

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY HALL  
December 12, 2018  
5:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Terry Gibson, Matt Peterson and Dana Clary

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jesse Marriott and Rocky Ruhnke

**CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT:** City Attorney Ted Collins, City Clerk Joann Karn, Police Chief Brandon Whetstine, and City Maintenance Aaron Leach and Trevor Saunders

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Garrett Nordstrom, GAS; Charles Gilmore, Dennis Lentz, John Whetstine, Ron Schneider, and Nick Schneider

**PRESIDING:** Mayor Charles Batchelder

Mayor Batchelder called the regular city council meeting to order.

Terry Gibson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2018, regular city council meeting. Motion carried 3-0

Matt Peterson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 3-0

**PRESENTATION**

Garrett Nordstrom, Governmental Assistance Services, explained CDBG dropped \$20M for municipal pool construction, match up to \$1M, but has excluded any funding for spray/splash pads/parks or pool accessories. The application is due March 29, 2019, group trying to get the deadline extended and unsure if there will be enough applications for available funds. Mr. Nordstrom will keep the city updated on this and other grants.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Councilperson Gibson initiated a discussion concerning the old railroad depot property and moving the city's storage to the Anthros location. A general discussion was had and it was noted that the council had received interest from a number of persons interested in purchasing the properties. Attorney Collins gave the council a history of the area in question and a discussion was had concerning various options.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:**

**Mayor Batchelder** – Complimented the maintenance on city street snow removal.

**Attorney Collins** – Nothing at this time

**Clerk Karn** – Received the engagement letter from Jim Long, CPA for Karlin and Long, for the 2018 audit not to exceed \$5,700. Dana Clary moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion authorizing the mayor to sign the engagement letter from Karlin and Long for the 2018 audit and filing fee. Motion carried 3-0 Terry Gibson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion authorizing the Mayor or Council President to approve year end expenditures for closing out the 2018 books for budget purposes. Motion carried 3-0 Clerk Karn reviewed the projected yearend cash balances. Comparing to last year, Sewer, Water and General funds should increase; Street and Community Center funds will decrease; and the remaining funds projected to remain nearly the same. A possible debt pay-off of the fire truck was tabled until the next meeting for further review.

**Police Chief Whetstine** – Updated the council on the completed repairs of the Durango police vehicle due to insurance installing a used engine following the May accident. EMC will cover \$1,482.49 of the used engine repairs but some parts are not covered. City is responsible for \$400 of the repairs plus reviewing options on a \$1,000 cost for the alternator and thermostat repairs.

**Maintenance Leach** – Informed the council the F-450 truck is not running properly and several individuals believe it is the fuel pump. Brian Pottorf could repair it for \$750 (parts & labor). Dana Clary moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion authorizing up to \$1,000 for Brian Pottorf to repair the F-450 maintenance truck. Motion carried 3-0 Bud's Sewer Service flushed and ran a camera in the city's sewer main near Gregg Delzeit's. Following discussion on the aging sewer mains, the possible need to have all city mains CCTV pipe inspected which would provide valuable

information. Terry Gibson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to reimburse Gregg Delzeit \$223 for his claim. Motion carried 3-0

#### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**Finance Committee** – Jesse Marriott – Absent

**Law Enforcement Committee** – Matt Peterson – Police Chief and committee are meeting to establish goals and a plan for the police department. Chief Whetstine indicated the Tahoe that was seized several years ago could be sold. HCC security wishes to purchase the vehicle with payment deposited in the Diversion fund. Terry Gibson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion for Highland Community College to purchase the 2004 Tahoe, chair of Law Enforcement committee to negotiate an acceptable price with payment to be deposited in the Diversion fund. Motion carried 3-0 Law Enforcement is asking for a battery powered, portable radar speed sign with 11” LED display be purchased and used around town. Matt Peterson moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to purchase, up to \$3,500, a battery powered, portable radar speed sign with 11” LED display. Motion carried 3-0

**Parks and Rec. Committee** – Dana Clary – Thank you to Highland Pride, Highland Lions and all involved in the success of the Snowflake Festival and the Give Where You Live Day. Councilman Ruhnke secured \$1,000 from the Smithson Lodge and asking the city and USD #111 each contribute \$1,000 to fund the summer rec. program so all participants can play for free. Councilperson Clary will be speaking with the school district and also asking about their willingness to establish a rec. commission. Matt Peterson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to contribute \$1,000 to the youth summer recreation ball program. Motion carried 3-0 In regards to the concession stand, Councilperson Clary will visit with the Lions Club.

**Street and Alley/Bldg & Grounds Committee** – Terry Gibson – With the possible sale of the old depot area, the salt hut will be moved to the former Anthro’s area and the maintenance personnel can begin the clean-up/move it. A new tarp cover will need to be purchased as the current one is badly worn/torn.

**Water and Sewer Committee** – Rocky Ruhnke – Absent

**Planning & Zoning** – Matt Peterson – Nothing at this time

**Personnel Committee** – Jesse Marriott – Absent – Council agreed to call a special meeting before next regular meeting to review personnel and related issues.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Dana Clary moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion approving a 2019 Cereal Malt Beverage license for Highland Stop and Shop. Motion carried 3-0

Terry Gibson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried 3-0

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Mayor

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City Clerk