

# New Strawn City Council

Regular Monthly Meeting

Monday, March 17, 2025

## **PRESENT:**

Mayor Rhonda Taylor, Council members: Jeanne Haas (arrived 7:19), Johnny Hernandez (arrived 7:46), Stephanie Baker, David Christiansen and Butch Gilkison (by phone)

Absent:

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

Absent: Zoning Administrator Cody Collins

Others: Zoe McNabb, Ryan Nelson, Wayde Thomsen, Mark Petterson and Kimberly Skillman-Robrahn

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:17 p.m.

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

## **AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES:**

**ADD:** Maintenance: Flag Pole

Clerk: Auditor Representation Letter

Appointments: TrustPoint Insurance - Kimberly Skillman-Robrahn

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

*Baker moved, seconded by Christiansen, to approve the agenda with the changes. Motion carried 4-0.*

## **CONSENT AGENDA ADDITIONS:**

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

### **Consent Agenda Items**

**MINUTES:** Move to approve meeting minutes of February 13, 2025.

Move to approve the special meeting minutes of February 20, 2025.

Move to approve the special meeting minutes of February 26, 2025.

**WARRANTS: Move** to approve the Warrants dated February 8, 2025, through March 7, 2025, in the amount of \$25,824.10.

**PAYROLL:** Move to approve the February 2025 Payroll in the amount of \$8,710.30.

## **LICENSES:**

## **OTHER:**

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Baker to approve the consent agenda with no changes. Motion carried 4-0.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

a. Additional Warrants

*Haas moved, seconded by Christiansen to allow the three Atmos bills totaling \$962.47 out of General. Motion carried 4-0.*

**STAFF REPORTS**

- Zoning Administrator
  - Approved 2025-Z-01, a carport for Chris Newkirk located at 100 Main St
  - Approved 2025-Z-02, a lawn shed for Paul Richister located at 111 N 4<sup>th</sup> St
- Code Enforcement Officer
  - Nuisance Property Update – the Myers are about 99% cleaned up. Haehn

has until August 13 to go to the Zoning Appeals Board to see if they say it's a retaining wall or not.

**APPOINTMENTS:** TrustPoint Insurance - Kimberly Skillman-Robrahn

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Haas to approve and continue the 2025 – 2026 TrustPoint Insurance from EMC and to pay the invoice of \$39,450. Motion carried 5-0.*

- Maintenance Operator
  - KRWA - March 25 – 26

*Baker moved, seconded by Hernandez to approve Maintenance Operator Dwight to attend KRWA Spring Conference, pay registration of \$180, meals and travel. Funds to be used from Water.*

**Motion carried 5-0.**

- Emergency Fund – moved to April
- Dust Abatement

*Baker moved, seconded by Hernandez, to budget \$2,500 for dust abatement as the Maintenance Operator sees fit. Funds to be used from Special Highway. Motion carried 5-0.*

- Summer Help

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Baker to approve advertising in The Coffey County Republican for a seasonal laborer at \$15 per hour and up to 30 hours per week. Motion carried 5-0.*

- 2025 Road Project – should have something by April for numbers.
- ADDED: Flag Pole – would the council be interested in approaching Robert

Splawn about the city maintaining the flag and flag area? The council asked Steven to approach Robert for more information.

- City Clerk
  - Republic Services

*Baker moved, seconded by Haas to authorize Mayor Taylor to sign the agreement with Republic and increase the trash rate to \$17.47. Motion carried 5-0.*

- Auditor Representation Letter

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Baker to authorize Mayor Taylor to sign the auditor representation letter from Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA. Motion carried 5-0.*

The current Coffey County Chamber of Commerce has given each City in Coffey County a check from the remaining funds from the previous chamber. These funds will be allocated to Strawnfest.

- Community Center Rentals  
*March– 1<sup>st</sup> Ducks Unlimited, 2<sup>nd</sup> Radiant Life Church, 8<sup>th</sup> Private Event, 18<sup>th</sup> I.B.E.W.*  
*April – 6<sup>th</sup> Radiant Life Church, 19<sup>th</sup> NSCIO Easter, 22<sup>nd</sup> I.B.E.W., 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Private Event*
- City Attorney – Philip Wright

### **Mayor's Report**

- a. Staff and Committee Budget List for April 16 Budget Workshop at 6 p.m.

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

January and February financials have been updated due to audit adjustments.

### **Community Center Report – Stephanie Baker**

### **Utility Report – Butch Gilkison**

- a. Water Usage & Loss Report

**Street Report - Rhonda Taylor – Dwight:** The original plan was to go from 16<sup>th</sup> to Decker but doubts we will make it down to Decker due to the cost. Trying to keep the cost under \$250,000.

### **Public Relations Report- Jeanne Haas**

- a. Personnel Policy Updates – still working on the policy updates.

Bring Strawnfest (June 7) ideas to the April meeting.

**Parks & Recreation Report – Johnny Hernandez** – Possible ribbon cutting at Strawnfest for the disco golf course. Will need to look at some kind of maintenance for the ball fields.

### **New Business:**

- a. City Sign – The council does not want anyone to attach anything to the city rock sign.

- b. Executive Session

*Christiansen moved, Haas seconded that the governing body, Attorney, Maintenance Operator and City Clerk recess into executive session at 8:38 p.m. for 10 minutes pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319 (B) (6).* **Motion carried 5-0.**

Returned at 8:48 p.m. with no action taken.

**Old Business:**

- a. City Hall Remodel – a committee of Taylor, Baker, Christiansen, Dwight and Johnson will meet to write a request for proposal for the remodel of City Hall.

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker to proceed with the City Hall remodel by selecting a committee existing of David, Stephanie, Steven, Lana and the mayor to write a request for proposal.*

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**Adjournment:**

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Hernandez, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.* **Motion carried 5-0.**