

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
October 14, 2020
5:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Delzeit, Marty Allen via ZOOM, Rocky Ruhnke, Dan Collins and Terry Gibson

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Attorney Ted Collins, City Clerk Joann Karn, Water & Sewer Superintendent Trevor Saunders and Police Chief Brandon Whetstine

GUESTS PRESENT: Harry Smith and Colleen Simmons; via ZOOM: Brian Kingsley, BG Consultants and Garrett Nordstrom, GAS.

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 September 9, 2020, regular city council meeting. Motion carried 5-0

Greg Delzeit moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2020, special city council meeting. Motion carried 5-0

Rocky Ruhnke moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 5-0

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Mayor Batchelder – Nothing at this time

Attorney Collins – Input on later agenda items

Clerk Karn – Reminder of Public Hearing, October 19th at 11:00 a.m.; following a Supreme Court ruling, the Census Bureau will end data collection October 15th; and the city received an invitation to apply for a grant from the Ruth & Roger Wolfe Charitable Trust. The council appreciated past efforts of former council person Dana Clary in receiving the Wolfe's grant and her willingness to continue volunteering for the completion of Minier Park.

Police Chief Whetstine – KDHE and county health department has suggested guidelines for celebrating Halloween this year. Highland Police, EMS, and Fire Department will host a Drive Through Trunk or Treat on October 31st, 4:00-5:00 p.m. at D-West High School parking lot. Register trunks at city hall by Oct. 30th. Greg Delzeit moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to authorize the Highland Police, EMS and fire department to host a Drive Through Trunk or Treat, October 31st, 4-5 p.m. in the Doniphan West High School parking lot, with permission from USD 111. Motion carried 5-0 Chief Whetstine indicated Malcom Grier would be retained to review the city for code violations, specifically unsafe structures.

Harry Smith arrived and asked the council to approve his application, submitted today, for a CMB license. Following discussion, Rocky Ruhnke moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to waive the waiting period and approve the CMB application subject to the criteria of the ordinance being met. Motion carried 5-0

Water/Sewer Superintendent Saunders and City Superintendent Lackey – Supt. Saunders reported a drainage tube will be installed from Virginia/Canada to Canada/Pennsylvania for a cost of \$600. Supt. Lackey absent but provided a handout on the cost to erect the fence at the lower lagoons.

Following discussion, Terry Gibson moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion for the city to install the drainage tube from Virginia/Canada to the alley and ask David Diveley to reimburse the city for the tube. Motion carried 3-2 (Allen, Ruhnke)

Rocky Ruhnke moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to install the fence around the lower lagoons for a cost of \$5,380, materials-\$4,110, equipment rental and hedge post from Lackey Loader Works-\$1,270, paid from the sewer fund. Motion carried 5-0

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

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

Law Enforcement Committee – Terry Gibson & Marty Allen – Malcom Grier will be in town next week.

Parks and Rec. Committee – Greg Delzeit & Rocky Ruhnke – Nothing at this time

Street and Alley/Bldg & Grounds Committee – Terry Gibson & Dan Collins – Terry Gibson spread grass seed where the dirt has been disturbed due to city maintenance.

Water and Sewer Committee – Rocky Ruhnke & Terry Gibson – Mr. Gibson reported that Gerald Neibling believes the well house needs immediate repairs as it will not last until the water treatment plant is operational (estimated 2 years). Following discussion, Brian Kingsley, BG Consultants, suggested making the necessary temporary repairs to keep the wells operational but hold off on the major upgrade until more information is received regarding all aspects of the water treatment plant which was also the consensus of the council.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Terry Gibson moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion for the city to purchase a \$100 ad in the 2021 Doniphan West High School yearbook, using the same ad as last year. Motion carried 5-0

Greg Delzeit moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion accepting the sidewalk reimbursement application of Dennis Rohr, 302 N. Kansas St., and reimburse per policy, \$225. Motion carried 5-0

Following the agreement review by Brian Kingsley, BG Consultants, Rocky Ruhnke moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to accept, contingent upon grant award, and authorize the Mayor to sign the “Agreement Between Owner and Engineer for Professional Services.” Motion carried 5-0

Following the contract review by Garrett Nordstrom, Western Consultants DBA Governmental Assistance Services, Rocky Ruhnke moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to accept, contingent upon grant award, and authorize the Mayor to sign the “Contract for Administration Services for the City of Highland CDBG Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project.” Motion carried 5-0

Mr. Nordstrom, GAS, explained the application process and grant awarding of funds through the CDBG-CV grant. Awards may be made by the first of January.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Rocky Ruhnke moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:18 p.m. for 5 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 6:23 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 Mayor asked the city attorney and clerk to remain

Marty Allen moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:23 p.m. Motion carried 5-0

Mayor

City Clerk