

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
November 13, 2019
5:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Delzeit, Rocky Ruhnke and Dana Clary

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Terry Gibson and Matt Peterson

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Attorney Ted Collins, City Clerk Joann Karn, City Superintendent Kevin Lackey and Chief Brandon Whetstine

GUESTS PRESENT: Scott Sisk, Pam Wiedner, Barb Frakes, Jerod Edie and Marty Allen

PRESIDING: Mayor Charles Batchelder

Mayor Batchelder called the regular city council meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Dana Clary moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2019, regular city council meeting. Motion carried 3-0

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pam Wiedner explained and Jerod Edie read a statement concerning the multiple backups of his private sewer line at 107 N. Vermillion beginning in December 2014. The city's prior insurance carrier (EMC) denied a claim because the statute of limitations had run out but did settle with Mr. Edie for \$5,000 which was within the time limits. A pending claim is with the current insurance carrier (Glatfelter), which does not cover mold. Attorney Collins will review the claim with Glatfelter; Mr. Edie will ask ServePro to separate their bill, and provide the cost of removal and replacement of sheetrock. Consensus of council was to review again after receiving further information and was reluctant to immediately act due to a pending insurance claim.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Mayor Batchelder – Wishing Councilman Gibson a speedy recovery and acknowledge the Doniphan West Girls Cross Country team as they became State Champs

Attorney Collins – Additional information on items later on the agenda

Clerk Karn – Approved a sidewalk reimbursement application; reminders for the Nov. 29th Snowflake Festival and the Dec. 6th Christmas Mixer; and the upcoming Census 2020

Police Chief Whetstine – Had approx. 275 people for the Trunk or Treat and police activities are slowing down due to colder weather.

Superintendent Lackey – Repairing a water leak at Iowa/Vermont; need to exercise all main water shut off valves; water tower maintenance bids coming in; continuing with sewer jetter demonstrations; considering a fuel barrel at the shop; checking on a small pickup to use as an in-town service vehicle; possible purchase of a daily water sampling machine for \$4,000; salt is in St. Joe waiting for delivery and another load of sand has been ordered.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Finance Committee – Greg Delzeit – Nothing at this time

Law Enforcement Committee – Matt Peterson – Absent

Parks and Rec. Committee – Dana Clary – Wished to thank everyone involved with Trunk or Treat and reminder for the upcoming Snowflake Festival; submitting a grant application for a canopy for shade at Minier Park; HCC donated a volleyball net and Terry Moran will be winterizing the fountain in Degginger Park.

Street and Alley/Bldg & Grounds Committee – Terry Gibson – Absent

Water and Sewer Committee – Rocky Ruhnke – A-1 Pump & Jet invoice to be reviewed; and volunteered to chair the Parks & Rec Committee to help with summer baseball and be placed on another committee.

Planning & Zoning – Matt Peterson – Absent

Personnel Committee – Greg Delzeit – Nothing at this time

NEW BUSINESS

Consensus of the council is to hold payment on the A-1 Pump & Jet invoice until the water and sewer committee, Supt. Lackey, Worker Saunders and Attorney Collins reviewed the information.

A reimbursement check to the Highland Cemetery Association for the shared equipment (Kobota tractor, loader, rotary cutter and rear blade) in the amount of \$28,500 (1/2 of \$57,000 total) will be included in the December 2019 bills.

Dana Clary moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion approving a 2019 Cereal Malt Beverage license for Kirkwood & Co. and a 2020 Cereal Malt Beverage license for Casey's General Store. Motion carried 3-0

RESOLUTIONS

Following a review, Greg Delzeit moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion approving resolution 19-04 – Kansas Homeland Security Region K Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion carried 3-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Rocky Ruhnke moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:21 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 6:31 p.m. Motion carried 3-0. Mayor asked the city attorney, clerk and superintendent to remain

Rocky Ruhnke moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:31 p.m. for 10 minutes for consultation with an attorney on legal matters that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 6:41 p.m. Motion carried 3-0 Mayor asked the city attorney and clerk to remain

Greg Delzeit moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:41 p.m. Motion carried 3-0

Mayor

City Clerk