

CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
July 9, 2025
5:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Gibson, Roger Rush, Keith Edmonds, and Tana Snyder

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Ellerman

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Attorney Andy Parker, City Clerk Joann Karn, Water/Sewer Superintendent Trevor Saunder and Police Chief Dustin Winters

GUESTS PRESENT: April Heim, Carl Johnson, Malcom Grier, Jill Denton, Charles Preiss and KDOT Representative Don Hughes

PRESIDING: Mayor Charles Batchelder

Tana Snyder moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion to approve the amended agenda. Added to the agenda is a printer and a trail a camera for the police department. Motion carried 4-0

Tana Snyder moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda: a) June 1, 2025, regular meeting minutes b) claims list for June 12, 2025, through July 9, 2025. Motion carried 4-0

PRESENTATION:

KDOT Representative Don Hughes presented the Highland Police Department, Dustin Winters, with a gold level plaque, Community Safety Award.

PUBLIC FORUM:

April Heims addressed the council regarding the ditch going through her property due to the water coming from the college. Ms. Heims proposes for a woman from the Doniphan County Department of Conservation look at the erosion and get the college involved to find a long-term solution. The consensus of the council was to hold a meeting with the Do. Co. Dept. of Conservation to work towards an agreeable solution which will minimize erosion, and the property owners can maintain for compliance with the codes.

CONSIDER/APPROVAL:

Terry Gibson moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the Notice to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate, proposed mill levy rate is 51.635. Motion carried 4-0

W/S Superintendent Saunders explained the evaporator at the water treatment plant is bad and out of warranty. A quote from Resource West Inc. is \$2,066.14 plus shipping. Following discussion, W/S Supt. Saunders will contact Gerald Neibling to review the situation.

Terry Gibson moved and Keith Edmonds seconded the motion to allow the Farmers Market to be held in Degginger Park. Motion carried 4-0

Roger Rush moved and Terry Gibson seconded the motion approving a ECOSYS MA2600cwf 5 GHz printer from Heartland Business Machines for a total of \$623.84 for the police department. Motion carried 4-0

With vandalism at the ballpark, Chief Winters asked for the purchase of two (2) TACTACAM Defend Cellular Security Cameras (\$564.15) plus a monthly subscription costing \$20 per camera. Tana Snyder moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to approve the purchase of two (2) TACTACAM Defend Cellular Security Cameras, \$564.25 plus \$20 per camera monthly subscription, to be paid from the Diversion Fund. Motion carried 4-0

DISCUSSION/OPEN ISSUES:

- **Highland Community Ball Park Upgrades & Agreement** – Attorney Parker is coordinating with the three entities on a meeting date with a suggestion to meet at the community center.

- **Community Building Roof Estimates** – Attorney Parker following up on a quote.
- **West Water Tower Maintenance** – Auditor suggested a maintenance agreement for the West Water Tower. Tabled until further information is secured.
- **Unsafe Structures Reinspected** – Chief Winters reported Malcom Grier agreed to inspect the structures and introduced Mr. Grier. Mr. Grier's fee would be \$20 trip charge plus \$20/hr. if inspecting more than one home. If called to inspect one home, the cost would be trip charge plus \$25. Terry Gibson moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion for Attorney Parker to draw up a contract hiring Malcom Grier to assist the city for inspections and code enforcement. Motion carried 4-0

REPORTS:

- Mayor Batchelder commented on the success of this year's 4th of July celebration and thanked everyone.
- Attorney Parker explained that the former Cluck property is free of any liens and interest has been shown to build on that property and the former Highland Community Housing property. Attorney Parker will be receiving information on McVicker's property for the city to move forward on the violations. Councilperson Snyder asked about Kansas Statutes on above ground swimming pools. Attorney Parker will review the regulations on swimming pools.
- Clerk Karn relayed the thank-you note from the Dozen and Half Club for allowing the street to closed for the 2025 Easter Egg Hunt.
- Chief Winters read his report highlighting traffic stops, tickets, search warrants and outside agency assists, 38 bicycle helmets handed out at the Farmers Market, 4th of July Parade which was recorded with Daniel's drone, Police Department now has a Facebook page, and AED's have been ordered. Chief Winters is asking for the hiring of Daniel as a part-time officer as needed, especially during the STEP program, at \$20/hr. STEP program will be fully reimbursed by the state. Tana Snyder moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to hire a part-time officer to participate in the STEP program. Motion carried 4-0
- Water/Sewer Supt. Saunders reported the new employee, Dalton Krier, is doing an excellent job.
- Finance Committee reported the budget was reviewed and determined the proposed mill levy.
- Park and Rec Committee reported that summer ball was over at the end of June.
- Street and Alley Committee reported millings had been spread in a couple of alleys.
- Comments – The city has not heard when work will begin on the bridge at Kansas/Coronado.

Terry Gibson moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:13 p.m. Motion carried 4-0

Mayor

City Clerk