

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 10, 2008

5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mari Ann Parker, Ken Stewart, Mike Batchelder and Donna Parish. Tony French was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Brandon Whetstine, Dick Powell, Gary Keim, Ted Collins, Joe Florence, Randy Snyder, Robert Powell, Sean Price, Bryson Cluck, Allen Hewins and Bill Butrick.

PRESIDING: Ken Stewart. Mayor Allen arrived later in the meeting.

Council member Ken Stewart called the meeting to order with a quorum present.

Donna Parish moved to approve the minutes of the last Regular Council Meeting held November 12, 2008. Mari Ann Parker 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

Donna Parish moved to approve the bills for the month of November, 2008. Mari Ann Parker 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

CITY OFFICERS REPORT

Acting Chairman Ken Stewart reported that the deadline to file for the upcoming city election is January 27, 2009.

Fire Chief Joe Florence stated that he would no longer be City Fire Chief as of December 20, 2008 but he would continue to serve as Rural Fire District #2 Fire Chief and that he would continue with hydrant testing and other areas of concern for city fire protection.

City Clerk Bill Butrick reviewed the water system survey results and informed the Council that the City's system is viewed as slightly above low priority which means that most basic areas are pretty much covered at this time.

PRESENTATIONS

Allen Hewins of Highland Insurance Services Agency introduced himself to the Council and briefly spoke about insurance on the new building as well as other insurance regarding the City. It was agreed that Mayor Allen and Bill Butrick would meet with Mr. Hewins or Mr. Heath to discuss the City's insurance.

CITIZENS REQUESTS

Randy Snyder asked if something could be done about the school parking on South Canada street. He stated that when cars park on both sides of the street it is very difficult to get through. Council member Donna Parish stated she would talk to USD #425 Administration to make them aware of it.

OLD BUSINESS

Officer Brandon Whetstine reported that he was still working on the list of changes to the city traffic map and that he would have those listed for them at the next Regular Council meeting.

Ken Stewart gave an update on the progress of the New Community Center/Fire Station. He wanted to thank all the volunteer workers for their help and to the Pride Committee for paying for meals for the workers at Ernies.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Batchelder moved to approve Cereal Malt Beverage licenses for Casey's, Clark's Convenience Store and Ernies BS, Inc. for 2009. Mari Ann Parker 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney Ted Collins updated the Council on the status of the First Edition. He stated that all involved land owners had signed the agreement and that the City would need to hold a Special Council Meeting for approval of both the First and Second Editions before the end of the year.

City Attorney Ted Collins reviewed the Tree Board Ordinance and presented it as Ordinance #477. Donna Parish moved, 2nd by Mari Ann Parker, to adopt Ordinance #477, an Ordinance of the City Of Highland establishing a Tree Board, the duties and responsibilities and operation thereof and repealing any other ordinances of said City that may be in conflict. By roll call vote: Batchelder-yes, Parker-yes, Parish-yes, motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney Ted Collins presented copies of a lease agreement between the City Fire Department and the Rural Fire District and stated that all basic details have been agreed upon by both parties and that he was working on the final agreement. Mari Ann Parker moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the lease agreement involving the Rural Fire District and the City. Mike Batchelder 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

5:33 p.m. Mayor Allen arrived at the meeting.

5:34 p.m. Mike Batchelder moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss personnel. Donna Parish 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

5:44 p.m. Mari Ann Parker moved to come out of executive session, Mike Batchelder 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

5:44 p.m. Mari Ann Parker moved to go back into executive session for 15 minutes to continue personnel discussion. Donna Parish 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

5:59 p.m. Ken Stewart moved to come out of executive session. Mike Batchelder 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

6:00 p.m. Mari Ann Parker moved to adjourn. Ken Stewart 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor

City Clerk