

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

APRIL 5, 2021

“Correction”

Mayor Anderson opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was stated by all present. The minutes from the previous meeting were presented. Rob Lessen made the motion to approve the minutes and Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved. The Mayor presented the agenda for the evening. The Mayor requested to address the City Pool because Piper Richardson has another meeting this evening. Bette Lessen requested to allow Tom Gorman to address the City Council during Council Comments. Travis Wood made the motion to accept the revised agenda. Dickie Cleland seconds the motion. The motion was approved. The Mayor presented the Appropriation Ordinance # 3 to the City Council. Travis Wood made the motion to approve for payment Appropriation Ordinance #3. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CITY POOL

Piper Richardson was present to request that the City pool be opened this summer. Piper stated that she has students that want to be lifeguards but need to be certified. Rock Anderson recommended that Piper Richardson be hired as the City pool manager and allow her to hire the 8 lifeguards. Mary Lou Peace made the motion to hire Piper Richardson and to have her hire the lifeguards for this summer season. Dickie Cleland seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Leesa Rhodes was present to report on the possibility of the City implementing a Tax Abatement for new businesses. Tom Hayes will investigate this matter. Leesa also stated that the policy should have a publication fee for future public hearings, so the City is not burdened with the expense. Also, KDOT will be holding a meeting May 7. Leesa also stated that she is on the Community Health Action team.

VANESSA KENT; FUEL ADJUSTMENT

Vanessa handed out paperwork and reviewed the situation with the City Council on how the fuel adjustment was determined to be .076. Now after speaking with Gerry Beiker with KMEA they felt that the 2 large bills should have the KWH included in the math with the current bill. So, the fuel adjustment was lowered to .011. If the City Council would approve the change Vanessa can make this adjustment into the system and help our residents save money. Rob Lessen made the motion to allow the change on the fuel adjustment. Dickie Cleland seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

KIM COATS ON APRIL BILL

Kim Coats was present to address the City Council on his opinion dealing with the large fuel bill that the City received due to the weather conditions in mid-February. The City Council listened and thanked Mr. Coats for his suggestions.

SOUTHWEST POWER POOL BILL

Vanessa Kent presented three options to the City Council can use to recoup the lost of the 401,000.00 paid out on the 2 large bills from KMEA. Vanessa showed the City Council that they could charge monthly either a .005, .01 or 015 cents per KW used per month. Rock Anderson recommended that the City Council consider the ½ cent a month. Rob Lessen made the motion to approve billing per month for the next 6 months a ½ cent per KWH used and then review the situation at that point. Also, a letter should be sent out to all customer's informing them of this action. The SPP bill will begin on the May billing. Dickie Cleland seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

111 W. MADISON PROPERTY

Bette Lessen stated that she had not received a written report from Mike McLeod yet. This will be on the next agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

ROBERT SNARE ZONING BOARD RECOMMENDATION

Robert Snare was not present but Bette Lessen reported on the Public Hearing held for Larry Black's Conditional Use permit to have a one-bedroom apartment built to the east side of his business. Rob Lessen made the motion to accept the Zoning Board's recommendation to allow the Conditional Use permit. Dickie Cleland seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

BALL PARKS

Travis Wood made the motion to allow the ball parks to open this summer. Dickie Cleland seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

EMPLOYEE SUMMER HOURS

Rock Anderson addressed the issue of allowing the City guys to start working at 7 am until 3:30 p.m. Ken Harryman said that the City Council had agreed that the employees would start summer hours June 1. Rob Lessen made the motion to allow the City guys to start summer hours. Travis Wood seconds the motion. The motion was defeated 3 to 2 with Dickie, Ken, and Mary Lou voting no.

MTI MUNICIPAL FINANCE COURSE

Mary Lou Peace requested to take a zoom class through the KS League of Municipalities for \$50.00 charge. Dickie Cleland made the motion to cover the cost of the class. Travis Wood seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Chris Wilson handed out paperwork on his department and equipment that they need. First Chris discussed the Police policy manual that he would like the City Council to

approve. Rob Lessen made the motion to approve and Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

Chris then brought up the matter of a new vehicle. Chris stated that he had found a used Explorer with the MO Highway patrol for 22,500.00 plus 900.00 for the installed equipment. The department would get rid of the Tahoe. Dickie Cleland made the motion to go forward with the purchase of the new vehicle. Rob Lessen seconds the motion. The motion was approved. Center console, radio and cage will be added.

Chris then reported that the department is having problems getting part-time help to work when the officers are working their normal jobs. Chris asked the Council if they would allow him to hire a Primary Part-time Officer that would workday shifts on Saturday and Sunday with the option to fill in evenings when needed at \$15.00 an hour. Dickie Cleland made the motion to allow Chris to hire a Primary Part-time Officer. Travis Wood seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

Chris then reported that the department and officers could benefit from having 8 handguns purchased for officer use instead of using their own weapon. Allowing the Officer to use his own weapon could lead to some serious issues. It would be better if the department were able to issue the handgun to the officer which each officer would be issued the same make of gun. Also looking towards the future personal body cameras would be beneficial to the officer also. Travis Wood made the motion to allow Chris to purchase 8 handguns for the department. Rob Lessen seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Tom Gorman spoke to the City Council about two issues. The first is a request for a dead-end sign at W. Main and N. 9th. People are driving through the resident's yard at N. 9th and W. Perry. Rob Lessen made the motion to **put a dead end sign for 9th and Perry**. Travis Wood seconds the motion. The motion was approved 4 to 1. Mary Lou voted no. Tom then addressed Russ Cramer's request to have the City help dig a garden on school property. Rob Lessen made the motion to allow the City guys and equipment to dig the garden. Dickie Cleland seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

Dickie Cleland stated that Bruce Bedene asked him when the culvert project that was started last year not finished with rock. Dickie said that should be completed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Bette Lessen stated that she gave each member a copy of a newsletter from KMEA in their packets. Rob Lessen made the motion to accept the communications. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

PURCHASE REQUEST

Rock Anderson reported that a new chlorinator needs to be purchase for the water building at 1,945.00. Dickie Cleland made the motion to purchase the chlorinator. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

Rock Anderson then reported on Tom Gorman's truck which turns out needs a new transmission which would cost \$3,500.00. Dickie Cleland made the motion to allow Tom to purchase a new used pickup. Travis Wood seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mary Lou Peace stated that she did not require an executive session at this time.

Rob Lessen made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Ken Harryman seconds the motion. The motion was approved.

Bette Lessen, City Clerk