

New Strawn City Council

Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, November 9, 2023

PRESENT:

Mayor Rhonda Taylor

Council members: Jeanne Haas, Stephanie Baker and Johnny Hernandez

Absent: David Christiansen and Butch Gilkison

Staff: Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight, Zoning Administrator Cody Collins, Code Enforcement Ray Wards, City Attorney Philip Wright and City Clerk Lana Johnson

Others: Greg Holmquist, Ryan Nelson and Bruce Stull

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES:

Community Center: Christmas Tree

Public Relations, E: Pet Tags

Mayor, C: Appointment of Lee Jones to the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals

Mayor, D: Christmas Days

Maintenance Operator: Water Meters

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Haas moved, seconded by Baker to approve the agenda with additions. Motion carried 3-0.

CONSENT AGENDA ADDITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Consent Agenda Items

MINUTES:

- A. Move to approve meeting minutes of October 12, 2023.

WARRANTS:

Move to approve the Warrants dated October 12, 2023 through November 6, 2023 in the amount of \$27,058.04.

PAYROLL:

Move to approve the October, 2023 Payroll in the amount of \$10,054.46.

LICENSES:

- A. Move to Approve 2024-CMB-01 Ceral Malt Beverage License for Casey's General Store.

Baker moved, seconded by Hernandez, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 2-0. Haas abstained as she didn't attend the October meeting.

APPOINTMENTS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

a. Bruce Stull – Culvert Causing Drainage Issues
Has lived at 1202 16th Rd for 29 years and has a water problem. Bruce presented a current drawn map and some pictures that he took 25 years ago. He explained to the council how he believes the water flow works in the area. Mayor Taylor explained that it sounded like a landscaping issue. He is to be put on the December agenda to discuss personnel, safety and legalities.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

a. Additional Warrants – None

STAFF REPORTS

Zoning Administrator

- It's been quiet.

Code Enforcement Officer/Public Safety

- Spoke with the owner of the Old Golf Course Homestead regarding the sheds. They have a plan in place to clean things up there.
- Drove around town this evening and will be working with several people on their abandoned/untagged vehicles.
- Spoke with the owner of a camper in commercially zoned lot. Owner said he wasn't living in the camper but with his mother.
- An individual that was ticketed for dogs at large and unregistered dogs didn't show to court again this afternoon. There is now a bench warrant out for her arrest.
- The owner of an overgrown property on 3rd Street hasn't been back to town. There have been a few improvements.

Maintenance Operator

- Pie Beveler Kit

Haas moved, seconded by Baker to allow maintenance operator Dwight to order a pipe beveler kit not to exceed \$1,000. Funds to be used from Equipment. Motion carried 3-0.

- Community Center Roof – the north east corner of the community center roof is now leaking. Contact has been made with Evergreen for a Duro-Last reroof estimate. It would also increase the insulation.

- Water Meter – a different meter is needed at the well house. Maintenance Operator Dwight suggested replacement of the master meter and use that meter at the wellhouse.

Haas moved, seconded by Hernandez to allow Maintenance Operator Dwight to order a new meter not to exceed \$1,300. Funds to be used from Water. Motion carried 3-0.

Disc golf baskets have been installed. Maintenance Operator thanked the church for a basket. They have installed one on the City property.

New road signs are being installed replaced older, faded signs.
Flags were hung for Veteran's Day.
The wellhouse project is complete other than cleanup.

City Clerk

- City Hall Closed November 10th for Veterans Day
- City Hall Closed November 23rd & 24th for Thanksgiving
- KPERS Employer Rate From .0843 to .0926 as of January 1, 2024
- Lettering on Front Door – the letters are starting to flake according to the gentleman that cleans the windows. No action from the council.
- Thank You Card to 4Rivers For Hanging Veterans Banners
- Thank you card from NSCIO for the Spooky Stroll donation
- Community Building Rentals

*November – 4th Private Event, 6th – 8th Election, **12th New Strawn Community Church Thanksgiving**, 21st I.B.E.W., 22nd Private Event, 23^d Private Event*

December – 9th Fair Board – Breakfast with Santa, 19th I.B.E.W., 20th – 21st New Strawn Fire Department Christmas

City Attorney - None

Mayor's Report

- a. Mitigation Funding Application Update - submitted
- b. January Dates for Council Work Session - Possible 1/3, 1/4, 1/16, 1/17
- c. Appointment of Lee Jones to the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals

*Baker moved, seconded by Haas to approve the appointment of Lee Jones to the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. **Motion carried 3-0.***

- d. Days City Hall Closed for Christmas

Hernandez moved, seconded by Baker to close City Hall December 22nd and 25th for Christmas.

Motion carried 3-0.

Finance & Economic Development Report – Jeanne Haas

Council member Haas reported that there won't be much unencumbered cash to roll over since there had been a lot of small projects completed this year.

Community Center Report – Stephanie Baker

Council member Baker reported meeting with City Clerk Johnson to check inventory at the community center. Several items thought to be missing had been in the back room. Items have been purchased to resupply missing items in the kitchen. She also reported on having ideas on the back room, ceiling and doing something with the white metal walls.

- a. Christmas Tree – Clerk Johnson was asked to look for a Christmas tree for the community center.

Utility Report – Butch Gilkison

- a. Water Usage & Loss Report

Street Report- Rhonda Taylor – no report

Public Relations Report- Jeanne Haas

- a. Fall and Halloween of the Month – Winners – Smith on Cherokee for Halloween and Richister on 5th for fall

- b. Christmas Yard of the Month - \$20 Casey's gift cards will be given to the top 5 yards of the month. Judging will be December 15-17.

- c. New Strawn Library Santa Visit will be December 21st.

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker to approve donating \$75 to the New Strawn Library Santa Visit. Funds to be used from General. **Motion carried 3-0.***

- d. Fair Board Breakfast with Santa – December 9th

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker to approve allow the Coffey County Fair Board to setup on December 8th with no charge. **Motion carried 3-0.***

- e. Pet Tags

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker as a thank you for being good citizens, pet fees for spayed and neutered animals with current rabies vaccinations will be waived from January 2nd through the 16th. **Motion carried 3-0.** Proof of rabies vaccinations, current address and phone numbers can be dropped in the water drop box by noon on the 16th. Clerk Johnson will mail the registration and tag to the pet owners.*

Parks & Recreation Report – Johnny Hernandez

- a. Disc Golf Update

- b. USD 244 Disc Golf Funding Update – Council member Hernandez is to meet with USD 244 tomorrow.

New Business:

Old Business:

Adjournment:

*Baker, seconded by Haas, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. **Motion carried 3-0.***