

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
June 10, 2020
5:00 P.M.**

Due to statewide stay-at-home orders, this meeting was held on Zoom video conferencing

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Delzeit, Rocky Ruhnke, Dan Collins, Terry Gibson and Marty Allen arrived at 5:35 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Attorney Ted Collins, City Clerk Joann Karn, and City Superintendent Kevin Lackey. Via Zoom - Police Chief Brandon Whetstine

GUESTS PRESENT: Gerald Neibling, IMAF, LLC, Mark Rounds and David Diveley Via Zoom – Russell Karn, and Shelly Underwood, Midwest Assistance Program Inc. (MAP).

PRESIDING: Mayor Charles Batchelder

Mayor Batchelder called the regular city council meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Terry Gibson moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2020, regular city council meeting. Motion carried 4-0

Rocky Ruhnke moved and Dan Collins seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2020, special city council meeting. Motion carried 4-0

Terry Gibson moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2020, special city council meeting. Motion carried 4-0

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

Shelly Underwood, Midwest Assistance Program, Inc. (MAP) provided background information and reviewed how MAP can assist with grant funding and technical assistance. Tentatively scheduled an in-person meeting for June 16, 2020 for more details on the water treatment project and any future projects.

David Diveley inquired when the City would be opening back up. Following discussion, Terry Gibson moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to open city hall on Monday, June 15th and the community building and parks on Monday, June 29th unless the state or county changes restriction. All restrictions and signage will be removed. Motion carried 5-0

Russell Karn asked for the City to consider changing the allowed parking on Main Street at the west crosswalk near the HCC library/student union. Currently parking is allowed up to the crosswalk which blocks the sight of pedestrians and/or vehicles traveling West on Main Street.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Mayor Batchelder – Mayor Batchelder commented on open burning/burning in a barrel and the smell and smoke for the surrounding neighbors. Individuals should show consideration for their neighbors as smell/smoke travels for blocks.

Attorney Collins – Matter for Executive Session and input on later agenda items

Clerk Karn – The CDBG-CV grant was discussed by Ms. Underwood, MAP. A draft copy of a partial preliminary budget was handed out showing an increase for General Fund of \$5,482 budget authority which would increase the mill levy approximate one-half mill. A draft budget will be available for the July meeting.

Police Chief Whetstine – Absent from Zoom

Water Superintendent Saunders and City Superintendent Lackey – Supt. Lackey provided an update on the lift station pump which is not repairable. Rocky Ruhnke moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to purchase a new lift station pump, two rail system, from Allied Systems, Inc. costing approximately \$16,000 plus \$1,000 for ceramic coating. Motion carried 5-0 Supt. Lackey noted the West Water Tower is not under any maintenance agreement and was reviewing terminating the maintenance agreement on the North Water Tower. Where the city is in the maintenance agreement and painting schedule, Supt. Lackey recommends continuing with the agreement for this cycle, then cancel.

Supt. Lackey has a bid of \$6,500 to wash the mildew from the West Water Tower. Supt. Lackey indicated the air conditioner in the Bobcat may be repaired for approximately \$200. Supt. Saunders provided a wish list of water parts, approx. \$200; grinder \$220; and paint for curb and parking strips, \$125. Rocky Ruhnke moved and Dan Collins seconded a motion approving items, approximately \$545, for Supt. Saunders. Motion carried 5-0 Supt. Lackey indicated patrons need to place grass clippings in the compost pile and not the burn pile as the clippings do not burn.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Finance Committee – Marty Allen & Rocky Ruhnke – Nothing at this time

Law Enforcement Committee – Terry Gibson & Marty Allen – Nothing at this time

Parks and Rec. Committee – Greg Delzeit & Rocky Ruhnke – Rocky Ruhnke reported the youth summer ball program has lost a couple teams and will play games in July. The Lions Club will be provided a schedule of home games. Greg Delzeit reported on the 4th of July activities as the parade is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. and being organized as in past years. Event insurance is being reviewed at Highland Insurance.

Street and Alley/Bldg & Grounds Committee – Terry Gibson & Dan Collins – Terry Gibson moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to eliminate one parking space, 20 feet, immediately east of the west cross walk on Main Street located near the HCC Library/Student Union and update the city traffic code. Motion carried 5-0 Commissioner Collins is asking for assistance from the city to repair the tube on North Kansas Street. The 6' x 100' tube will cost between \$13 - \$14 thousand, county will be needing extra dirt and city labor to complete the project. Commissioner Collins will report at the commissioner's meeting next Monday. Regarding the Old Post Office building, it was noted all the paperwork was done and waiting on some papers to be served.

Water and Sewer Committee – Rocky Ruhnke & Terry Gibson – Checking on the progress of BG Consultants, and developing a sewer plan.

Planning & Zoning – Marty Allen & Greg Delzeit – Nothing at this time

Personnel Committee – Greg Delzeit & Dan Collins – Nothing at this time

NEW BUSINESS:

Attorney Collins reviewed Resolution 20-05 which rescinds Resolution 20-03 and opens the Highland Municipal Court July 1, 2020, and provides the Judge full authority to take the necessary steps to mitigate the spread of Covid-19.

Attorney Collins explained Steve Gaul has inquired if the current target area the officers use at well 5 could be available for a Conceal & Carry class he'd teach. Following discussion which included the target area location, the consensus of the council was to move the target area to another location due to safety issues.

RESOLUTIONS:

Following Attorney Collins previous review of 20-05 resolution, Terry Gibson moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-05 which rescinds Resolution 20-03 that temporarily closed Highland Municipal Court and authorizes the Highland Municipal Judge to make necessary and appropriate orders to conduct court session, all as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and state of emergency in the State of Kansas. Motion carried 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Marty Allen moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 7:10 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 7:20 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 Mayor asked the city attorney and clerk to remain

Terry Gibson moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion authorizing Attorney Collins to conduct the sale of the former Cluck property, 507 West Missouri, Lots 1, 2 & 3 in Block 29, 10 a.m., July 1st, at city hall with a minimum bid of \$12,000. Motion carried 5-0

Greg Delzeit moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried 5-0

Mayor

City Clerk