

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

Public Comments:

None

Council member Kirchner moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2017 regular council meeting as presented. Weeks seconded. Motion passed 4-0-1 with Haas abstaining.

Council member Haas moved to approve the consent agenda without the minutes as presented. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Financial Report:

Council member Haas moved to approve additional warrants in the amount of \$147.00. Weeks seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Staff Reports:

City Superintendent Parkey addressed issues concerning the City's water and problems with an odor and strange taste. Parkey stated that the issues are not noticeable all the time and are occurring because Burlington is having the same issues and they supply New Strawn's water. He added that there isn't anything that can be done about it on our end but Burlington is working hard to correct the problem.

Parkey stated that he and Maintenance Worker Dwight had also been doing some work on the area just north of the batting cage, moving the piles of rock and smoothing and leveling out the mounds of dirt. A new net for the batting cage had been obtained and Parkey and Dwight will get it installed within the next few weeks. Work will also be done to the small storage shed attached to the batting cage.

Zoning Administrator Ware reported that the New Strawn Planning Commission had met on February 23 to work on the proposed new subdivision and zoning regulations for the city. On March 3 a joint work session with the Planning Commission and Council was held with Foster & Associates to review the draft of the City's Comprehensive Plan and the model subdivision and zoning regulations as presented by Foster & Associates. Ware noted that there are still several steps before the Plan is in place, including a public hearing, but he is optimistic that it will be finalized in the near future.

Code Enforcement Officer Dwight reported that Beau & Jessica Smith at 315 W. Cherokee Street had submitted their annual application for a Dangerous Animal Permit. All requirements per City Code had been met and a permit had been issued to the Smiths for their American Pit Bull dog, Hos, for 2017.

Dwight also reported that Janel George's City Code violation had been abated. All issues as cited by Dwight had been taken care of.

Mayor's Report:

Bobbi Gellhaus with TrustPoint Insurance was in attendance to discuss the commercial insurance renewal contract for 2017. Ms. Gellhaus went over the coverage details as well as premiums with Council and noted that the cost for the coverage had only risen slightly by \$69.00. Council

member Bobby Bryant moved to enter into a commercial insurance renewal contract for 2017 with TrustPoint Insurance and to pay premiums up to \$24, 947. Kirchner seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Council member Kirchner moved to proclaim April as Fair Housing Month in the City of New Strawn, KS. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Council member Bryant moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-03, an ordinance amending Chapter IV, Article 4 of the Code of the City of New Strawn, KS regarding plumbing & gas-fitting in the City of New Strawn, KS. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0 by a show of hands.

Council member Bryant moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-04, an ordinance amending Chapter IV, Article 3 of the Code of the City of New Strawn, KS regarding electrical code in the City of New Strawn, KS. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0 by a show of hands.

Finance and Economic Development:

None

Community Building Report:

There was discussion about replacing tables and possibly purchasing more chairs for the Community Building. Parkey and Dwight had done an inventory and there are currently ten 8' plastic tables, eight 8' wooden tables, twenty-one 6' wooden tables and 197 folding chairs. Parkey noted that most of the wooden tables, both the 8' and 6', are in bad shape and probably half need thrown away. Templeton had provided a cost estimate for replacing the tables from Walmart, Sam's Club and Home Depot and a cost estimate for the chairs from Amazon and Sam's Club. Council wanted to do some more pricing comparisons before making a decision. Council member Bryant moved to table the discussion until the April meeting. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Utility Report:

None

Street Report:

Council member Bryant moved to spend up to \$3,000 to have the county prep and apply dust control on Industrial Drive, north of Neosho Street. Weeks seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Council member Bryant discussed an invoice in the amount of \$200 received from Skillman Construction, LLC for some motorgrader work done on Industrial Drive back in January. Bryant stated that the work had been done without prior approval of Council or Superintendent Parkey but felt the invoice should be paid. He suggested a letter be included with payment for the invoice noting that any future work must be approved prior to it being performed.

Council member Bryant moved to pay invoice #10657 in the amount of \$200 as presented by Skillman Construction, LLC for blading of rock on Industrial Drive, and to send a letter with payment of invoice noting that any work performed in the future must have prior approval of Council. Weeks seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Relations Report:

Plans for Strawnfest were discussed. Council member Bryant moved to set a budget of \$6,000 for Strawnfest 2017, funds to be taken from the General and Park Funds. Kirchner seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Council member Haehn moved to hire Highway 75 band to play at Strawnfest 2017 for a minimum of three hours, cost not to exceed \$700, funds to be taken from the Strawnfest Budget. Kirchner seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Council member Haehn moved to approve contract as presented by Big Daddy's Fireworks to provide a fireworks display on June 24, 2017, cost not to exceed \$2,700, funds to be taken from the Strawnfest Budget. Haas seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Park & Recreation Report:

None

Public Safety Report:

None

New Business:

Salaries were reviewed for part-time employees. The assistant city clerk and treasurer did not receive a pay increase in 2016.

Council member Bryant moved to increase the assistant city clerk salary from \$9.27/hour to \$9.50/hour, to increase the city treasurer salary from \$82.40/month to \$85.00/month and to increase the city zoning administrator salary from \$75.00/month to \$80.00/month, increases to take effect the first full pay period in April. Haehn seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Old Business:

The possibility of a city sales tax referendum on the November ballot was discussed. Templeton had spoken with a representative of the Kansas Department of Revenue and was told that the City of New Strawn would generate approximately \$25-30,000 in revenue annually with a 1% city sales tax. Council member Bryant asked if the revenue from a city sales tax would be earmarked for anything in particular and both Haehn and Weeks felt the revenue could be utilized for improvements and upkeep of the community building, for one. Haas felt a plan for the revenue should be compiled to present to the public.

Mayor Petterson will have Clerk Templeton order a manual of procedures from the League of KS Municipalities regarding levying a local sales tax and the item will be revisited at the April meeting.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.