

**CITY OF NEW STRAWN**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Thursday, February 11, 2021**

Present were: Mayor Mark Petterson

Council Members: Jeanne Haas  
Gary Haehn  
Rhonda Taylor  
Richard Croll

Not Present: Jim Weeks

Staff Present: Martha Newkirk, Zoning Administrator; Steven Dwight, Maintenance Operator; Lana Johnson, City Clerk; and Philip Wright, City Attorney

Others Present: Susan Haehn, David Christiansen & Johnny Hernandez

**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:**

ADDED to Consent Agenda

Move to approve 2021 Plumbing License for Cooks Plumbing Inc

Haehn moved, seconded by Croll, to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

**MINUTES:**

- A. Move to approve meeting minutes of January 14, 2021

**WARRANTS:**

- Move to approve the Warrants dated January 9, 2021 through February 8, 2021 in the amount of \$26,016.26
- Move to approve the January, 2021 Payroll in the amount of \$8,383.14
- Move to approve \$225 for 2021 CCMFOA Spring Conference training for City Clerk.
- Move to approve 2021 Plumbing License for Victory Excavating
- Move to approve 2021 Plumbing License for B & H Appliance, Plumbing, Heating, Cooling
- Move to approve 2021 Plumbing License for Freeman Plumbing, Heating & A/C Inc
- Move to approve 2021 Plumbing License for Cooks Plumbing Inc.

Haas moved, seconded by Haehn, to approve the consent agenda with the addition of the Cook's Plumbing License. **Motion carried 4-0.**

### **Public Comments:**

- 7:05 Darla Long – After School Program – Darla wasn't able to make it but Mayor Petterson informed the council that the school was applying for a grant to help the After School Programs. They would like to bring the kids out for a "catch and release" fishing trip with the fishing license fees to be waived. The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks may be asked to help and teach the kids about conservation. A value would need to be placed on the program.
- David Christiansen – said he had heard the ditch at Seneca Circle was going to be filled but Kansas law states that you weren't supposed to change the flow of water. Susan Haehn responded that it would be filled, they had it surveyed and they own the entire ditch. Council Member Taylor asked that nothing be done until an engineer reviews the plan. Mayor Petterson mentioned using community improvement funds for the engineer. David also asked that Gary recuse himself from any drainage issues.
- Susan Haehn – asked again about the city providing street lights in the Arrowhead area. Council Member Taylor thought there was a covenant that states no lights in that area. David Christiansen asked if anyone else wanted lights in Arrowhead. It was suggested that the light question go out to the public. The street committee will meet to look at different types of lights and where to put them.
- Council Member Taylor said she knew who two of the public attendees were and asked that the third (Johnny Hernandez) introduce himself.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

- a. Additional Warrants

Taylor moved, seconded by Haehn to approve additional warrants in the amount of \$599.09. **Motion carried 4-0.**

### **Utility Report:**

### **Staff Reports:**

#### **Zoning Administrator Report - Martha Newkirk**

- Planning Board will have a meeting February 25. They will approve the minutes for November 17, 2020 meeting, adjourn Planning Board meeting, open Board of Zoning Appeals meeting to approve October 27, 2020 meeting minutes and return to the Planning Board meeting.
- Citizen complaint was received via USPS that a land owner wasn't using a building for what the building permit was issued for. Citizen also requested a response. Newkirk reviewed the situation, didn't find issues with it and was not going to respond to the citizen.

#### **Code Enforcement Officer Report: N/A**

#### **Maintenance Operator Report**

- Received several quotes for the salt bin building.
- Aerator at the lake has been turned off.
- AAA Glass is to get a post for the new door at the community building.
- Water heater at parks restroom has been replaced. The wiring wasn't sufficient for a tankless heater so it was replaced with a standard water heater.
- Street lights – what style is needed and what yards are they to be placed in.

Kroll moved seconded by Haehn to approve a quote from Burlington Construction Inc. for the sidewalk quote at the Community building. Funds no more than \$2,564.29 to be used from the General fund.

**Motion carried 4-0.**

**City Clerk Report:** (written report submitted)

- CARES update \$2,238.85 remaining to be spent before 3/1/21
- Quotes for signage on the front of City Hall

Taylor moved seconded by Croll to approve quote #2 in the amount of \$9,347 from Coffelt Sign Company Inc. for signage at City Hall. Remaining CARES funds to be used and remainder from General funds.

- Quote for blinds at City Hall and Community Building – have her look at remaining door and window when she installs.

Kroll moved seconded by Taylor to approve quote from Made in the Shade for blinds at City Hall and the Community Center. Funds not to exceed \$941.60 to be used from the General fund. **Motion carried 4-0.**

- Coffey County Spring Cleanup April 12-17
- Website – Search functions work differently with the different formats of documents that have been uploaded. When forms are updated everything can be uploaded in a searchable format. Tracy at IM Design suggested training before that happens.
- Community Building Calendar – February rentals
  - February
  - 7<sup>th</sup> – Private Event
  - 21<sup>th</sup> – Private Event
  - March
  - 6<sup>th</sup> – Ducks Unlimited
  - 25<sup>th</sup> – WCNOG Outage Valve Team

**City Attorney Report:**

- Provided update from David Cooper on the lawsuit. Next hearing will be on April 5, 2021.

**Mayor's Report:**

- Renumber Resolution 2020-2

Taylor moved, seconded by Croll to approve Resolution No. 100 to renumber Resolution No. 2020-2. **Motion carried 4-0.**

- GAAP Waiver Resolution No. 101.

Croll moved, seconded by Haas to approve Resolution No. 101 GAAP Waiver for 2021. **Motion carried 4-0.**

### **Finance and Economic Development:**

### **Community Building Report:**

- Sidewalk bid was covered under Maintenance Report

### **Street Report:**

- Engineer - Council Member Haehn requested a timeframe on an engineer as he doesn't want to wait 6 months for a report. He needs to reseed his backyard and has people wanting to get rid of dirt. Council Member Taylor said she was uncomfortable with Haehn putting his needs before the city. Mayor Petterson asked that he wait for the Community Improvement Project. Haehn said he was sick of waiting. Susan Haehn asked for a guarantee that their project would be at the top of the list.
- Speed Limit Signs – Council Member Haehn asked where all of the speed limit signs had been placed. He wants more posted-on Arrowhead Drive. Mayor Petterson asked that the Street Committee look into this.
- Speed Bumps – Council Member Haehn wants speed bumps installed on Arrowhead Dr. Council Member Taylor explained that they aren't practical.
- Street Lights – covered under public comment.

### **Public Relations:**

- Strawnfest 2021 – still scheduled for June 12, 2021. Council Member Haas has been contacting possible sponsors. A plug needs to be installed for a snow cone machine. T-shirts with new logo on front and advertising on back. She also asked about the City providing some funds.

Haehn moved, seconded by Croll to use \$5,000 out of the Parks Fund for Strawnfest 2021. **Motion failed 2-3. Council Member's Taylor, and Croll voting against with Mayor Petterson breaking tie.**

- Zoning – Council Member Haas mentioned the golf course selling and asked if someone wanted to purchase 10 feet would they need to contact Zoning. Newkirk said the seller needs to make sure they retain enough land to be considered a property and the buyer would need to combine it into their current deed if they wanted to build on it.
- Maps - label/up to date – Council Member Haas was concerned that the city's zoning maps were not up to date as people had been calling her with questions. Newkirk will make sure the Emergency Management Office has current maps.

### **Parks and Recreation Report:**

- Playground Parking Lot – Council Member Haehn said the church people were parking at the edge of the parking area and getting into the grass.

Council Member Haehn wants rubber mulch, horse shoe pit, basketball goals/court and shuffleboard areas worked on when the weather is better.

**Public Safety Report:** N/A

**New Business:**

**Old Business:**

- Telxp – contract was reviewed.

Haas moved, seconded by Croll to approve the tower agreement with Telxp as presented effective December 1, 2020. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Someone asked where we were on the new logo. Clerk Johnson to scan to Mayor Petterson.

Mayor Petterson said we need to make a plan to review the personnel policy book. Clerk Johnson asked that it wait until after the February 25<sup>th</sup> audit.

**Mayor Petterson adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.**