

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY HALL  
July 11, 2018  
5:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Charles Batchelder, Jesse Marriott, Matt Peterson and Rocky Ruhnke

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dana Clary

**CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT:** City Attorney Ted Collins, City Clerk Joann Karn, City Maintenance Worker Trevor Saunders, Police Chief Brandon Whetstine and Officer Tom Williams

**GUESTS PRESENT:** David Diveley

**PRESIDING:** Mayor Jerry Twombly

Mayor Twombly called the regular city council meeting to order.

Matt Peterson moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2018, regular city council meeting and the June 22, 2018, special council meeting. Motion carried 4-0

Jesse Marriott moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 4-0

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Two Timbers thanked the city for allowing fireworks to be shot on July 7, 2018.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:**

Mayor Twombly- Nothing at this time.

Attorney Collins – Asked for an executive session later in the meeting. Attorney Collins handed out and explained Resolution No. 18-03 which states the City of Highland, Kansas, recommends compliance with international building codes for all new construction and repairs, including ice shield protection. Jesse Marriott moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Motion carried 4-0 Roll call vote – Matt Peterson – yes; Rocky Ruhnke – yes; Charles Batchelder – yes; and Jesse Marriott – yes.

Clerk Karn – Budget review later on the agenda.

Police Chief Brandon Whetstine – Officer Williams has returned to regular duties. Chief Whetstine requested a new dual unit radar (\$1,700) for Officer Williams' vehicle and a good camera to be used on investigations. Both purchases to be paid out of the Diversion Fund. Charles Batchelder moved and Jesse Marriott seconded a motion to purchase both, the radar unit and camera, and paid from the Diversion Fund. Chief Whetstine read his press release on the discovery of two bodies at a Highland residence on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00 p.m.

Maintenance Supervisor Leach – Mr. Saunders reported Kevin Lackey, Lackey Loaderworks, completed the fence at well #5. Mr. Saunders asked for both, Leach and Saunders, to attend KDHE water and wastewater classes on July 31-August 3 in Lawrence with Saunders taking a test and it will be determined if they stay or commute daily. Jesse Marriott moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to allow both, Leach and Saunders, to attend classes and test, on July 31 – August 3, 2018, in Lawrence with the mayor authorize lodging, if necessary. Motion carried 4-0

**COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**Finance Committee** – Jesse Marriott – Nothing at this time

**Law Enforcement Committee** – Charles Batchelder – Nothing at this time

**Parks and Rec. Committee** – Dana Clary – Absent

**Street and Alley Committee** – Rocky Ruhnke – Reported Mr. Saunders laid approx. 20 ton of cold patch this week and is  $\frac{3}{4}$  done. Councilperson Ruhnke indicated the county will oil & chat the streets in three weeks and request individuals not to park on those streets during that time with the police assisting and informing the residents to have the streets clear. Matt Peterson moved and Jesse Marriott seconded a motion authorizing the mayor \$2,500 to purchase and deliver additional cold patch. Motion carried 4-0 Regarding the speed into the city at the South city limits (Kansas Street), Mr. Ruhnke indicated there are two poles inside city limits that an overhead caution light could be installed across the street

(high enough for large equipment), renting a radar machine for 60 days, plus law enforcement at the entrance. The consensus of the council authorized the mayor to check on ownership of poles and renting the radar machine.

**Water and Sewer Committee** – Matt Peterson – Nothing at this time

**Outreach Committee** – Jerry Twombly, Jesse Marriott – Nothing at this time

**Planning & Zoning** – Jerry Twombly, Matt Peterson, Jesse Marriott – Nothing at this time

**Personnel Committee** – Jesse Marriott – Requests an executive session

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Following review of the proposed 2019 budget which shows a slight increase (+.26) in the estimated tax rate, Jesse Marriott moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to publish the Notice of Budget Hearing with the hearing set on August 8, 2018, at 5:00 pm at city hall. Motion carried 4-0

The consensus of the council was not to repair the commercial refrigerator at the community center at this time, but continue to add freon, as needed.

The consensus of the council was for the mayor to seek a second opinion on the hail damage to the city's property.

Rocky Ruhnke moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion naming Aaron Leach as the city's wastewater treatment operator, replacing current operator James Horner, with Mr. Leach's salary increased from \$14.00 to \$14.32 per hour. Motion carried 4-0

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Rocky Ruhnke indicated the fire district's hog roast will be held on the vacant lots south of the bank; therefore, an addition block will need to be blocked off and earlier on August 18, 2018. Rocky Ruhnke moved and Jesse Marriott seconded a motion to block off the 300 and 400 blocks of west Main Street on August 18, 2018 from 6 pm to midnight for the dance and hog roast. Motion carried 4-0

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Jesse Marriott moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 5:47 p.m. for 15 minutes for consultation with an attorney on legal matters related to the city's procedure and responsibilities under the unsafe structures act that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 6:02 p.m. Motion carried 4-0 Mayor asked the city attorney, police chief and clerk to remain

Matt Peterson moved and Jesse Marriott seconded a motion authorizing Enforcement Officer Chief Whetstine and Attorney Collins to move forward on the unsafe structures act on three properties - 104 W. Ohio, 302 N. Kansas and 207 N. Nebraska. Motion carried 4-0

Jesse Marriott moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:03 p.m. for 10 minutes to review individual employee(s) pursuant to the 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 6:13 p.m. Motion carried 4-0. Mayor asked the City Attorney to remain

Jesse Marriott moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:14 p.m. Motion carried 4-0

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Mayor

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City Clerk

CITY OF HIGHLAND

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 18-03**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS, RECOMMENDING COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODES FOR ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIRS, INCLUDING ICE SHIELD PROTECTION**

WHEREAS, The governing body of the City of Highland recognizes the value and benefit to its residents and the general public for new construction and repairs to be built in accordance with high quality workmanship and construction standards; and

WHEREAS, said City believes that construction codes can protect public health and safety, as well as increasing energy efficiency, resilience, sustainability and property protection.

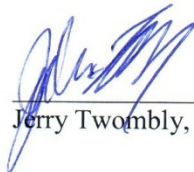
WHEREAS, said City does not have sufficient resources and personnel to regularly monitor and insure compliance with municipal construction codes.

WHEREAS, nothing herein shall set aside or make any other applicable state or federal code not apply to any given construction or property.

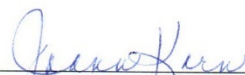
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND, DONIPHAN COUNTY, KANSAS:

- The governing body recommends that all new construction and/or repairs to residential and commercial properties within the corporate limits of said City comply with the most current International Commercial Code (ICC) and or International Residential Code (IRC) as the same may be updated from time to time.
- It is recommended, specifically, in recognition of the weather conditions present in Northeast Kansas, with the freezing, thawing and resulting potential structural damage from the effects of ice damming, that the applicable residential code concerning roofing standards with respect to ice shield underlayment be followed in said City.

Adopted this 11th day of July, 2018.

  
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Jerry Twombly, Mayor

ATTESTED TO:

  
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Joann Karn, City Clerk