**New Strawn City Council**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Monday, April 10, 2025**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Rhonda Taylor, Council members: Jeanne Haas, Johnny Hernandez, Stephanie Baker, David Christiansen and Butch Gilkison

Absent:

Staff: City Attorney Philip Wright, Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight, Code Enforcement Ray Wards, and City Clerk Lana Johnson

Absent: Zoning Administrator Cody Collins

Others: Jeff Wilson, Josie Romig and Zoe McNabb

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**FLAG SALUTE:** The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES:**

**ADD: Appointment**: Reimbursement - Jeff Wilson 430 W Decker

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

*Baker moved, seconded by Christiansen, to approve the agenda with the change.*  **Motion carried 5-0.**

**CONSENT AGENDA ADDITIONS:**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Consent Agenda Items**

**MINUTES:** Move to approve meeting minutes of March 17, 2025.

**WARRANTS: Move** to approve the Warrants dated March 8, 2025, through April 7, 2025, in the amount of $72,425.31.

**PAYROLL:** Move to approve the March 2025 Payroll in the amount of $8,233.17.

**LICENSES:** Contractor License 2025-C-01, Carolina Carports Inc.

**OTHER:**

*Hernandez moved, seconded by Haas, to approve the consent agenda as presented.* **Motion carried 5-0.**

**APPOINTMENTS: ADDED:** Reimbursement **-**Jeff Wilson, 430 W Decker

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Hernandez to pay Vernon Hess Plumbing $1,374.05. Funds to come from the sewer fund.* **Motion carried 5-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

1. Additional Warrants - None

**STAFF REPORTS**

* **Zoning Administrator –** Clerk Johnsonreported a request for a 40’ x 24’ garage

on a property that doesn’t have a primary residence. The landowner has the information to apply for a conditional use permit.

* Gary and Sue Haehn went to a Zoning Board members’ home to request a meeting

with the Zoning Board. The council instructed Clerk Johnson to send the Haehn’s an email reminding them that it is common practice that all requests for meetings, permits etc. are to go through City Hall and not to a personal residence.

* **Code Enforcement Officer** 
  + Nuisance Property Update – Myers property on 3rd St is looking better.

There are at least 6 junk vehicles that the owners will receive a letter. Will also be checking on dogs and placing warning of violations of front doors. Spoke with the young man that owns the North portion of the old golf course last month. Nothing has been cleaned up so will reach out to him again.

* **Maintenance Operator**
  + Summer Help – there has been one application
  + 2025 Road Project

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker to accept the bid from Killough Construction for $206,090.60. Funds to come from Infrastructure.* **Motion carried 5-0.**

This project will cover Arrowhead Dr and Main St to Lake Rd and a pipe crossing on 4th St.

* + Speed Limit Signs – 30 mph signs are up
  + Fence – will reach back out to Midland Fence Co to see if they plan to follow

through with the contract from 6 months ago.

* + Flag Pole – Dwight will look into the cost of having flag poles installed at the

City Park.

* + City Responsibility – Water Meter – lead and copper, City Attorney Wright

will look into what needs to happen with this.

* + Pedestal Regulations – Philip will look into a regulation in limiting the

number and/or placement of utility pedestals.

Followed up on the insurance equipment list with TrustPoint.

* **City Clerk**
  + City Cell Phone – if you need to text Lana after hours, please use the city cell

and not her personal cell phone.

* + Community Center Rentals

*April – 6th Radiant Life Church, 19th NSCIO Easter, 22nd I.B.E.W., 25th – 27th Private Event*

*May– 3rd am Radiant Life, 4th Radiant Life, 5, 6, 7 Election, 10th pm Private Event, 16th & 17th Private Event, 20th I.B.E.W., 21st Private Event, 31st Private Event*

Kwikom reported that Wright Service is going to be finishing up the aerial and getting started on restoration soon. They recognize the disruption and will be attending to it quickly once they complete the build.

We currently use QuickBooks 2022 and the support will end on May 31, 2025. Johnson is currently looking into an alternate program.

* + City Attorney – Philip Wright

**Mayor’s Report**

1. April 16 Budget Workshop

Haas moved, seconded by Christiansen that the April 16 budget workshop include the council and employees at the New Strawn City Hall instead of the Community Center. **Motion carried 5-0.**

1. Flower Donation - $40 was donated for the flowerpots in front of City Hall and the

Community Center.

**Finance & Economic Development Report – Jeanne Haas –** We have been spending money so be aware.

**Community Center Report** – **Stephanie Baker –** a new flag went up Monday.

**Utility Report – Butch Gilkison**

1. Water Usage & Loss Report

**Street Report - Rhonda Taylor – Dwight:**

**Public Relations Report- Jeanne Haas**

1. Personnel Policy Updates - None
2. Strawnfest – Council Member Haas presented a suggested activity list for

Strawnfest and asked for suggestions.

*Haas moved, seconded by Christiansen that we retain Caleb Shedd, Axe Shedd for $500 for Strawnfest activities.* **Motion carried 5-0.** He does have his own insurance.

**Parks & Recreation Report – Johnny Hernandez** – Updating the restroom at the parks will be discussed at the budget meeting. A grant could be looked into for the flag poles at the park. The disc course kiosk will be located on the North side of the park restroom.

**New Business:**

**Old Business:**

1. City Hall Remodel – Christiansen suggested the basement of city hall be to demo to

expose any other issues. The water lines are cv-pvc and brittle. They should be replaced in the remodel. Clerk Johnson was asked to email the notes to date for the remodel. The replacement of the HVAC had been mentioned in the committee work session.

**Adjournment:**

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Baker, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.* **Motion carried 5-0.**