

CITY OF NEW STRAWN
COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, January 14, 2021

Present were: Mayor Mark Petterson

Council Members: Jeanne Haas
Gary Haehn
Rhonda Taylor
Jim Weeks

Not Present: Richard Croll

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

Others Present: Susan Haehn

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 Under Public Relations

- b. Strawnfest

ADDED Under Park

- a. Christmas Lights
- b. Park
- c. Utilities in Park

ADDED Under Street

- 102 Seneca Circle cul de sac

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

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Move to approve meeting minutes of December 10, 2020
- Move to approve the Warrants dated December 5, 2020 through January 8, 2021 in the amount of \$90,168.89
- Move to approve the December 2020 Payroll in the amount of \$13,926.02
- Move to allow Maintenance Operator to purchase 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel in 2021, total cost not to exceed \$2,500.00, funds to be taken from General Fund

- Move to allow Maintenance Operator to purchase fish food in 2021, total cost not to exceed \$3,000.00, funds to be taken from Special Park Fund
- Move to allow Maintenance Operator to purchase cold patch in 2021, total cost not to exceed \$1,000.00, funds to be taken from Special Highway Fund
- Move to allow Maintenance Operator to purchase weed killer in 2021, total cost not to exceed \$1,000.00, funds to be taken from General Fund
- Move to allow Maintenance Operator to purchase road salt in 2021, total cost not to exceed \$4,000.00, funds to be taken from Special Highway Fund
- Move to allow Maintenance Operator to purchase propane in 2021, total cost not to exceed \$500.00, funds to be taken from General Fund
- Move to allow Maintenance Operator to purchase gravel/rock in 2021, total cost not to exceed \$500.00, funds to be taken from Special Highway Fund

Haehn moved, seconded by Weeks, to approve the consent agenda. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Approval of Treasurers Report:

Haas moved, seconded by Weeks, to approve the Treasurers Report as presented and print in The Coffey County Republican by January 30, 2021. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Public Comments:

Susan Haehn – voiced concern of how dark the north end of town is on Arrowhead Dr. due to the lack of street lights. She inquired if REC/4 Rivers would put poles in and the county help fund it. Council Member Taylor explained that when that section of town was platted the desire was to have no overhead wires or poles. It was suggested that maybe community improvement funds could be used. Maintenance Operator Dwight will look into light options.

Staff Reports:

Zoning Administrator Report - Martha Newkirk

- Fee Schedule
- Heading for Application for Building/Zoning Permit

City Attorney Wright reported some of the fees were linked to ordinances, and the ordinance would need to be changed. He will do more research.

Council Haehn voiced a concern about the Haying Permits.

Code Enforcement Officer Report: N/A

Maintenance Operator Report

- CARES update \$2,822.92 remaining to be spent before 3/1/21
- Building/cover for salt bin
- Trout
- Water line – Industrial
- Quote for 400 ft sewer jetter hose from Mayer Specialty Services \$1,080 includes shipping

- Feb. 10 Waste Water CE hours in Paola
- Requested vegetation control quote from Trophy Fisheries \$4,898 for 2018-2019-2020
- Water heater at parks restroom went out. Steven will get quotes on replacing it with an on-demand water heater using CARES Funding.
- Backhoe pump is going out and will get quotes on repair or replacement.

Weeks moved, seconded by Haas, to allow Steven to purchase 400 ft sewer jetter hose from Mayer Specialty Services, not to exceed \$1,080. Funds to be used from the sewer budget. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Taylor moved seconded by Weeks to accept a bid from Trophy Fisheries for \$4,898 per year for three years for lake treatment, funds to be used from the general fund. **Motion carried 3-1, Haehn opposed.**

City Clerk Report: (written report submitted)

- 325 1st St has new property manager – would like any documentation on issues at location
- No 4th qtr alcohol tax. 2020 brought in \$2,362.47 less than 2019.
- KPERS – New employer rate of 8.87% effective Jan. 1 (2020 rate was 8.61%)
- Audit scheduled for Feb. 25th.
- \$422.36 was sent to Kansas Set-off in December.
- Community Building Calendar – No rentals for January

City Attorney Report:

- Will review the Telxp contract.

Mayor's Report:

- We need to go through the Policy & Procedure Manual to verify it is up to date.

Finance and Economic Development:

- A policy is needed for the City Clerk to following when paying large invoices and contract labor.

Community Building Report:

- Weeks requested quotes for an ADA sidewalk on the west side of the community Building.

Utility Report: N/A

Street Report:

- 102 Seneca Circle cul de sac – added to agenda - Gary Haehn informed the rest of the council that he intends to fill the ditch on his property. Steven asked him to verify how much of it was his property. Philip asked that he wait for possible community improvement funds.

Public Relations:

- December Yard of the Month – 1st Place – Stukey 2nd Place – Foster 3rd Place – Hauth The City Clerk sent the letter of Congratulation and the \$25.00 Chamber Bucks to the first-place.
- Looking into Summer Yard of the Month
- Strawnfest 2021 50 + 1 Strawn is a place for fun

Haehn moved seconded by Haas to have Strawnfest June 12, 2021 and to contact Wolf Creek about funding/participation. **Motion carried 4–0.**

Parks and Recreation Report:

- Christmas – added to agenda – Haehn would like to thank everyone for decorating for Christmas and also a thank you to the Stuckey's for donating some Christmas decorations to the City.
- Park- added to agenda – Haehn was reviewing the park financials and was impressed with the amount of fishing license that Casey's sells.
- Utilities – added to the agenda – Haehn voiced concern over the cost of utilities for the park.

Public Safety Report: N/A

Susan Haehn, Martha Newkirk and Philip Wright left at 8:39

New Business:

Employee Evaluations

Weeks moved and Haehn seconded to go into executive session at 8:44 for 20 minutes pursuant to non-elected personnel under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and to discuss personnel for the purpose of performing employee evaluation of employee Steven Dwight and to include Dwight at some point during the executive session. Steven Dwight and Lana Johnson went to the back room of City Hall. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Steven Dwight was called into the meeting at 9:02.

Back in regular session at 9:04 at the Council table.

Haehn moved seconded by Weeks to give Steven Dwight a \$0.40 per hour raise, retroactive to January 1, 2021. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Old Business:

Mayor Petterson adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.