

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
JANUARY 10, 2018
5:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Batchelder, Dana Clary, Rocky Ruhnke, Jesse Marriott and Matt Peterson.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Attorney Ted Collins, City Police Chief Brandon Whetstine, City Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Leach and City Maintenance Worker Trevor Saunders. City Clerk Joann Karn was on medical leave.

GUESTS PRESENT: Bill Noll, Dennis Lentz, Randy Snyder and David Diveley

PRESIDING: Mayor Jerry Twombly

Mayor Twombly called the regular city council meeting to order. Minutes of the meeting were kept and recorded by City Attorney Collins.

Charles Batchelder moved and Jesse Marriott seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the last regular city council meeting held on December 13, 2017. Motion carried 5-0

Matt Peterson moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented, including additional bills not listed: credit card bills from the police department (\$185.79) and maintenance department (\$316.75). Motion carried 5-0

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Mayor Twombly- Nothing at this time.

Attorney Collins – Nothing at this time.

Clerk Karn – Not present. Mayor Twombly advised the council that the clerk had been reviewing the budget and city finances in general, and would make a more detailed financial report to the council at a later meeting.

Police Chief Brandon Whetstine read his report, asked for council approval to purchase a set of tires for the recently purchased Durango police vehicle. Charles Batchelder moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to purchase four (4) Hankook Dynapro ATM tires, as proposed, at a cost of \$180 per tire, from Triple L Tire. Motion carried 5-0

Maintenance Supervisor Leach advised the council of a sewer backup in a city main, believed to be caused by tree roots, which appeared to affect the residence of Greg Delzeit. Discussion was had concerning sewer preventive maintenance, the City's provision of backflow preventers to residents, free of charge, for installation by the landowner. The council gave authority to Leach to solicit bids on sewer preventive maintenance, including seeking a bid for an 8 hour workday on a Saturday.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Finance Committee – Nothing at this time.

Law Enforcement Committee – Nothing at this time.

Parks and Rec. Committee – Nothing at this time.

Street and Alley Committee – Nothing at this time.

Water and Sewer Committee – Nothing at this time.

Outreach Committee – Nothing at this time.

Planning & Zoning – Nothing at this time.

Personnel Committee – Nothing at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

General discussion was had concerning the proposals the City had received for improvements to the parking lot at the community building. Mayor Twombly and City Attorney Collins briefly reviewed the proposals, the process that was followed and that no further discussion had been undertaken with the contractors that had submitted proposals. All expressed various concerns about the need for such improvements, the cost of the proposals and no action was taken on such proposals. Rocky Ruhnke expressed his opinion that the project could be completed at a much lesser expense by hiring a GPS contractor to handle the project, on which volunteer equipment and labor could perhaps be solicited and obtained. The council approved Ruhnke to seek other such options that might be available and the projected costs along those lines and to report back to the council at a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Charles Batchelder moved and Jesse Marriott seconded a motion to appoint Matt Petersen Council President and for no further nominations. Motion carried 4-0, with Petersen abstaining.

Jesse Marriott moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to approve the council committees, as proposed by the mayor, with one modification, as listed on board in council chambers, as follows:

Finance Committee – Chair Jesse Marriott, Rocky Ruhnke
Law Enforcement Committee – Chair Charles Batchelder, Matt Peterson
Parks and Rec. Committee – Chair Dana Clary, Matt Peterson
Street and Alley Committee – Chair Rocky Ruhnke, Charles Batchelder
Water and Sewer Committee – Chair Matt Peterson, Dana Clary
Outreach Committee – Jerry Twombly, Jesse Marriott
Planning & Zoning – Jerry Twombly, Matt Peterson, Jesse Marriott
Personnel Committee – Chair Jesse Marriott, Rocky Ruhnke

Motion carried 5-0

Matt Petersen moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to approve The Kansas Chief as the official city newspaper. Motion carried 5-0.

Matt Petersen moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion establishing The Bank of Highland as official city depository. Motion carried 5-0

Charles Batchelder moved and Jesse Marriott seconded a motion appointing Larry O’Bryan, Mike Parker, Mike Batchelder, Randy Snyder and J.W. Twombly to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Motion carried 5-0

Matt Petersen moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to retain the current employees in their current position: City/Court Clerk Joann Karn, City Treasurer Janet Tyler; City Maintenance Aaron Leach and Trevor Saunders, Police Chief Brandon Whetstine and Deputy Officer Tom Williams; City Attorney Ted Collins and Municipal Court Judge Roy Roper. Motion 5-0

Charles Batchelder moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to approve the mayoral proclamation in recognition of the anniversary week of the Boy Scouts of America. Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTIONS:

Jesse Marriott moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to approve Resolution 18-01, waiving GAAP accounting requirements for the City concerning financial statements and fixed accounting for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018, in accordance with K.S.A. 75-1120A. Motion carried 5-0

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS.

Discussion was had concerning properties in Highland that were in deteriorating condition and on which ad valorem property taxes were seriously delinquent. It was noted, again, to encourage the county attorney to move forward with a delinquent tax sale foreclosure.

Dana Clary moved and Jesse Marriott seconded a motion to adjourn at 5:38 p.m. Motion carried 5-0

Minutes prepared by:

City Attorney – Ted Collins

Approved:

Mayor

City Clerk