

COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, May 13, 2021

Present: Mayor Mark Petterson

Council Members: Gary Haehn, Rhonda Taylor, Richard Croll & Jeanne Haas.
Absent: Jim Weeks

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

Others Present: Ethan Johnson

Call to Order: Mayor Mark Petterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Consent Agenda Amendment:

Clerk Johnson asked that Items A: 2021 Contractor License for Shoemaker Construction and Item B: 2021 Electrical License for Tweedy Electric LLC be removed from the License section of the Consent Agenda as the insurance certificates had not been received.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Move to approve meeting minutes of April 8, 2021.
- Move to approve the Warrants dated April 9, 2021 through May 7, 2021 in the amount of \$32,558.93.
- Move to approve the April, 2021 Payroll in the amount of \$8,038.08.
- Move to approve 2021 Alcohol License for Lakeside Liquors.
- Move to approve 2021 Firework Permit for Radiant Life Church.
- Allow OK Kids use of New Strawn Fishing Lake for catch and release fishing on Saturday, September 11, 2021.

Croll, seconded by Taylor, to approve the agenda with changes. **Motion carried 3-0. Council Member Haas abstained.**

Financial Reports:

Haas moved, seconded by Taylor, to approve additional warrants in the amount of \$1,239.62. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Staff Reports:

Zoning Administrator Report

Code Enforcement Officer

- Mowing violation letters to be sent.

Maintenance Operator Report

- Quotes received from Complete Pavement Maintenance, Inc, came in much less than Killough. References checked out. Council Member Taylor commented, "hats off to Steven for finding better prices".

Taylor moved, seconded by Croll to approve the quote of \$9,782.82 from Complete Pavement Maintenance Inc. for 14,178 ft of crack sealing on city streets. Funds to be taken out of Infrastructure Fund. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Taylor moved, seconded by Croll to approve the quote of \$7,787.00 from Complete Pavement Maintenance, Inc., for 2 coats of seal coat and striping 2 city parking lots. Funds to be taken out of Infrastructure Fund. **Motion carried 4-0.**

- 4 Rivers Electric Cooperative quote estimated \$12,127.35 not covering service, running into rock etc. Council Member Taylor pointed out this included light on 5th St and 6th St and one @ Jones Park but the rest of the lights would be in the Arrowhead area. She would like to hold off on the lights until the water tower is paid off but that homeowners can always install their own yard light. A public meeting was suggested as it appears some Arrowhead Hills residents are opposed to the lights.
- The new door post was installed at the community building. Reflective tape was added to make it more visible.

Haas moved, seconded by Taylor to approve the invoice for \$650 from AAA Glass for new door bar post at the community building. Funds to be used from General Fund. **Motion carried 4-0.**

- Flying termites were seen outside of City Hall. Terminix submitted a quote for treatment but we have also reached out to Flint Hills Pest Control for an estimate. We will also get estimates for quarterly maintenance.
- Fish – we have maybe ½ the number of fish we would normally have at this time of year. With all of the kids fishing coming up we need to purchase more fish. Would like to purchase 2.5 lb catfish this year and blue gill next year.

Haas moved, seconded by Taylor to spend up to \$1,000 for fish from Trophy Fisheries. Funds to be used from Park Fund. **Motion carried 4-0.**

- KDHE/EPA – all valves must be exercised in 3 years. One half of the city's valves are accessible at this time. There are 150 – 160 valves and several pits @ \$80 per pit that needs to be replaced. Steven plans to list and track all valves to be able to budget future replacement. A hydrovac machine is needed to access the remainder of the valves. Victory Excavating would charge \$350 per hour, 8 hours per day for 2 men, Ditch Witch \$4,200 per month, a new machine could be \$68,000. One month rental from Mid-State Rental would be \$3,150 plus \$70 for insurance. The project should start in June/July while dry.

Croll moved, seconded by Taylor to approve \$3,150 plus \$70 insurance to rent a hydrovac from Mid-State Rental. Funds to be taken out of General Fund. **Motion carried 4-0.**

City Clerk Report

- Community Building Calendar – rentals

May - 1st, 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd Private Events, 29th Old Strawn Homecoming

June – 4th Radiant Life, 5th & 6th Private Event, 11th & 12th Strawnfest, 18th & 19th private event, 25th – July 5th Radiant Life Youth Group

City Attorney Report

- City Attorney Wright reported that he had received an email from Jim Weeks asking about building permits and contractors licenses. He will follow up at the next council meeting when Jim is in attendance but explained that Jim wanted a building permit pulled since the contractor wasn't licensed at the time the permit was issued. City Attorney Wright explained that if the City pulled the permit, it would open the City to a lawsuit since the City was at fault, not the permit holder.

Mayor's Report

- Water contract with the City of Burlington Exhibit A

Haas moved, seconded by Croll to allow Mayor Petterson to sign the water contract with the City of Burlington. **Motion carried 4-0.**

- Ordinance No. 2021-01 Exhibit B

Croll moved, seconded by Taylor to approve Ordinance No. 2021-01 establishing 2021 salaries for the appointed and elected officials of the City of New Strawn, KS and the repeal of ordinance 2020-01. **Motion carried 3-1. Haehn opposed.**

- 2021 Mayor's Appointments & Designations Exhibit C

Haas moved, seconded by Croll to approve the 2021 Mayor's Appointments & Designations. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Taylor moved, seconded by Croll to approve the mayor's reappointment of Robert Harkrader as a member of the New Strawn Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals, effective June 1st, 2021 and expiring May 31st, 2024. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Taylor moved, seconded by Haas to approve the mayor's reappointment of Doug Feldhausen as a member of the New Strawn Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals, effective June 1st, 2021 and expiring May 31st, 2024. **Motion carried 3-1. Haehn opposed.**

Haas moved, seconded by Croll to elect Rhonda Taylor as Council President. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Finance and Economic Development: Jeanne Haas – No report

Community Building Report: Richard Croll

Contractor doesn't have a date for working on the building. Suggested the metal be purchased from Precision Metal in Lyndon before the prices go up again.

Utility Report: Jim Weeks Absent

Water Usage & Loss Report

- Mayor Petterson reported the water loss was at 6.4% which is good. Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight mentioned that after a power surge the tower had ran over a small amount.

Street Report: Rhonda Taylor

Public Relations : Jeanne Haas

- Strawnfest 2021 Update – Council Member Haas would like all council members names on the back of the new t-shirt. She also reviewed the outline of Strawnfest activities with the council.

Haas moved, seconded by Haehn to spend \$250 with EMC for an insurance policy for Strawnfest. Funds to come from General Fund. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Haas moved seconded by Haehn to allow catch and release fishing at New Strawn City Lake from 8 am until 5 pm Saturday, June 12th, 2021 in conjunction with Strawnfest. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Parks and Recreation Report: Gary Haehn

- Provided a list of things he felt Maintenance Operator Steven needs to be complete. Would like to put pickle ball courts on the tennis courts and included a flyer on paint for the courts. Council Member Taylor said she had an issue with this list going to the council before going to the direct supervisor. She said the list looked like one that would be given to a teenager.

Public Safety Report:

- Law/Code Enforcement – Mayor Petterson reported that Sheriff Johnson spent some time observing traffic in New Strawn. He did not witness excessive speed in New Strawn. Citizens were observed wearing their seatbelts and stopping at stop signs. The City could contract for a set number of hours of law enforcement but the level of services would need to be determined. The deputy would not be able to enforce ordinances which the 20-mph city speed limit is an ordinance.
- Code Enforcement – still actively looking for a Code Enforcement Officer

New Business:

Old Business:

- Personnel book – City Attorney Wright still reviewing changes.

Correspondence: N/A

Mayor Petterson adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.