

CITY OF NEW STRAWN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 13, 2018

Present: Mayor Mark Petterson
Council Members:
Richard Croll
Jeanne Haas
Gary Haehn
Rhonda Taylor
Jim Weeks

Others present:

City Attorney Tom Robrahn
City Clerk Joni Hernandez
City Superintendent Ron Parkey
Zoning Administrator Carl Ware
County Commissioner Bob Saueressig
Steve Templeton, Big Daddy Fireworks

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:

Under Street Report a. Ditches

Haehn moved, seconded by Weeks, approve the agenda with one addition. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Public Comments:

Commissioner Bob Saueressig noted that the Coffey County Fall Pick-up includes free landfill; however, no tires or batteries accepted. Superintendent Ron Parkey stated no paint will be picked up.

Consent Agenda as presented:

Haas moved, seconded by Haehn, to approve the consent agenda as presented. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Financial Reports:

Croll moved, seconded by Taylor to approve the additional warrant in the amount of \$100.00. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Staff Reports:

City Superintendent Ron Parkey Report

- Repaired barbecue grill – still needs to be painted
- Fences (**Per City Attorney Tom Robrahn: Due to liability, customers requesting advice of fence placement should obtain licensed surveyor; not city employee.**)
- Fish for City Pond (Catfish and Wipers have been stocked; Blue Gill to be stocked within a couple of weeks)
- Asphalt work has been completed in parking lot and streets (Community Building Parking Lot will be completed this month)
- Bid for asphalt work approved was 1,319 tons – Tons used were 94.5 less than required with a savings of \$6,938 which will be more than enough to cover base layer needed for Community Building Parking Lot. Approximately 10 truck-loads of base rock @ \$280 should suffice. **Consensus of Council that base layer is needed.**
- Tree trimming completed
- Mowing letters needed (Ron will give list to City Clerk to be mailed)

City Clerk Joni Hernandez Report

- Bond Insurance
- Businesses Closed (Farm Bureau & Lumber Yard)
- Computer Backup working well
- Fall Clean-up Week (Coffey County October 15th-20th) (New Strawn 15th, 16th, 17th)
- Financial Reports Updated after bank reconciliation
- KanPay (Online payment available on the website at newstrawn.org under the Services and Utilities tab. Account number required. The Kansas Department of Revenue requires fee: If paying with a credit card, fee is 2.5% of the amount due. If using a checking account, fee is \$1.50 per transaction.)
- KPERs Optional Life Insurance
- Newsletter
- Thank you notes
- Unemployment (CPA's to correct software set-up issue after 4th quarter finalized)
- Water Bills
- Water Drainage
- Water Leak/Adjustment
- Website

Taylor moved, seconded by Haehn, to approve reimbursement of monthly premiums for \$50,000 term life insurance policies through KPERs Optional Life Insurance for the city clerk and city superintendent effective January 1, 2019 in the amount of \$14.85 and \$43.65, respectively. **Motion carried 5-0.** (Maintenance employee policy is already in force.)

Zoning Administrator Carl Ware Report

- Waiting on forms from Foster Design Associates. He will contact them again. City Attorney Tom Robrahn offered to bring a copy of the City of Burlington codification and more information for the Council's review at next month's meeting.
- Sent information to a customer regarding a Special Use Permit and is still awaiting response.

Mayor's Report

- Voting delegate for League of Kansas Municipalities 2018 Annual Convention
- Water Watch Declaration was declared by City of Burlington in August until further notice (City of New Strawn is a consumer of City of Burlington water)
- Rock Sign Placement
- Codification proposal was received from the League (will discuss next month)

Haas moved, seconded by Weeks, to appoint Rhonda Taylor as the voting delegate for the League of Kansas Municipalities 2018 Annual Conference to be held in Topeka, October 6th through 8th with registration and mileage to be paid by the City of New Strawn. **Motion carried 5-0.**

It was a consensus of the Council to place the newly ordered "New Strawn Welcomes You" rock sign on the east side/across the street from the flag located at Buddies Bar & Grill.

Community Building:

The Council discussed "No Truck Parking" signs to be placed at the Community Center parking lot after asphalt completion. Ron will obtain information regarding weight limit requirements to prevent damage to the parking lot and report at next meeting for further discussion.

The Council discussed the need of improvements for the Community Building and a list to be completed before taking to the Coffey County Commissioners for review.

A dumpster is to be repaired and replaced at the Community Building.

Finance and Economic Development Report:

Jeanne Haas thanked the city clerk, CPA's Emily Franks and Sarah Stockwell for efforts to bring financial information current. She noted that there will be one more vehicle tax deposit which should leave the budget fairly even. Council will need to watch the funds to stay on track.

Utility Report:

Weeks moved, seconded by Haehn, to approve the request of Gary Bittner to adjust his water bill due to a leak that occurred at his home in August, 2018 by charging him the full cost of average use of 1,000 gallons of water as well as the City's wholesale cost for gallons over 34,980 used which was 33,980. **Motion carried 5-0.**

The city clerk will review policy regarding "stop trash service" for a resident. The city attorney will research the City's code for within city limits versus outside city limits.

Street Report:

The council discussed ditches and drainage issues for streets including 4th street and cul-de-sac areas when ground dries out from recent heavy rains and time allows.

It was noted that Killough Construction asphalt work looks good.

There are some small "humps" of asphalt that fell off trucks as work was being completed on street that need to be fixed. City Superintendent will take a look at to have remedied.

There is an area/pothole on Arrowhead Street that needs to be filled. Taylor noted that Arrowhead Street is on the list to have asphalt work done in 2020. Ron will take care of with "Cold Patch".

Public Relations Report:

Veterans Banners Project was reported by Rhonda Taylor. There are nine banners requested and brackets have been ordered.

Haas moved, seconded by Weeks, to declare "Lawn of the Month" contests for 2018 in October and December with judging to take place from October 19th-21st. Winner to be announced on October 24th; and judging from December 15th-17th. Winner to be announced December 21st. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Parks and Rec Report:

Council member Gary Haehn reported that things are looking better.

Public Safety Report:

Haas moved, seconded by Croll, to adopt the 2018 Standard Traffic Ordinance 2018-05, regulating traffic within corporate city limits of the City of New Strawn, Kansas; incorporating by reference "Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities," Edition 2018; providing certain penalties and repealing Ordinance 2016-07. **Motion passed 5-0 by a show of hands.**

Haas moved, seconded by Weeks, to adopt Ordinance 2018-06, regulating public offenses within corporate city limits of the City of New Strawn, Kansas; incorporating by reference "Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities," Edition 2018; providing certain penalties and repealing Ordinance 2016-08. **Motion passed 5-0 by a show of hands.**

New Business: N/A

Old Business:

Big Daddy's Fireworks Request

Taylor moved, seconded by Croll, to approve the request of Steve Templeton with Bid Daddy's Fireworks regarding rental of the Community Building for the purpose of selling fireworks to include set up from June 26, 2019 to July 5, 2019, contingent upon proof of him obtaining insurance and contingent upon the Community Building passing an inspection with certification for sale of fireworks. **Motion carried 4-1** with Haehn opposed.

The city superintendent was instructed to make arrangements for the Community Building to be inspected.

Community Clean-up

The Council discussed community clean-up and a possible future meeting to be determined and invite local businesses together for refreshments and conversation of ways to improve the City of New Strawn.

Correspondence: No action required.

Other Business: N/A

Mayor Petterson adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m.