would like to attend for continuing education and graduation from Clerk classes. Councilperson Jerry Twombly asked that approximate costs for each conference be brought for consideration at the next meeting.

Police Chief Brandon Whetstine asked the Council to consider purchasing 4 new tires from Triple L Tire for silver police truck at \$157.00 each. Charles Batchelder moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to purchase the tires for the police department from Triple L Tire at \$157.00 each. Motion carried 5-0.

City Attorney Collins mentioned that he and Police Chief Whetstine had met with staff at Highland Community College concerning security issue for the upcoming school year.

Chief Whetstine informed the Council that the College had installed a new speaker/alarm system throughout the campus to be used to keep students and staff informed in case of an emergency.

Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Leach stated that the Summer Rec. Committee had not officially met as of yet and he had been working on checking in summer ball equipment. Mr. Leach also stated he hoped to get the lines painted on Main Street before school started next week.

Supervisor Leach asked the Council to consider replacing the diamond chain and bar on the City's ICS saw used for cutting into asphalt and cement. He had received bids for the chain and bar from JP Small Engine repair for \$650.00 and HD Supply for almost \$700.00 because of shipping charges. Charles Batchelder moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to accept the bid from JP Small Engine Repair for \$650.00 for the ICS diamond chain and bar for \$650.00 and to pay the invoice for the parts upon receipt. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS: Terry Moran of Moran Lawn and Landscape, presented information to the Council concerning the proposed Bubbling Rock to be installed in Degginger Park. Following discussion, Jerry Twombly moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to authorize Mr. Moran to determine the size of rock, type of base, costs for labor, electrical and other misc. costs up to a price of \$7500.00 (to be paid out of the Degginger Park Fund) and to bring a completed proposal to the next Regular Council meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS: Randy Snyder moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to approve final payment to Banks Construction of \$23,327.20 for the Waterline Improvements as soon as Banks finishes cleaning up the areas in town that were damaged when the waterline was put in. Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Collins updated the Council on the federal sign regulations with which the city will need to come into compliance.

Ben Gilmore moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to accept the 2013 Audit . Motion carried 5-0.

Police Chief Whetstine explained to the Council that he has had numerous complaints on dogs running at large thru the City. The Council agreed that the dogs should continue to be taken to Hiawatha and a warning should be given to the dog owners for the 1st offense and tickets should be issued to the owners for the second offense and any other continued offenses.

Jim Watts moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor

City Clerk