

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
March 10, 2021
5:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Delzeit, Marty Allen and Terry Gibson

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Rocky Ruhnke and Dan Collins

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

GUESTS PRESENT: Amanda Lundy, US Bank; Sarah Lock & daughter; CB Lackey and Robin Garner

PRESIDING: 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 February 10, 2021, regular city council meeting. Motion carried 3-0

Marty Allen moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2021, special city council meeting. Motion carried 3-0

Greg Delzeit moved and Marty Allen seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2021, special city council meeting. Motion carried 3-0

Marty Allen moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 3-0

PRESENTATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sarah Lock announced the desire to form a Doniphan County Girl Scouts Club, closest being Sabetha, asked to use the community center, free of charge, the first Monday of each month, 6 – 8 p.m. Terry Gibson moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to allow the Doniphan County Girl Scouts Club to use the community center free of charge on the first Monday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. beginning April 2021 if there is not a conflict, with the understanding the club will leave it clean after each use. Motion carried 3-0

Amanda Lundy, US Bank, explained the Kansas Housing Assistance Program which promotes homeownership without the use of taxpayer funds and no cost, no liability or administrative burden for community participation. Ms. Lundy encouraged the council to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a cooperation agreement between the cooperating jurisdiction and Sedgwick County, Kansas and Shawnee County, Kansas (Jointly, the “issuers”) authorizing the issuers to exercise, on behalf of the cooperating jurisdiction, the authority and powers conferred by the Kansas Local Residential Housing Finance Law. With no cost, liability or administrative burden to the city, Marty Allen moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2021-03 as stated. Roll Call – Delzeit-yes; Allen-yes; Gibson-yes; Motion carried 3-0

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Mayor Batchelder – Nothing at this time.

Attorney Collins – No addition updates on the proposed water treatment plant project.

Clerk Karn – Announced the Big Kansas Road Trip will take place May 6-9, 2021, featuring Brown, Doniphan and Nemaha counties. Auditors Karlin & Long returned the 2020 financial auditor’s report which noted no violations of Kansas Statutes. The 2021 budget workshop is not scheduled yet but appears the consumer price index will be a 2% increase. The city received a grant of \$250 from the Wolfe Trust Funds for items to be place in Minier Park. Tom Heath, Highland Insurance, provided the estimated premium of \$25,629 for the city’s renewal of general liability, property, inland marine and auto insurance with Glatfelter. Renewal premium for worker’s compensation has not been received from Traveler’s Insurance to date. Marty Allen moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to retain the current insurance with Glatfelter and Traveler’s for renewal period April 1, 2021 to April 1, 2022. Motion carried 3-0 The council has three positions up for election this year, filing deadline is noon on June 1st, positions held by Delzeit, Gibson and Ruhnke.

Mayor Batchelder acknowledge public comments by C.B. Lackey – A fuel depot will be located on his property north of town, the former Valley Grain; concerned about the projected repairs of the tube at the North Kansas city limits; and possible annexation of the property in the future.

Mayor Batchelder acknowledge public comments by Robin Garner – Have a number of dogs-at-large in town and some are digging unwanted holes. Any dog issue, dogs-at-large, etc., contact Police Chief Whetstine.

Police Chief Whetstine – Assisted with domestic case, underage drinking party, fire calls, and house break-ins. Explained the PD Durango is leaking oil and has an estimate of \$800 for repairs at Car City next Monday. Following discussion, Terry Gibson moved and Marty Allen seconded a motion approving repairs up to \$800 either in Hiawatha or St. Joseph Car City. Motion carried 3-0 Chief Whetstine requested to attend the Kansas ChildFirst training, \$100 registration, 3 days in Wichita, KS plus additional costs. Terry Gibson moved and Marty Allen seconded a motion allowing Chief Whetstine to attend Kansas ChildFirst training in Wichita, KS, \$100 registration plus additional cost of lodging, paid from the Diversion Fund. Motion carried 3-0 Chief Whetstine provided two handouts, 8-channel and 16-channel, security camera system with color night vision from Lorex. Discussion included: same system used by Troy, a wired system, 180-degree camera mounted on poles from Ives to Kansas. Marty Allen moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion approving the 16-channel 4K Ultra HD Security System with 16 4K (8MP) Cameras with Color Night Vision from Lorex, \$799.99 for a total cost of up to \$1,000 installed, paid from the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund. Motion carried 3-0 Chief Whetstine asked to discuss the hiring of Chris Waggoner in executive session.

Water/Sewer Superintendent Saunders and City Superintendent Lackey –Supt. Lackey reported Duke’s will be in town 2-3 day next week treating sewer lines; Missouri Glass repaired two doors at city hall; Engemann Drainage repaired the water shut off for the building next to the bank; KRWA will be in town exercising the valves next week and checking fire hydrants. Council asked for a fire hydrant report which will be used for fire hydrant replacement recommendations.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

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

Law Enforcement Committee – Terry Gibson & Marty Allen – Police policy is being updated. Possible hire of Hiawatha’s code officer to provide the city with an unsafe structure report.

Parks and Rec. Committee – Greg Delzeit & Rocky Ruhnke – Following discussion on Highland’s 4th of July celebration, the consensus was to hold the activities, fireworks, etc. on Saturday, July 3rd; rain date July 4th.

Street and Alley/Bldg & Grounds Committee – Terry Gibson & Dan Collins – Following discussion on financing street improvements, received quotes of nearly \$200,000, Terry Gibson moved and Marty Allen seconded a motion to use BG Consultants and Governmental Assistance Services to begin the PER for 2021 CDBG application. Motion carried 3-0

Water and Sewer Committee – Rocky Ruhnke & Terry Gibson – Nothing at this time.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

City Superintendent position to be discussed at next regular meeting.

Summer recreation position to be discussed at next regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Terry Gibson moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to donation \$100 to the Doniphan West After Prom Party as past years. Motion carried 3-0

Terry Gibson moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to allow a St. Patrick’s Day Parade on Saturday, March 13th with closing Main Street, beginning at the high school to the HUMP Church (South Ave) beginning at 10 a.m. and close the 100 Block of South Kirkwood from 8 a.m. to midnight. Motion carried 3-0

Discussion was had on Harry Smith’s requested handicap parking in front of Ernies. City staff will review the handicap guidelines.

Marty Allen moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion designating Friday, April 23rd and Saturday, April 24th as city wide clean-up dates with the city providing the dumpsters. City crew will pick up limbs which has been placed along the street until Friday, April 16th. Due to Covid-19, the modified cleanup will be conducted, same as last year. Motion carried 3-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Greg Delzeit moved and Marty Allen seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:30 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 6:40 p.m. Motion carried 3-0 Mayor asked the City Attorney and City Clerk to remain.

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

Mayor

City Clerk