**New Strawn City Council**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Thursday, September 12, 2024**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Rhonda Taylor, Council members: Jeanne Haas, David Christiansen (arrived 7:01), Johnny Hernandez, Stephanie Baker and Butch Gilkison

Absent:

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

Absent: Zoning Administrator Cody Collins

Others: Jaclyn & Ryan Nelson, Jordan Carl, Mark Petterson and Callie Zirkle

**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:**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

**CONSENT AGENDA ADDITIONS:**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Consent Agenda Items**

**MINUTES:** Move to approve meeting minutes of August 8, 2024.

**WARRANTS:** Move to approve the Warrants dated August 8, 2024, through September 9, 2024, in the amount of $33,887.62.

**PAYROLL:** Move to approve the August 2024 Payroll in the amount of $9,528.54.

**LICENSES:** Move to approve Contractors License 2024-C-03 for Custom Built Structures Inc.

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

**APPOINTMENTS:**

1. Callie Zirkle – Coffey County Chamber Director – introduced herself as the new

Coffey County Chamber Director started on September 3rd. The chamber has a lot of things to take care of before she is up and running full speed. The Chamber Bucks will still go through the Economic Development for a while.

1. Sarah Nuessen/Jeanette Tatton – NSCIO Spooky Stroll – no attendance

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: None**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

1. Additional Warrants - None

**STAFF REPORTS**

* Zoning Administrator
  + Planning & Zoning Meeting September 17, 6 pm
* Code Enforcement Officer
  + Nuisance Property Update – Municipal court today, 2 citations had been

Written, one party is in incarcerated so that hearing is set up for next month. The other one, the gentleman, didn’t come. His wife wanted to represent him but couldn't. That one will be heard next month also. Several complaints are being dealt with on weeds and hay.

* Maintenance Operator
  + Tooth Bucket
  + Crack Sealing
  + Snowplow
  + Fence

The council approved Steven to get bids on all four projects.

The radio on the water tower is 20 some years old. Three boards were replaced last year and again in the last month. The council approved requesting bids on a replacement or updated system.

This month doing BacT samples the lid got dropped. It came back positive for bacteria so will be taking more samples.

Kwikom update – they won’t be able to go above ground in some areas so there will be more underground.

* City Clerk
  + Copier

*Haas moved, seconded by Gilkison to allow Lana to purchase the copier/printer/scanner from Heartland Office Systems for $3,795.* ***Motion carried 5-0.*** Funds to be used from Equipment.

* + $600 Special Assessment for Mowing – After mowing/billing and asking for a

special assessment on property located at 427 Arrowhead Dr the City was informed that Mike Bauman sold the property in July.

* + Community Center Rentals

*September – 1st am Slead/Radiant Life Church, 6th - 7TH OK Kids, 11th New Strawn Library, 17th pm I.B.E.W., 21st Private Event*

*October – 4th & 5th Ducks Unlimited, 11th - 13th Private Event, 15th I.B.E.W., 18th & 19th Private Event, 20th pm 4-H, 26th NSCIO Spooky Stroll*

* City Attorney – Philip Wright – an attorney did reach out to Hometown Pie

on some options.

**Mayor’s Report**

1. City Hall – Updates – bids are due September 25.
2. Speed Limit – the sheriff’s department informed Mayor Taylor they could write

tickets in city limits for the posted speed. The decision was made to have City Attorney Wright to look into an ordinance to raise the city speed limit to 30 mph except the areas around the park.

1. Grass Clippings in Streets – There has been an issue with numerous residents

discharging grass clippings into the streets. The sample ordinance that was provided will be reworked and presented again in October.

1. Rezone City Owned Lots on Neosho St from C-1 to R-2 – land adjacent to the city

lots have been rezoned and sold to the Coffey County Housing Authority.

*Baker moved, seconded by Gilkison to give Mayor Taylor the authority to meet with the Coffey County Housing Authority regarding the city owned lots on Neosho St.* ***Motion carried 5-0.***

**Mayor Taylor** - Steven has now completed 12 years with the city as of September 18th and Lana has done 4 years as of September 8th. I would like to thank you guys for your service, we could not do this without you.

**Finance & Economic Development Report – Jeanne Haas**

**Community Center Report** – **Stephanie Baker**

**Utility Report – Butch Gilkison**

1. Water Usage & Loss Report

The tower is losing chlorine since it just sits there. We have checked into a jetter but it was $28,000 three years ago. Still looking into options.

**Street Report - Rhonda Taylor**

**Public Relations Report- Jeanne Haas**

1. Yard of the Month – October and December

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker that for October Yard of the Month we do a Fall and Halloween with each of them receiving a $25 gift card from Casey’s in each category. Judging will be October 18th through 20th, names to City Clerk by October 21st.* ***Motion carried 5-0.***

*Haas moved, seconded by Hernandez to approve awarding a $25 Chamber Bucks to each of the top 5 yards of Christmas Yard of the Month**. Judging will be December 13th through 15th, names to City Clerk by December 16th and the top winner sign will be posted.* ***Motion carried 5-0.***

1. NSCIO Spooky Stroll Donation

*Haas moved, seconded by Baker to approve a donation of $250 to NSCIO for their Spooky Stroll.* ***Motion carried 5-0.***

**Parks & Recreation Report – Johnny Hernandez**

1. Disc Golf Signage – we will be using chain-link fence posts for the signpost, kiosk sign

has been paid for but we haven’t heard back from the Dynamic disc design team.

**New Business:** Paul’s last day will be September 20.

*Baker moved, seconded by Haas that the city give Paul a gift certificate from Hometown Pie and a thank you note.* ***Motion carried 5-0.***

**Old Business:**

**Adjournment:**

*Baker moved, seconded by Hernandez, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.* **Motion carried 4-0.**