

New Strawn City Council

Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, September 8, 2022

PRESENT:

Mayor Rhonda Taylor

Council members: Johnny Hernandez, David Christiansen, Stephanie Baker and Butch Gilkison (arrived 7:15).
Jeanne Haas by phone left at 8:06.

Staff: Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight, City Attorney Philip Wright (arrived at 7:14), Zoning Administrator Cody Collins and City Clerk Lana Johnson.

Others: Mark Petterson and Anita Cummings

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

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES: None

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Consent Agenda Items

Minutes: Move to approve meeting minutes of August 14, 2022.

Warrants: Move to approve the warrants dated August 6, 2022, through September 7, 2022 in the amount of \$115,938.22.

Payroll: Move to approve the August 2022 payroll in the amount of \$9,717.16.

License: Move to approve 2022-C-03 Contractor License for Wagler Builders.

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. Notice to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate

Baker moved, seconded by Christiansen to recess the regular meeting and move to the public hearing for the 2023 proposed budget. Motion carried 4-0 by show of hands.

Baker moved, seconded by Christiansen to pass the 2023 budget as approved. Motion carried 4-0 by show of hands.

Christiansen moved, seconded by Hernandez to close the public hearing and return to the regular meeting. Motion carried 4-0 by show of hands.

APPOINTMENTS:

- a. Anita Cummings – Special Education Teacher, Bridges 18 – 21 Program, CCSEC USD 244

Christiansen moved, seconded by Hernandez, to approve Bridges 18 – 21 Program use of the City Lake for a one-day use for up to 10 students waiving fees for catch and release fishing. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: N/A

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- a. No additional warrants.

STAFF REPORTS

Zoning Administrator

Zoning Administrator Collins reported that there has been interest in the back 23 acres of the old golf course. He has answered questions about the possible development.

Code Enforcement Officer/Public Safety

No report.

Maintenance Operator

CIP – Walking Trails, no new news.

Shelter House – waiting for bids.

Backhoe Bids – New backhoe is in with “borrowed” bucket. The new bucket is on order and should be in soon.

Water Pump Update – no update.

Maintenance Operator Dwight reported that a customer doesn’t think their meter is working correctly and wants it replaced. Dwight will replace the meter and send it off to be tested. If nothing is wrong with the meter the customer should be charged for replacing and testing the meter.

City Clerk

Coffey County Cancer Support Group thanked the city for their support of the golf tournament.

League of Kansas Municipalities – City Officials Fundamentals Webinar

*Baker moved, seconded by Christiansen to allow Lana to enroll in the City Officials Fundamentals Webinar on September 14 for \$75. **Motion carried 5-0.***

KOMA/KORA – Mayor Taylor, Council Member Baker and Clerk Johnson all attended the KOMA/KORA and felt it was very beneficial.

Community Building Rentals, September 1st – 30th half days WCNO, 3rd Radiant Life Church, 10th OK Kids, 13th New Strawn Library, 16th Vaughn-Roth Land Brokers Auction, 20th I.B.E.W., 23rd – 25th Private Event. October 3rd- 4th WCNO, 5th New Strawn Library, 11th New Strawn Library, 18th I.B.E.W., 29th NSCIO Halloween

City Attorney

Ordinance 2022-04 Discharge of Fireworks

Baker moved, seconded by Christiansen to approve Ordinance 2022-04 as presented. Motion carried by show of hands 4-0. Haas abstained.

Ordinance 2022-03 Establish 2022 Salaries

Baker moved, seconded by Christiansen to approve Ordinance 2022-03 as presented. Motion carried by show of hands 5-0.

Ordinance 2022-05 Standard Traffic Ordinance

Christiansen moved, seconded by Gilkison to approve Ordinance 2022-05 as presented. Motion carried by show of hands 5-0.

Ordinance 2022-06 Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities

Christiansen moved, seconded by Hernandez to approve Ordinance 2022-06 as presented. Motion carried by show of hands 5-0.

Mayor's Report

Chamber Bucks

*Gilkison moved, seconded by Baker that a thank you of \$ 25.00 Chamber bucks be given to Marilyn Bentley in appreciation for her service to keeping the Community Center and the City Hall shining. **Motion carried 5-0.***

*Hernandez moved, seconded by Gilkison to give \$100 in Chamber Bucks to Steven Dwight in thanks for his 10 years of continuous service to the New Strawn community. **Motion carried 5-0.***

Maintenance Operator, Steven Dwight 10-year anniversary

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Baker to approve a 3% longevity wage increase be given to Steven Dwight effective September 17, 2022 which is the last pay period of September. **Motion carried 5-0.***

Mayor Taylor presented a certificate of recognition for 10 years of service to Steven Dwight.

Contract Janitor

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Baker to hire Carol Will as contract Janitor at \$15 per hour. **Motion carried 5-0.***

New Strawn Community Christian Church Thanksgiving, November 13

Employee Benefits Committee

Mayor Taylor would like to set up an Employee Benefits Committee to research benefit possibilities for City employees.

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Hernandez to setup an Employee Benefits Committee with Council Member Baker as the chair and Council Member Gilkison as the co-chair. **Motion carried 5-0.***

2022 Region J Mitigation Plan

*Christiansen moved, seconded by Baker to allow Mayor Taylor to sign the 2022 Region J Mitigation Plan Letter of Intent. **Motion carried 5-0.***

Finance & Economic Development Report – No Report

Community Building Report

Upgrades

Council Member Christiansen informed the council that the new lights and fans have been installed at the Community Center.

Rental Agreement Changes

The council agreed to the proposed changes in the Community Center rental agreement.

Utility Report

Water Usage and Loss Report presented.

County Fund Possibilities

Council Member Gilkison suggested requesting county funds for pump and motor options or rip rap. Maintenance Operator Dwight to get quotes for Pump/motor and rip rap.

*Gilkison moved, seconded by Christiansen for Mayor Taylor and Dwight to approach the commissioners for funds for rip rap and motor/pump replacement. **Motion carried 4-0.***

Street Report

Killough did a great job on the streets. They went over on tonnage on 1st street due to the amount they had to mill down.

Public Relations Report

Fall/Winter Yard of the Month

Council Member Haas asked that Winter Yard of the Month be moved to October.

Haas moved, seconded by Christiansen to give \$20 gift card from Casey's for the winners of Fall Yard of the Month and Halloween Yard of the Month. **Motion carried 5-0.** Judging will be October 21 through 23rd and the winners sign will be posted October 24th.

Parks & Recreation Report

Electrical at the shelter house will be replaced when the concrete is fixed.

New Business - None

Old Business

City Owned Lots – council authorized City Clerk Johnson to contact 3 local realtors to get an approximate value for the lot on Neosho.

Adjournment:

Christiansen moved, seconded by Baker, to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.