**New Strawn City Council**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Thursday, December 12, 2024**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Rhonda Taylor, Council members: Jeanne Haas, Johnny Hernandez, and Stephanie Baker

Absent: David Christiansen and Butch Gilkison

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

Absent: Zoning Administrator Cody Collins

Others: Mark Petterson, Ryan Nelson and Wayde Thomsen

**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:**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

*Haas moved, seconded by Hernandez, to approve the agenda as printed.* **Motion carried 3-0.**

**CONSENT AGENDA ADDITIONS:**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Consent Agenda Items**

**MINUTES:** Move to approve meeting minutes of November 14, 2024.

**WARRANTS:** Move to approve the Warrants dated November 13, 2024, through December 09, 2024, in the amount of $83,693.08.

**PAYROLL:** Move to approve the November 2024 Payroll in the amount of $11,749.59.

*Baker moved, seconded by Haas to approve the consent agenda as printed.* **Motion carried 3-0.**

**APPOINTMENTS: None**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: None**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

1. Additional Warrants – None

**STAFF REPORTS**

* + Zoning Administrator

* Code Enforcement Officer
  + Nuisance Property Update – Myers on 3rd Street was given more time. They have made some improvements but not much.

* Maintenance Operator
  + Truck Hoist Cylinder – has been fixed and installed. The cost was $828.47.

Kwikom is working up north to install fiber.

Mayor Taylor thanked 4 Rivers and Maintenance Operator Dwight for the time spent hanging the veterans’ banners.

City Clerk

* + City Hall Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (Tuesday, 12/24 and Wednesday, 12/25) and New Years Day (Wednesday, 1/1/25)
  + 2024 Audit – February 17
  + Community Center Rentals

*December –7th Private Event, 8th pm Private Event, 14th Private Event, 15th Private Event, 17th pm I.B.E.W., 18th & 19th Private Event, 28th Private Event*

*January – 9th pm Private Event, 11th pm Private Event*

An additional benefit of being a member of the Coffey County Chamber is radio ads with several stations. There was some discussion on how to use them in 2025.

* + City Attorney – Philip Wright

**Mayor’s Report**

1. City Owned Lots on Neosho St – No Update

Mayor Taylor, Dwight, and Johnson met with Truman Builders Jim Hadley to go over the plans for the remodel and moving. Clerk Johnson will cut the first check to Truman Builders in February 2025.

**Finance & Economic Development Report – Jeanne Haas**

We are going to be 20 or so short in General but we have done some of the projects that were planned in 2025. Parks you will be 4 or 5 thousand short, a pinch long in Sewer, about 10 k short in Special Highway, Trash is taken care of, right on in Water and a bit short in Infrastructure but we will be receiving that check in January from the county. We do have projects planned for that money already. We are sitting fine.

**Community Center Report** – **Stephanie Baker - None**

**Utility Report – Butch Gilkison**

1. Water Usage & Loss Report

**Street Report - Rhonda Taylor**

The new speed limit signs have arrived and will be installed soon.

**Public Relations Report- Jeanne Haas**

1. December Yard of the Month Reminder – Judging December 13th through 15th

**Parks & Recreation Report – Johnny Hernandez**

City Attorney Wright left the meeting at 7:26.

Ryan Nelson left at 7:40.

**New Business:**

1. Employee Reviews

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker toaas moved, seconded by Baker go into executive session at 7:30 pm for 15 minutes pursuant to non-elected personnel under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and to discuss personnel for the purpose of performing employee evaluation with Mayor and Council present.* **Motion carried 3-0.**

Returned at 7:45

*Haas moved, seconded by Hernandez to go into executive session at 7:45 pm for 10 minutes pursuant to non-elected personnel under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and to discuss personnel for the purpose of performing employee evaluation with Mayor, Council and Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight.* **Motion carried 3-0.**

Returned at 7:56

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker to go into executive session at 7:57 pm for 10 minutes pursuant to non-elected personnel under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and to discuss personnel for the purpose of performing employee evaluation with Mayor, Council and City Clerk Johnson.* **Motion carried 3-0.**

Returned at 7:07

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker that starting December 21, 2024, the maintenance operator’s salary, and the city clerks’ salary each be increased by 3%.* **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Old Business:**

**Adjournment:**

*Baker moved, seconded by Hernandez, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.* **Motion carried 3-0.**