

New Strawn City Council

Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, October 10, 2024

PRESENT:

Mayor Rhonda Taylor, Council members: Jeanne Haas, Johnny Hernandez, Stephanie Baker and Butch Gilkison

Absent: David Christiansen

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

Absent: Zoning Administrator Cody Collins

Others: Ryan Nelson and Wayde Thomsen

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES:

ADD: Maintenance Operator: Crack Seal
Public Relations: D: Casa Request

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Hass moved, seconded by Baker, to accept the agenda with two additions. Motion carried 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA ADDITIONS:

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Consent Agenda Items

MINUTES: Move to approve meeting minutes of September 12, 2024.

WARRANTS: Move to approve the Warrants dated September 10, 2024, through October 7, 2024, in the amount of \$38,293.49.

PAYROLL: Move to approve the September 2024 Payroll in the amount of \$9,584.61.

LICENSES: Move to approve Contractors License 2024-C-04 for Jem Construction.

Baker moved, seconded by Hernandez to approve the consent agenda as printed. Motion carried 4-0.

APPOINTMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ryan Nelson: I just wanted to verify with the City if you guys were doing any work on my property up here on Arrowhead. Someone has come out and flagged for water and gas. **Clerk**

Johnson: We had that discussion on Sunday when you contacted me about it. **Nelson:** I just wanted to verify with everyone else maybe they knew something different. **Maintenance Operator Dwight:** They just did a One-Call. **Nelson:** As far as I know, the only people that has access to the easement on my property is the city, state and utility companies so I just want to be notified if anything is going to be done. **Mayor Taylor:** The One-Call just happens if there is a utility through there. **Nelson:** I don't want somebody digging on my property unless it's one of the people through the easement. **Taylor:** I don't think it's an issue. **Dwight:** It was just in the easement and was told to mark it. **Nelson:** OK, just wanted to verify. **Dwight:** They are just doing their job. **Nelson:** Ok, I'm going to go through and pull their stakes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- a. Additional Warrants - None

STAFF REPORTS

- Zoning Ad
Zoning Permit 2024-Z-07 Claude Blum, 615 Arrowhead Dr, 22' x 30' Boat Storage/Workshop
- Code Enforcement Officer
 - Nuisance Property Update – Municipal court today, the judge gave Myers until December 12. Told them to make a lot of effort to get the property cleaned up. Henrichs is to be in court on November 14th. She is supposed to have her yard cleaned up. Attorney Wright went out to talk to Haehn. Court is setup for 6 pm December 12 at 6 pm.

- Maintenance Operator
 - Tooth Bucket
 - American Equipment – Snowplow

Haas moved, seconded by Baker to allow our maintenance operator to purchase a tooth bucket from VLP not to exceed \$4,000 and the snowplow equipment from American not to exceed \$7,600. Funds to be used from equipment. Motion carried 4-0.

- Fence Quote

Baker moved, seconded by Gilkison, to accept the bid from Midland Fence Company for \$13,677.60. Funds to be used from general. Motion carried 4-0.

- City Wide Clean-Up 10/14 – 16
- **ADDED:** Crack Seal

Haas moved, seconded by Baker to allow our maintenance operator to do our to do our street project of crack sealing, up to 4 pallets with \$6,000 coming out of special highway and the rest out of infrastructure. Motion carried 4-0.

Dwight: still mowing and have sprayed some small trees.

- City Clerk
 - Copier – new copier was delivered on October 8.
 - Money Market Interest Rate Dropped From 3.38% to 3.31%
 - City Hall Closed Veterans Day (11/11), Thanksgiving Day and Friday After (11/28 & 29), Christmas Day (Wednesday, 12/25) and New Years Day (Wednesday, 1/1/25)
 - Community Center Rentals

October – 5th pm Ducks Unlimited, 9th New Strawn Library, 11th - 13th Private Event, 15th I.B.E.W., 18th & 19th Private Event, 20th pm 4-H, 26th NSCIO Spooky Stroll
November – 3rd am Slead/Radiant Life Church, 4th - 6TH Election, 7th - 9th Sowder Auction, 15th - 16th Private Event, 17th New Strawn Community Christian Church Thanksgiving, 19th pm I.B.E.W., 22nd – 23rd Atherly Auction

- City Attorney – Philip Wright – will be checking for a new source on the personnel manual.

Mayor’s Report

a. City Hall – Review Bids – one bid was received even though six contractors had received the information.

*Haas moved, seconded by Hernandez that we sign the contract with Truman Builders of LeRoy, KS for renovation of city hall totaling \$107,702. Any changeover according to must be approved in writing. The first #53,000 will come from general. **Motion carried 4-0.***

b. Speed Limit

Is to be added to the November agenda.

c. Grass Clippings in Streets

*Gilkison moved, seconded by Hernandez, to pass Ordinance 2024-06 Grass Clippings in streets. **Motion carried by show of hands 4-0.***

d. City Owned Lots on Neosho St

*Haas moved, seconded by Hernandez to have the mayor, president of council and maintenance operator to meet with the Coffey County Housing Authority representative regarding the two city owned lots at Osage and Neosho for potential development. **Motion carried 4-0.***

e. Spooky Stroll/Trunk or Treat

Gilkison moved, seconded by Haas to reallocate the Spooky Stroll funds to the New Strawn Library and add \$50 to make it a total of \$300. **Motion carried 4-0.**

f. Kansas Region J Hazard Mitigation Plan

The council was asked to go through the plan, and this will be added to the November agenda.

Finance & Economic Development Report – Jeanne Haas

Haas reported that we probably won’t be turning over as much at year end due to spending some of the 2025 funds in 2024.

Community Center Report – Stephanie Baker

Clerk Johnson reported that the family of Marianne Goff thanked the council for allowing the use of the New Strawn Community Center for the funeral luncheon at no charge.

Utility Report – Butch Gilkison

a. Water Usage & Loss Report

Street Report - Rhonda Taylor

Public Relations Report- Jeanne Haas

- a. October Yard of the Month Judging

Don't forget to check out the yard decorations and get your votes into City Hall on Monday the 21st.

- b. Christmas Schedule

Haas moved, seconded by Baker that City Hall be closed on December 24, Christmas Eve.

Motion carried 4-0.

- c. Pet Tags

Haas moved, seconded by Gilkison moved that we again for the spayed and neutered animals give free pet tags between January 2, 2025, and January 17, 2025, with proof of current rabies vaccination. Motion carried 4-0.

- d. **ADDED:** Casa Request

Haas moved, seconded by Baker that the City of New Strawn donate two fishing license that would be good through December 31, 2025. This can be two adult or one adult and one child.

Motion carried 4-0.

Parks & Recreation Report – Johnny Hernandez

- a. Disc Golf Signage – the kiosk sign has been approved and is currently in production.

Dwight reported that KDWP had contacted the city. They will be donating approximately 250 catfish next week. A big thanks to KDWP.

New Business:

Mayor Taylor reported that Decker Street had a block party hosted by Butch Gilkison and Marc Chester. Gilkison had opened his yard and pond to the neighbors. It was the first block party for the street, and they had a good turnout.

Old Business:

Adjournment:

Baker moved, seconded by Gilkison, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.