

CITY OF NEW STRAWN
COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, October 10, 2019

Present were: Mayor Mark Petterson

Council Members: Richard Croll
Jeanne Haas
Gary Haehn
Rhonda Taylor
Jim Weeks

Others Present: Joni Hernandez, City Clerk
Bob Saueressig, County Commissioner
Bobbi Gellhaus, TrustPoint Insurance Agent
Scot Jeffers, Burlington Recreation Center Director
(City Superintendent and City Attorney – Absent)

Patrons present: None

Call to Order: Mayor Mark Petterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Agenda Additions and/or Amendments:

Under New Business

- b. Executive Session to discuss Non-elected Personnel

Under Old Business

- b. Ownership/Ditches

Haas moved, seconded by Taylor, to approve the agenda with additions. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Move to approve the September 12, 2019 council meeting minutes
- Move to approve the Warrants dates September 13, 2019 through October 10, 2019 in the amount of \$14,334.24
- Move to approve the September 2019 Payroll in the amount of \$12,199.39

Weeks moved, seconded by Haehn, to approve the consent agenda. **Motion carried 4-1. (Taylor abstained due to be absent from previous meeting.)**

Public Comments: County Commissioner Bob Saueressig reminded the Council that October 14-18 is "Free Dump Week" at the county landfill. The City of New Strawn has City-Wide Cleanup scheduled for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in conjunction with the county.

Financial Reports: Haas moved, seconded by Taylor to approve additional warrants in the amount of \$375.00. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Staff Reports:

City Superintendent Report (written report submitted)

- Removed old playground equipment
- Hauled old playground equipment to dump
- Unloaded new playground equipment
- Removed horseshoe pits
- Spread dirt at north end of Arrowhead Street and City Hall parking lot
- Mowed
- Remade tire swing and installed at lake playground
- Hauled dogs to pound
- Fed fish
- Repaired hydraulic skid loader
- Batwing mowing at lagoon roadsides, etc.
- Installed signs at burn pile
- Met with MT Networks/Wireless representative for water tower
- Contacted Utility Service regarding FAA lights at water tower
- Ordered parking line paint and street signs
- Cleaned ditches on Apache Street
- Street crack sealing set for next week depending on rain

City Clerk Report

- Alcohol Tax Distribution
- CMB – Temporary One-Day Permit for Coffey County Fair Association
- Correspondence
 - Burlington High School (College and Career Advocate)
 - Chamber (Membership Appreciation Dinner Nov. 5)
- Damage/Storms
- Dogs at Large
- Election (Tuesday, Nov. 5)
- Fall Cleanup
- Halloween Party
- KPERS Employer Update
- Tax Distribution (from Coffey County Treasurer)
- Veterans Banners
- Website updated

City Attorney Report

City Attorney Tom Robrahn was not present; however, he drafted an ordinance for the council's discussion/approval.

Weeks moved, seconded by Croll, to approve Ordinance 2019-06 vacating a portion of 5th Street from the North end of 5th Street at its intersection with vacated Cherokee Street, less a sixty feet wide tract; all within the corporate limits of New Strawn, Coffey County, Kansas; pursuant to K.S.A. 12-504 et seq, and any amendments thereto. **Motion carried by a show of hands 4-1. (Taylor opposed.)**

Zoning Administrator Report

Mayor Mark Petterson reported still no interest to fill zoning administrator position.

Building Permits Issued:

- John Waner - Shed
- Stephanie Baker - Shed

Weeks moved, seconded by Croll, to approve a temporary one-day Cereal Malt Beverage permit for Coffey County Fair Association/Fundraiser Event to sell beer at the Community Center November 16, 2019 contingent on proof of event/liability insurance. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Mayor's Report

The mayor stated that he is still talking with an individual regarding the code enforcement position and will be working out details.

Taylor moved, seconded by Weeks, to accept the resignation of Dale Williams from the Planning Commission with thanks and gratitude. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Finance and Economic Development: N/A

Community Building Report:

Council Member Richard Croll that he will be meeting with contractors Friday, October 11 regarding remodeling of the community building. Council Member Haehn stated he spoke with another contractor and will have him contact Croll.

Utility Report:

Weeks noted the water meter located at 104 W. Cheyenne Street needs to be repaired or replaced due to gauge not working.

Street Report:

Council Member Taylor noted that Killough Construction still needs to repair cracks from previous street project.

Public Relations:

Halloween

TrustPoint Insurance Agent Bobbi Gellhaus explained that Event Insurance is not required; rather recommended. The quote for the Halloween Party including the hayrack ride is \$325 for \$1 million worth of coverage. She noted EMC will cover with the contingency any trailers used for the hayrack ride will not have open wheel wells or tires. She also stated if there is an accident/claim, persons driving their own vehicles will be required to submit to their personal insurance first for injury or damage before the City's insurance could be filed.

Haas moved, seconded by Haehn, to approve payment of special event liability insurance for the Halloween party with hayrack ride included to TrustPoint/EMC Insurance in the amount of \$325 to be paid from the General Fund. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Lawn of the Month Contest

Council Member Haas reminded the members to judge lawns October 18-20 and get addresses of their top three choices to the city clerk by Monday, October 21 so winner can be announced and presented with Chamber Bucks on October 23.

Veterans Banners

Brackets for the three new banners were delivered to City Hall by Steve Lewis. Lyon-Coffey Electric has been contacted to put the banners up next week.

Strawfest 2020

Council Member Haas listed a few ideas that need to be determined for Strawfest 2020 to be discussed at next month's meeting:

- Pens
- Koozies
- T-shirts
- Other promotional items
- Schedule for the day's events
- Outside Vendors/Groups
- Fireworks

Parks and Recreation Report:

Burlington Rec Center – Soccer – Scot Jeffers, Director

Scot Jeffers was present to discuss Fall Soccer with the Council. He handed out a proposed map of permanent soccer fields where the current ball fields are located. He raised concerns regarding lack of parking and bathroom facilities. Soccer games currently held in Burlington have approximately 200-250 cars parked. That would be a major expense for New Strawn.

He stated BRC maintenance staff would take care of the mowing as well as maintain during Spring and Fall when soccer games could be hosted here.

He asked if the Council will allow soccer fields in New Strawn.

There was further discussion regarding:

- Vacating of road to help with parking
- Moving batting cages
- Portable toilets initially
- Future location for permanent bathroom facilities
- Road platting or moving
- Condemn/Abandon road
- Removal of old dirt (3" to 6")
- Bring in good ball field dirt

It was a consensus of the Council they are in favor of the proposal to host soccer games in New Strawn.

Weeks moved, seconded by Haehn, to direct City Superintendent and Maintenance staff to remove 3" to 6" of rock and dirt off ball field no later than November 15. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Jones Park Sign Update

Council Members Gary Haehn and Jim Weeks gave an update items for the sign have been purchased and cost is under \$500. The city clerk drafted a letter for Haehn to sign requesting grant for the sign. She will send a picture to the Jones Foundation Trust after the sign is erected.

Playground Equipment Update

Council Member Haehn gave an update on the new playground equipment. It arrived October 8. Park Planet will be here later in the month to put it together. He will ask Park Planet to place

a temporary fence around area until they can complete the project. It was a consensus of the Council to address the drainage and mulch after installation.

Public Safety Report:

Mayor Petterson updated the Council of speeding concerns from residents who lives on North Arrowhead Street. The city clerk noted radar equipment is over \$5,000. The resident will try to get vehicle information of speedster in the future to contact Coffey County Sheriff's office.

The mayor reported that the property survey has been completed for houses that owners mutually agreed on having done to straighten lots. The swimming pool is now 10' from the property line and has been equipped with a stairwell and locking gate.

New Business:

City Property/Claims from Storm Damage – Bobbi Gellhaus, TrustPoint Insurance Agent

Bobbi Gellhaus, TrustPoint Insurance Agent explained information made available by Claims Adjuster Phil Theimer regarding hail/storm damage to the City's property. Bobbi explained that there is a cost limit on replacing the Shelter House asphalt roof with a metal roof; however, it was a consensus for the new roof to be metal. Bobbi will complete paperwork for a check to be sent to the City that reflects a \$2,500 deductible and depreciation. Repair quotes will need to be obtained. (SEE ATTACHED from Theimer Claims Service)

Executive Session to discuss non-elected personnel

Weeks moved, seconded by Haehn, to go into executive session for fifteen minutes at 8:23 p.m. in the back room of City Hall to discuss non-elected personnel. **Motion carried 5-0.**

The Council returned to regular session to the board table/room at 8:38 p.m. **No action taken.**

Old Business:

Drainage Follow up

Council Members Haehn and Weeks noted there are still drainage issues that need to be completed. Culverts need to be cleaned. Cleanup around the city shop needs to be addressed as well.

Ownership/Ditches

Council Member Haehn inquired about ownership of ditches in New Strawn. Mayor Petterson stated the City has easements, but the question regarding ditches may be better answered by City Attorney Tom Robrahn.

Correspondence: N/A

Mayor Petterson adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.