

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY HALL  
MARCH 9, 2016  
7:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dana Clary, Matt Peterson, Ben Gilmore, Charles Batchelder and Jerry Twombly.

**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:** Keith Jaloma Executive Director of the HCC Foundation, Pam Twombly, Pam Blevins, Wyatt Blevins, Maddison Blevins, Jerre Cole, Randy Snyder, Mary Lou Glynn, Dana Whetstine, Angie Idol, Selena Diveley and Tyler Diveley.

**PRESIDING:** Mayor Scott Sisk

7:00 p.m. Mayor Sisk called the Regular City Council Meeting to order.

Jerry Twombly moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the last Regular City Council Meeting held on February 10, 2015. Motion carried 5-0.

Asst. Clerk Melanie Hollabaugh presented a list of additional bills for Council consideration that totaled \$869.43.

Jerry Twombly moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to approve the bills for the month of February 2016 as presented including the additional bills. Motion carried 5-0.

**PRESENTATIONS:** Mr. Keith Jaloma the new Executive Director of the HCC Foundation introduced himself to the Mayor and Council and explained his position with the College and how he would be working in the area to raise money for HCC programs and scholarships.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Selena Diveley of Highland Hardware expressed her concern about: excessive parking in front of their business when there was a meeting at City Hall, drainage issues at the intersection of East Virginia and South Canada streets and what progress had been made on South Nebraska Street immediately west of the property at 201 E. Main Street.

Mayor Sisk explained: Highland in general has very limited parking, the Street and Ally Committee would look into the drainage issue and materials were ready to start the project next to 201 East Main as soon as possible.

Dana Whetstine asked about the Recreation Committee for this year. She said she had been asked by several concerned parents if the City was going to have anyone in charge of Rec. this year. Council members Matt Peterson and Dana Clary agreed to set up a meeting sometime next week to get a Recreation Committee established for this year and would be getting in touch with Ms. Whetstine and others who might be interested.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:** Mayor Sisk asked the Council to consider allowing him to get bids for drainage for the Community Center parking lot. Ben Gilmore moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to authorize the Mayor to solicit bids to fix the drainage at the Community Center parking lot. Motion carried 5-0. Mayor Sisk stated he would also ask the fire board to contribute to the cost of the repairs.

Concerning the “Matthias” property at 804 E. Main Street, City Attorney Ted Collins was able to get all the details finalized and the City has received a bid from Pruett Construction to demolish the house, trees and out buildings for \$5,500 or just the house and trees for \$4,800. Matt Peterson moved and Jerry Twombly seconded a motion to accept the bid to demolish the property at 804 E. Main for either \$5,500 or \$4,800 depending on if the small sheds were moved or needed to be demolished as well. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Sisk said he gave the members of the former Saddle Club a two week time line to get what they wanted off the property.

Mayor Sisk reviewed an updated map of blocks to be oil and chatted this summer within the City.

Council member Jerry Twombly asked the Mayor to ask the contractors who might be bidding on the Community Center parking lot to also bid the drainage issues at the intersection of West Virginia and South Canada and along the street in the 100 block North Nebraska.

City Attorney Ted Collins stated that he, the Mayor and the City’s Engineer Brian Kingsley of BG Consultants had attended a meeting earlier in the day with representatives from Doniphan County Rural Water District #6, Public Wholesale District #27, KRWA and USDA concerning future water options for the City. City Attorney Collins stated the City could be looking at several options. He and the Mayor believe it would be in the best interest of the City for the Council to hire BG Consultants to perform a feasibility study to help the Council intelligently decide what would be the best long term option for the City of Highland. Ben Gilmore moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to authorize BG Consultants to conduct a study and produce a report for the Council concerning the future water options for the City of Highland, not to exceed \$2500 in costs for the study. Motion carried 5-0.

Asst. City Clerk asked the Council to consider information in their packets from Collection Bureau of Kansas and asked permission to present their contract to City Attorney Collins for review. The Council agreed.

Council member Ben Gilmore and City Clerk Joann Karn asked for permission to attend the Basics of Budgeting Workshop in Topeka, Kansas on June 10, 2016 at a cost of \$60 each. Dana Clary moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion to allow Mr. Gilmore and Ms. Karn to attend the workshop. Motion carried 4-0-1 with Ben Gilmore abstaining.

Police Chief Brandon Whetstine presented his report to the Council: 6-Arrests, 29-Citations, 21-Warnings, 34-Calls for Service, 6-Assists to other Agencies, 3-Accident Report and 22-Criminal Investigations. Chief Whetstine stated that with the assistance of Doniphan County Sheriff’s Department they ran the drug dog though some of the dorm rooms in Highland at the request of Highland Community College.

Chief Whetstine stated that the radar in his pickup had quit and he presented a bid from PB Electronics Inc. for a used, refurbished radar that is certified and the warranty is good for a year for \$2015 including shipping and insurance. Charles Batchelder moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to purchase the radar from PB Electronics Inc. for \$2015 to be taken out of the Diversion Fund. Motion carried 5-0.

Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Leach provided a report of the previous month’s completed projects and projects planned to the Council.

Mr. Leach asked the Council to purchase 200 ton of AB3 rock for the two streets in town they would need to build up before the County came to oil and chat. Mr. Leach said that Hamm Quarries had quoted the rock price at \$14.15 per ton and Whetrock, Inc. at \$9.50 per ton and the County would help with the hauling. Matt Peterson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to purchase 200 ton of AB3 rock from Whetrock at \$9.50 with the County to haul it for the City. Motion carried 5-0.

Matt Peterson moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to purchase 30 ton of cold patch from Keller Construction for \$90 per ton with the County to haul it for the City. Motion carried 5-0.

Matt Peterson moved and Ben Gilmore seconded a motion to purchase a Wacker 1340W Plate Compactor with Wheel Kit for no more than \$1689.95, to use for street repair. Motion carried 5-0.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**Finance Committee** – Ben Gilmore: stated he was working with Greg Delzeit and the HCC Football Coach on setting a date for the City-Wide Clean-up Day.

**Law Enforcement Committee** – Jerry Twombly: needed an executive session later in the meeting.

**Parks and Rec. Committee** – Dana Clary: stated she had spoken with Elmer Schmitz with Doniphan West Schools and they would be taking care of planting the flowers in the City planters this year.

Ms. Clary said the next 4<sup>th</sup> of July meeting would be on Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at City Hall at 6:30p.m.

Council member Clary also met with Terry Moran and Elmer Schmitz to discuss future updating and repairs for Degginger Park and would be getting bids for necessary tree trimming/removal in that park.

Ms. Clary presented a flyer to the Council on advertising for City of Highland's businesses on the City's Facebook page. She would like to promote one City business every couple weeks on the City's Facebook page and will be getting a flyer out to all the businesses so they could submit information and pictures about their business. The Council agreed that would be a good idea.

City Clerk Joann Karn offered some information on a grant for parks. After discussion and a phone call to Garrett from Governmental Assistance Services, it was determined there would not be sufficient time to apply this year but it might be a possibility for next year. Ms. Clary stated that Home Depot might also have a grant the City could qualify for.

**Street and Alley Committee** – Charles Batchelder: asked what the plans were for storage of Santa's mailbox that has been sitting in Degginger Park. Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Leach said he was contacted also and they would be moving it to storage next week.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Jerry Twombly moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 9:10 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 9:30 p.m. Motion carried 5-0, the City Attorney and Police Chief Whetstine to remain.

Chief Whetstine was excused from executive session at 9:25p.m.

Jerry Twombly moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 9:30 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 9:40 p.m. Motion carried 5-0, the City Attorney to remain.

Jerry Twombly moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 9:40 p.m. for 5 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 9:45 p.m. Motion carried 5-0, the City Attorney to remain.

Jerry Twombly moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to authorize Mayor Sisk to officially answer questions asked of the City by USD #111 School District concerning the “Old Grade School” property. Motion carried 5-0.

**GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS:** Council member Ben Gilmore expressed his concern about only having yield signs not stop signs, on the street outside daycares in town. Ben Gilmore moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to replace the yield signs with stop signs at the intersection of Kirkwood and Virginia streets. Motion carried 5-0.

Council member Jerry Twombly asked if the City had any ordinances limiting how many automobiles could be located on one individual’s property at one time.

City Attorney stated he would continue to work on preparing an informational memorandum for the council concerning unsafe structures, nuisances, weeds and similar code violations.

Dana Clary moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:55p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

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Mayor

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City Clerk