

**CITY OF NEW STRAWN
COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, January 12, 2017
New Strawn City Hall
7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order: Mayor Mark Petterson called the regular monthly meeting of the New Strawn City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Those present were:

- Council Member Jeanne Haas
- Council Member Jim Weeks
- Council Member Kraig Kirchner
- Council Member Bobby Bryant
- Council Member Gary Haehn

Others present were:

City Superintendent Ron Parkey	City Clerk Kerry Templeton
Code Enforcement Officer Steven Dwight	County Commissioner Bob Saueressig
Rhonda Taylor	Kimberly Criqui
Robert Splawn	

Flag Salute: The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Additions:

Finance & Economic Development Report:

- a. **ADDED:** City License to Serve Alcohol
- b. **ADDED:** Water Debt Payment

Correspondence:

- b. **ADDED:** Resolution Restricting Open Burning

Consent Agenda Additions:

Licenses:

C. **DELETED:** Move to approve 2017 CMB License for Robert Splawn DBA Buddies, LLC to sell cereal malt beverages for consumption on the premises.

D. **ADDED:** Move to approve 2017 CMB License for Robert Splawn DBA Buddies, LLC to sell cereal malt beverages in original and unopened containers and not for consumption on the licensed premises.

Consent Agenda:

- Move to approve the minutes of December 8, 2016 regular council meeting
- Move to approve the December 2016 warrants in the amount of \$20,578.22
- Move to approve the December 2016 payroll in the amount of \$14,380.11
- Move to approve Plumbing License 2017-PE-04 for Cook's Plumbing, Inc.
- Move to approve Plumbing License 2017-PE-05 for Mason Plumbing
- Move to approve 2017 CMB License for Robert Splawn DBA Buddies LLC to sell cereal malt beverages in original and unopened containers and not for consumption on the licensed premises

- Move to allow Steven Dwight to attend KRWA annual conference in Wichita, KS March 28-30 and to pay registration fee of \$175.00 as well as lodging and additional meal expenses incurred.
- Move to allow City Superintendent to purchase 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel in 2017, total cost not to exceed \$2,500, funds to be taken from the General Fund.
- Move to allow City Superintendent to purchase fish food in an amount up to \$3,000 in 2017, funds to be taken from the Special Park Fund.
- Move to allow City Superintendent to purchase cold patch in an amount up to \$1,000 in 2017, funds to be taken from the Special Highway Fund.
- Move to allow City Superintendent to purchase weed killer in an amount up to \$1,000 in 2017, funds to be taken from the General Fund.
- Move to allow City Superintendent to purchase road salt in an amount up to \$4,000 in 2017, funds to be taken from the Special Highway Fund.
- Move to allow City Superintendent to purchase propane in an amount up to \$300 in 2017, funds to be taken from the General Fund.

Council member Haehn moved to approve agenda with additions as presented. Weeks seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comments:

Rhonda Taylor inquired as to why all of Decker Street had not been included when the asphalt overlay was applied last summer. She stated that the section from the intersection of Main and Decker to Sorg Street had not been included and noted that there were several large potholes. Superintendent Parkey stated that the asphalt overlay was applied to the sections of Decker Street that were in the worst condition. Taylor asked if the potholes could be fixed and Parkey and the mayor assured her that once council had approved the purchase of cold patch, which was on the consent agenda, the potholes would be taken care of. Taylor expressed her gratitude.

Council member Bryant moved to approve the consent agenda with amendments as presented. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Financial Report:

Council member Haas moved to approve additional warrants in the amount of \$882.40. Kirchner seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Council member Haehn moved to approve the annual Treasurer's Report as presented. Haas seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Staff Reports:

City Superintendent Parkey stated that the county had applied a pre-treatment to Main Street and Arrowhead Drive in anticipation of the possible ice storm being forecast. Parkey noted that the pre-treatment allows for easier ice removal.

Parkey reported that Maintenance Worker Dwight had nearly completed filling in all the cracks in the floor of the community building with caulking to prevent the build-up of dirt and other debris. He also noted that the paper towel and toilet paper dispensers had been changed out to the newer style that held larger rolls.

Parkey also stated that the street lights throughout town that had not been working have now been fixed.

Parkey reported that rubber mulch needed for the playground would cost approximately \$600 for a ton bag, which was the equivalent of about 1,800 pounds of mulch, and that shipping costs would be \$100 bringing the total cost per bag to \$700. Superintendent Parkey felt at least two bags would be needed.

Council member Bryant moved to purchase rubber mulch for the playground, total cost not to exceed \$1,500.00 for two bags, funds to be taken from the Parks and Recreation Fund. Weeks seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Parkey noted that the trout for the City Lake would be arriving tentatively on January 26.

Clerk Templeton reported that Richard Newkirk had donated some office furniture to the city. She noted it was used but in very good condition and expressed appreciation to Mr. Newkirk for his donation. Templeton also thanked Steven Dwight for taking down the Christmas decorations at City Hall.

Templeton stated that a new phone system had been installed at City Hall and a message with all emergency contact information was in place for after-hours.

As instructed, Templeton had checked on pricing of several handbooks furnished by the League of KS Municipalities. "Code of Procedure for Effective Meetings" is \$5 each; "Handbook and Code of Procedure for Effective Meetings" is \$25 and a "Governing Body Handbook" is also \$25. There was brief discussion and Templeton will order one copy of "Code of Procedure for Effective Meetings".

Templeton reported that the "Lawn of the Month" winner for December was Mike and Deb Stuke at 1020 Arrowhead Drive.

Templeton also noted that it was time for residents to renew animal licenses for 2017.

Zoning Administrator Ware was not present for the meeting but Templeton stated there had been no building permits issued. Templeton also stated that there was another glitch involving the legal description and mapping for the extra-territorial area which had halted the progress on the city's Comprehensive Plan. However, it was her understanding that the county was working on fixing the problem.

Code Enforcement Officer Dwight stated he had dealt with a couple of dogs at large but no citations had been needed or issued. He also conveyed to council that the violation letter issued to Janel George and sent by certified mail had never been picked up. Dwight had spoken with the city's attorney who advised him that a door hanger could be used but that a 'hand to hand' delivery of the letter would be best. Dwight had attempted a hand delivery of the violation letter twice with no luck so far but he would make a few more attempts before resorting to a door hanger.

Dwight also noted that someone had dumped a bucket of ashes on the city's burn pile causing a fire to ignite in extremely windy conditions and reminded residents of the danger of such an act.

Mayor's Report:

Council member Haas moved to approve Resolution No. 93, GAAP Waiver for Financial Statements and Reports. Kirchner seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Finance and Economic Development:

Robert Splawn was in attendance to discuss a city license to operate a drinking establishment. Mr. Splawn explained that he had applied for a state alcohol license and had plans to purchase Buddies Bar & Grill and serve liquor by the drink contingent upon the state and city granting him a license to do so. However, the city currently has no ordinance in place to regulate such an establishment. After a lengthy discussion, council could find no reason not to grant Mr. Splawn such a license. However, an ordinance will need to be drafted by the city's attorney and approved by council before an actual license can be issued.

Council member Haas discussed the upcoming water system debt payment due on February 1 and the waning Water Fund. Haas was of the opinion that the entire payment, which totals approximately \$48,000, should not be taken from the Water Fund. She felt it would be better to draw part of the payment from the Infrastructure Fund. There was discussion and council agreed to go ahead and pay the entire amount from the Water Fund.

Council member Haehn discussed the possibility of implementing a 1% city sales tax. Haehn felt that was a better solution to boost the city's revenue rather than raising water rates and that it should be put to a city-wide vote.

Community Building Report:

None

Utility Report:

None

Street Report:

Superintendent Parkey stated that Mike Schmidt of Schmidt Excavating & Grading, Inc. had taken a look at Apache Street and assessed what would be needed and the cost to build approximately 266 feet of gravel shoulders. Schmidt estimated the cost of hauling the gravel needed, dumping it and blading and shaping at \$2,500 for the project. Council member Bryant moved to have Schmidt Excavating & Grading, Inc. build gravel shoulders on Apache Street, cost not to exceed \$3,000, funds to be taken from the Special Highway Fund. Haas seconded. Motion passed 4-1, with Haehn opposed. Haehn felt the shoulders could be built using dirt for less money.

Public Relations Report:

Council member Haas moved to donate one adult and one child fishing permit for the New Strawn City Lake to the Coffey County Museum for their annual fundraiser silent auction on January 28, 2017. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Council member Haas moved to donate one adult and one child fishing permit for the New Strawn City Lake to the Conquer Cancer Quarter Mania Fundraiser Event on March 4, 2017. Kirchner seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Plans for Strawnfest were discussed. Council member Haas moved to approve 2017 car show contract as presented by Trophies and Things for Strawnfest on June 24, 2017, and to pay deposit amount of \$300 immediately, balance of \$125 due on May 24, 2017, funds to be taken from the Park & Recreation Fund, and to authorize Mayor Petterson to sign the contract acting as an agent for the City of New Strawn. Bryant seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Park & Recreation Report:

Council member Haehn had met with Scot Jeffers to discuss the possibility of the city of New Strawn partnering with USD #244 Recreation Commission to construct a sports complex where the city's current baseball field is located in the south end of town. Jeffers had indicated to Haehn that the Rec Commission would like to locate several soccer fields on the site as well as getting the ball field in a more 'usable' condition, potentially utilizing the complex as much as 3-4 nights a week. Haehn noted that the complex would need bathrooms, a concession stand, parking, lights, fencing and streets and the cost estimate for such improvements was approximately \$125,000 with the Rec Center contributing a minimum of \$15,000. Jeffers had suggested that New Strawn might qualify for a grant through the Jones Foundation to fund the rest of the project. Council member Haehn stated he was presenting the proposal to council to gauge whether there was any interest in the project. Discussion followed. Council felt it merited further research. Haehn will check into grants available through the Jones Foundation and report back on his findings.

Public Safety Report:

Superintendent Parkey stated that several residents had voiced concerns over how dark the intersection of 17th Road and Arrowhead Drive was and had inquired about the possibility of having a street light installed at the corner. Parkey had contacted a representative of Lyon Coffey Electric and was told a light could be installed. The city would be responsible for paying the normal monthly rental fee but there should be no other cost to the city.

Council member Bryant moved to have Lyon Coffey Electric install a new light on the corner of 17th Road and Arrowhead Drive and to pay the monthly rental fee. Kirchner seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

New Business:

Council member Haas moved to enter into executive session at 9:08 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel for fifteen minutes. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Regular meeting resumed at 9:23 p.m.

Council member Haas moved to enter into executive session at 9:27 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel for ten minutes. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Regular meeting resumed at 9:37 p.m.

Council member Haas moved to enter into executive session at 9:39 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel for seven minutes and to invite Maintenance Worker Dwight to attend. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Regular meeting resumed at 9:46 p.m.

Council member Haas moved to enter into executive session at 9:48 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel for seven minutes and to invite City Clerk Templeton to attend. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Regular meeting resumed at 9:55 p.m.

Council member Haas moved to enter into executive session at 9:58 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel for seven minutes and to invite City Superintendent Parkey to attend. Weeks seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Regular meeting resumed at 10:05 p.m.

Old Business:

Council member Haas moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-01, an ordinance increasing the sewer service charge in the City of New Strawn, KS, and amending Section 15-427 of the Code of the City of New Strawn, KS. Kirchner seconded. Motion passed 5-0 by a show of hands.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 10:09 p.m.