

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
APRIL 13, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Dana Clary, Matt Peterson, Ben Gilmore, Jerry Twombly and Charles Batchelder arrived at 7:07p.m.

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

GUESTS PRESENT: Pam Twombly, Randy Snyder, Paul Rush, Carmen Crandall, Dorothy Diveley, Dennis Lentz and Chuck Simmons arrived at 7:40p.m.

PRESIDING: Mayor Scott Sisk

7:03 p.m. Mayor Sisk called the Regular City Council Meeting to order with a quorum present.

Ben Gilmore moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the last Regular City Council Meeting held on March 9, 2016. Motion carried 4-0.

Asst. City Clerk Hollabaugh presented a list of additional bills to the Council totaling \$1559.48.

Ben Gilmore moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion to approve the bills for the month of March 2016 as presented including the list of additional bills. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Randy Snyder asked about the progress of the clean up on South Nebraska Street.

Paul Rush stated he had a broken meter in his yard. Maintenance worker Michael Hunsaker stated they would get it taken care of as soon as possible.

Mr. Rush expressed his thanks to the City for allowing Rural Water District #6 to park equipment on City property.

Police Chief Brandon Whetstine said there had been an accident on Main Street recently and one of the drivers involved expressed concern about the parking lines not painted on the street and people parking too close to intersections because the curbs were not painted yellow.

Ben Gilmore stated that the City Clean-up Day was a success and thanked Highland Pride, HCC football coach and players, and local residents for all their help.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS: City Attorney Ted Collins updated the Council on the progress of the water study being completed by BG Consultants. Mr. Collins stated the study should be completed next week, which will be reviewed by the water committee. Further, a Special Meeting would be needed if the City decided to join PWWSO#27 or make an offer to Rural Water District #6, as it would alter the design of their project.

Attorney Collins is planning to meet with the USD #111 Foundation Board, along with the city and school committees, very soon to submit a proposal on how the Minier Estate money should be utilized. Mr. Collins will be asking Council members Peterson and Clary to attend that meeting.

Mayor Scott Sisk announced that the new siren pole had been put up behind City Hall by Westar. Mayor Sisk stated he had been in contact with Gerald Neibling to get an estimate on how much it would cost to move the siren from the old pole to the new one.

Mayor Sisk stated that the City would need to unhook the water main and move the Hardware store's meter in preparation of getting the old City Hall building and property ready to sell.

Mayor Sisk said that Pruett Construction got held up and will begin demolition of the Matthias property in about 1 to 1 ½ weeks. The Mayor also stated that a buried propane tank had been found on the property that will need removed. Mayor Sisk informed the Council that part of the grassy area of the "Saddle Club property" was going to be removed to make a practice field for summer rec. softball teams.

Assistant Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh asked the Council to consider allowing the group of people, who are interested in renting the Community Center for New Years Eve this year, to continue their event until 1:00a.m. or 2:00a.m. Jerry Twombly moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to allow the Community Center's New Years Eve rental to continue until 1:00a.m. with clean-up to be completed and everyone out of the building by 2:00a.m.

Police Chief Brandon Whetstine read his report to the Council to include: 4 – Arrests, 17 – Citations, 14 – Warnings, 25 – Calls for Service, 9 – Assists to other Agencies, 1 – Accident Report and 10 – Criminal Investigations.

Council member Clary asked Chief Whetstine if the new radar had come in yet for his truck. Chief Whetstine said he received the radar and it works great.

Maintenance worker Michael Hunsaker gave his report to the Council.

COMMITTEE UPDATES: Finance Committee – Ben Gilmore: stated there had been some discussion on Clean-up Day to possibly have the event next year on a Saturday and extend the hours.

Law Enforcement Committee – Jerry Twombly: said that he had been looking into getting a list of properties that need attention for consideration at a later Council meeting.

Council member Twombly led a discussion on possibly changing the City Ordinance dealing with ATV's and golf carts. City Attorney Collins pointed out several reasons why the ordinance was adopted in the past.

Parks and Rec. Committee – Dana Clary: presented bids to do some updates at Degginger Park from; Terry Moran to construct a wall on the northern most flower bed for \$2,210, Elmer Schmitz to replace the front sidewalk with Doniphan West FFA donating the labor for \$600 and Highland Hardware for 30 bags of mulch for \$4.50 per bag for the park. Jerry Twombly moved and Ben Gilmore seconded to accept all bids as presented for the updates at Degginger Park and for the all costs to be taken out of the Degginger fund. Motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Clary asked on behalf of the 4th of July Committee if the tractor pull could be held on the hill just west of the Community Center. After some discussion, Mayor Sisk suggested that she contact the group who actually runs the tractor pull and get their input on the location before the Council decides to move it or not.

Ms. Clary presented the Council with a list of summer recreation expenses and income for 2014, 2015 and projected expenses and income for 2016. Matt Peterson moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to spend \$15 per child on uniform shirts, pay the NEK league dues, provide one pitching mask per team if needed, pay for team insurance, pay umpires for all home games the same amount as last year and purchase game balls, 8 score books and striping paint for the home games. Motion carried 5-0. Discussion was held concerning trying to acquire donations or sponsors for this year's Summer Recreation teams.

Ms. Clary stated that she had started getting completed applications for promoting the businesses of Highland on the City's Facebook page.

Street and Alley Committee – Charles Batchelder: led a discussion concerning the drainage problems at the intersection of Canada and Virginia streets. Mayor Sisk suggested that Council member Batchelder talk to someone with USD #111 to get their input on the issue and then look into getting new bids to fix the problem.

Water and Sewer Committee – Matt Peterson: nothing to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Council member Peterson asked City Attorney to get started with the preliminary phase of what needs to be done to form a Recreation Commission.

Council member Ben Gilmore stated he had attended a meeting with several other individuals concerning the development of a Doniphan County Community Foundation and the many benefits it could bring to our county.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Dana Clary moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 8:23 p.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel for the protection of the privacy rights of the protected employee(s) and the open meeting will resume in the City Council Chamber at 8:33 p.m. Motion carried 5-0, the City Attorney to remain.

Matt Peterson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion that all City Employee's time sheets must be turned into the City Clerk as stated in the Personnel Policies and Guidelines. Motion carried 5-0. The Council asked the Clerks to provide copies of the Personnel Policies and Guidelines to each of the Council members by either email or hard copy.

Jerry Twombly moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 8:40 p.m. for 20 minutes for consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried 5-0, the City Attorney to remain.

Charles Batchelder moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to continue their executive session at 9:00 p.m. for 10 minutes for consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 9:10 p.m. Motion carried 5-0, the City Attorney to remain.

Matt Peterson moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:11 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor

City Clerk

