

COUNCIL MEETING 18-07
APRIL 9, 2018

The City Council met in Council Chambers at 7:00 PM with the Mayor calling the meeting to order and the following answering to roll call:

Andy Koehler	Council Member
Steve Faber	Council Member
Michael Yaklich	Council Member
Chris Colomer	Council Member
Steve Looney	Mayor

News media present was as follows:

Mike Helenthal	Star Courier
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The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Mayor Looney asked for a moment of silence for our troops still fighting overseas.

Mayor Looney explained that the next items were placed on the consent agenda and were considered to be routine in nature to be passed as a whole with one vote of the Council. Mayor Looney requested that any member of the Council or the audience wishing to have an item removed from the consent agenda for individual consideration to make the request and the item would be removed and considered following the approval of the remaining consent items. The consent agenda included minutes from the March 26, 2018 Council Meeting, payroll for the pay period ending March 31, 2018 in the amount of \$197,504.20, reports from Community Development, Building & Zoning, Finance & Administration, and ESDA, and a request from Prairie Chicken Festival for use of city streets, parking lots, and green spaces. The consent agenda was approved on a motion made by Council Member Faber and seconded by Council Member Colomer. Roll call showed 5 ayes, no nays. The motion passed.

Bills submitted for approval totaling \$369,173.28 were approved on a motion made by Council Member Colomer and seconded by Council Member Yaklich. Council Member Koehler questioned the demolition grant for East Prospect Street. Community Development Director Edwards explained the demolition grant program. City Manager Bradley confirmed, at the request of Council Member Yaklich that the cement slab for the new animal control facility came in over budget. Mr. Bradley further explained that there have been other items donated, so the overall project was expected to come in at or below budget. Roll call showed 5 ayes, no nays. The motion passed.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Mayor Looney then asked if anyone wished to speak regarding a non-agenda item. There being no such requests Mayor Looney moved on to new business.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #5105 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Ratliff Bros for sewer repairs on Maple Avenue and the alley on East Second Street was approved on a motion made by Council Member Faber and seconded by Council Member Colomer. Operations Manager Johnson explained the projects and the need for contracting for the work. Roll call showed 5 ayes, no nays. The motion passed.

A request to purchase a brush mower for the use in abating nuisance weed violations was approved on a motion made by Council Member Faber and seconded by Council Member Colomer. Grounds Maintenance Manager Newton explained the need for the mower, and the wear and tear it would eliminate on a more expensive piece of equipment. Roll call showed 5 ayes, no nays. The motion passed.

Community Development Director Edwards presented an update to the Council regarding the upcoming City-wide cleanup event. Mr. Edwards noted that there would be an additional benefit with the City collecting tires at Moore Tires during the same time frame.

A brief discussion of the findings of the 2018 IEPA inspection was held. The majority of the findings had been addressed prior to receiving the official report.

Ordinance #3924 amending Chapter 151 Electrical Regulations of the City Code was tabled on a motion made by Council Member Colomer and seconded by Council Member Yaklich. Several electricians were in attendance and offered their opinions on the proposed changes. Council Member Yaklich noted his concern with adding additional work for staff while going through the budget process. The matter was tabled until the budget process was completed. Roll call showed 5 ayes, no nays. The motion passed.

Ordinance #3925 amending Chapter 122 to include Contractor Registrations was tabled on a motion made by Council Member Colomer and seconded by Council Member Yaklich. After a brief discussion, Council Member Yaklich again noted his concern for any additional work for staff during the budget process. City Manager Bradley noted that an open house could be held for contractors to give input during the interim. Roll call showed 5 ayes, no nays. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Member Colomer noted that spring was right around the corner.

Council Member Koehler noted his desire to do whatever was most affordable for the budget that would take care of business.

Council Member Yaklich asked with the installation of solar panels, if the loss of revenue from the utility fee on power bills. City Manager Bradley noted that the construction of solar panels

was being treated as an accessory structure. He also noted that the loss of revenue would be similar to the loss of revenue from the switch to cellular phones.

Council Member Yaklich then noted a complaint he had received regarding a letter from the Community Development Department that had been mailed to a resident. City Attorney Raver noted that he did not want the letters to be softened.

Mayor Looney noted that the City was facing a huge deficit and the Council would be facing some tough decisions. The next budget session would be held on April 16 at 6:00 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Edwards announced that the transfer station will be open every Saturday in May and June from 8 am to noon, except May 28 for Memorial Day.

There being no further business, Council Member Faber moved to adjourn the meeting and Council Member Colomer seconded the motion. Roll call showed 5 ayes, no nays. The meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

MELINDA EDWARDS, CITY CLERK

DATE APPROVED