

**CITY OF NEW STRAWN**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Thursday, November 12, 2020**

Present were: Mayor Mark Petterson

Council Members: Richard Croll  
Jeanne Haas – via phone  
Gary Haehn  
Rhonda Taylor  
Jim Weeks

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

Others Present: Bob Saueressig, Coffey County Commissioner  
Jim Schuessler, CFS Engineers  
Landon Myer, Boy Scout  
Angela Myer  
Eric Vogel, Kwikom

**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 New Business

- a. Drainage

ADDED Under Clerk Report

- CMB License – Casey’s General Store

Croll moved, seconded by Haehn, to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

- Move to approve the October 8, 2020 regular council meeting minutes
- Move to approve the October 29, 2020 special council meeting minutes
- Move to approve Warrant dated October 6, 2020 through November 5, 2020 in the amount of \$129,563.60
- Move to approve the October 2020 Payroll in the amount of \$8,049.83

Weeks moved, seconded by Croll, to approve the consent agenda. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**Public Comments:**

Jim Schuessler – CFS Engineers, met with the council to develop a list of possible improvement projects for the city as a part of the Coffey County Community Improvement Plan (CIP). The initial idea for the

CIP is to leverage existing county grants to the cities for various matching state and federal grants that may be available to the cities. A town hall meeting will be held at a later date for public input.

Eric Vogel – Kwikom, met with the council to review Kwikom services and the possibility of renting tower space.

### **Financial Reports:**

- The September Balance Sheet and the Cash Balances by Funds were missing a deposit. This has been corrected. If you want the correct balances, Lana could send you the information.
- The Park Fund ending balance is \$ 167.25 as of October 31, 2020.

### **Staff Reports:**

#### **Zoning Administrator Report**

Zoning Administrator Martha Newkirk reported 2 building permits being approved. Would like to discuss the City Fee Schedule at next meeting.

Council Haehn asked if someone had a permit behind him for anything. There had been a concrete pad and culvert installed. Steven said he would look into it.

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

#### **Maintenance Operator Report** (by phone)

- CARES funding for sinks and doors
- MT Networks has not moved their equipment
- Working on quotes for the sewer project on Neosho
- Rehung some Veterans banners due to wind
- Chlorine residual is coming down – flushed some bad water from tower
- Recycled Rubber Products/Mulch was delivered and will get that out

Weeks moved seconded by Haehn to approve charging the Corps of Engineers the in-town sewer rate if they follow through with a proposal to use the city's sewer lagoon. **Motion carried 5-0.**

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

- EMC Insurance funds of \$1,270.52 received for previous hail damage claims.
- Final valuations received from County Clerk
- File Cabinet is needed to secure documents
- IIMC Certification Institute 11/9-12
- KPERS Webinar 11/12 & 11/19 1 hr each
- 400 Decker St water/mowing bills
- Dog at large
- Community Building Calendar–Rentals updated
- CMB - Casey's

Weeks moved seconded by Haehn to approve a (CMB 2021) Cereal Malt Beverage license for Casey's General Store. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**City Attorney Report:**

City Attorney Philip Wright reported on the Valnet bankruptcy. Telxp provided contract is geared to Telxp and terms would need to be changed. They also need to show proof of ownership of the equipment. He will call the Valnet bankruptcy attorney.

**Mayor's Report:**

**Finance and Economic Development:** N/A

**Community Building Report:** N/A

**Utility Report:** N/A

**Street Report:** N/A

**Public Relations:**

- October Yard of the Month – 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Hernandez 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Foster 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Ballengee The City Clerk sent the letter of Congratulation and the \$ 25.00 Chamber Bucks to the first-place winner.
- December 17-20 will be the dates for judging the Holiday Yards for December.
- The \$ 25.00 Chamber Bucks will be picked up early in December as the Chamber Director will be leaving around December 17<sup>th</sup>.
- At the present there are no plans for a Holiday Open House. Rhonda and I plan on decorating City Hall following Thanksgiving for Christmas.

**Parks and Recreation Report:**

**Public Safety Report:** N/A

**New Business:**

Council Member Haehn voiced concerns over drainage issues in the city.

**Old Business:**

**Mayor Petterson adjourned the meeting at 9:37 p.m.**