

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
October 9, 2024
5:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Gibson, Robert Ellerman, and Tana Snyder

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Marty Allen and Keith Edmonds

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Attorney Andy Parker, City Clerk Joann Karn, City Water and Sewer Superintendent Trevor Saunders, Police Chief Dustin Winters, Deputy City Clerk Debbie Keebler and Maintenance Dustin Winder

GUESTS PRESENT: None

PRESIDING: Mayor Charles Batchelder

Tana Snyder moved and Robert Ellerman seconded a motion to approve the regular city council meeting minutes of September 11, 2024. Motion carried 3-0

Terry Gibson moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 3-0

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Mayor Batchelder – Nothing at this time

Attorney Parker – Later in the meeting

City Clerk Karn – Announced the CDBG Monitoring Visit will be October 22, 2024, at 10 a.m. for the city's street project.

Police Chief – Reported 27 traffic stops last month with 15 citations issued, 11 for speed; assisted the county and working on a large case; cleaning Evidence Room; securing grants and/or funding for new encryption dual radios which need to be in use by end of 2025 – receiving quotes for four (4) radios; HCAT donating candy bars for Ticket It or Treat event; and priced a 5G mobile hot spot from AT&T for \$54.17/mo. plus tax.

City Superintendent Saunders – Reported the fuse box on the F-250 is bad following install of the fuel pump. Supt. Saunders reviewed the KRWA sludge profile of cell 1 and cell 2 which sludge removal is not recommended at this time. Supt. Saunders reviewed the sewer root control treatment performed by Duke's Root Control Inc. in March 2021 is now out of warranty on certain lines and the remaining treated lines will be out of warranty November 2024. Following discussion, council consensus was to wait until spring since there is no issue at this time. Supt. Saunders reviewed the Lead and Copper Inventory mandate and provided an update. The city has met the first submittal deadline for the initial inventory to KDHE and will continue this inventory as a "living data set" that is continuously improved over time as materials are investigated and lines are replaced. Customers will be receiving "Notification of Known or Potential Service Line Containing Lead" tri-fold if the earlier requests for information response regarding the household water service line material, size, etc. was answered as lead, galvanized material or unknown. All service line materials must be identified which will eliminate the unknowns.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Finance Committee – Marty Allen & Keith Edmonds – Nothing at this time.

Law Enforcement Committee – Tana Snyder & Marty Allen – Nothing at this time

Parks and Rec. Committee — Terry Gibson & Tana Snyder – Restrooms at the city park will be winterized. Attorney Parker will continue to work with the college and school district on the city ballpark agreement.

Street and Alley/Bldg & Grounds Committee – Robert Ellerman & Terry Gibson – Nothing at this time

Water and Sewer Committee – Terry Gibson & Robert Ellerman – Nothing at this time.

Planning & Zoning – Keith Edmonds & Marty Allen – Nothing at this time.

Personnel Committee – Tana Snyder & Robert Ellerman – Nothing at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Superintendent Trevor Saunders commented that individuals were on site working on the chlorine level indicator. The city has not signed off on the project.

Kansas Dept. of Commerce, CDBG monitoring, will be on site to review the Street Project later this month.

The property at 104 W Ohio has remained unchanged as an unsafe structure. Attorney Parker advised that Ms. Scholz indicated the contractor was two months out to remove the structure. Officer Winters indicated he provided Ms. Scholz a name, if agreed upon, they could remove the structure now.

Attorney Parker explained the college would favor annexation on the east and north property but would negotiate with the city regarding the west property, topics of irrigation water, potable water, sewer, etc. Attorney Parker will visit with the college and bring it back at a later date.

A zoning change will be needed for the repurpose of the former Highland Stop and Shop.

Tana Snyder moved and Robert Ellerman seconded a motion to list the city's vacant lots with a realtor. Motion carried 3-0

NEW BUSINESS:

Following explanation of a family-friendly event, HCAT sponsored, to be held at the former Matthias/saddle club area on Saturday, October 26th, 2-8 p.m., Robert Ellerman moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion authorizing HCAT to hold the event on city property and Supt. Trevor Saunder to use city equipment, after hours, to ready the area for the event. Motion carried 4-0

Terry Gibson moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion to allow Highland Community College to fire a canon at the beginning of the game and for every HCC touchdown for the military appreciation game on November 16, 2024. Motion carried 3-0

Tana Snyder moved and Robert Ellerman seconded a motion for the city maintenance staff to remove the three identified trees in the city ball park. Motion carried 3-0

Terry Gibson moved and Tana Snyder seconded the motion to accept the \$2,430.70 quote of Bruna Implement to replace the door, (glass, seal, and frame) on the skid steer. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Trevor Saunders reported there are approximately 27 dead trees and 17 partially dead trees within the city. Some of the trees present a significant safety concern. Attorney Parker will review the ordinance to address this concern.

Attorney Parker reviewed the ordinances and zoning regarding the semi-trailers which are parked in yards and other areas in the city.

Police Chief asked the maintenance to change the placement of two stop signs so citations can be issued as they were incorrectly set. Council consensus was that this movement is not changing the city's traffic map.

Councilperson Ellerman received public comments on DWHS Homecoming parade regarding the lack of cleanup. Not all the confetti were biodegradable and lack of communication for securing personnel for street closure safety. Police Chief will visit with the administration.

Police Chief again asked for the approval of the hot spot. Following further discussion, Robert Ellerman moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion allowing Police Chief Winter to purchase a 5G mobile hot spot from AT&T for \$54.17/mo. plus tax and cancel the router line at the water treatment plant. Motion carried 3-0

Tana Snyder moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion for the city's court clerk to submit court information to the paper, Kansas Chief. Motion carried 3-0

Tana Snyder moved and Robert Ellerman seconded a motion to adjourn at 5:53 p.m. Motion carried 3-0

Mayor

City Clerk