

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
MAY 9, 2018
5:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Batchelder, Dana Clary arrived at 5:03, Jesse Marriott, Matt Peterson and Rocky Ruhnke

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Attorney Ted Collins, City Clerk Joann Karn, City Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Leach, and City Maintenance Worker Trevor Saunders.

GUESTS PRESENT: None

PRESIDING: Mayor Jerry Twombly

Mayor Twombly called the regular city council meeting to order.

Matt Peterson moved and Charles Batchelder seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the last regular city council meeting held on April 11, 2018. Motion carried 4-0

Jesse Marriott moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 4-0

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Mayor Twombly- Nothing at this time

Attorney Collins – Legal executive session later in the meeting

Clerk Karn – Nothing at this time

Police Chief Brandon Whetstine – Absent

Maintenance Supervisor Leach – Mr. Leach is working on securing cold patch asphalt, possibly tomorrow. Rocky Ruhnke reported a community member is willing to give tips on repairing larger holes by cutting out the bad. Following discussion, Matt Peterson moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion authorizing the mayor to explore options, if cold patch cannot be obtained in the area, to purchase up to 20 ton of cold patch asphalt and pay for trucking to Highland. Motion carried 5-0

Mr. Leach stated KRWA would be in town by May 14, 2018, to assist in replacing the larger radio read water meters, after being asked by the mayor on the installation progress of the meters.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Finance Committee – Jesse Marriott – Nothing at this time

Law Enforcement Committee – Charles Batchelder – Mr. Batchelder stated the city had a couple days of turmoil.

Parks and Rec. Committee – Dana Clary – The recently purchased diggers and swings are installed; park grills have arrived; kid’s camp the 1st week of June at HCC; and Zach Lee is coordinating a Sunday summer softball league at the city park (scoreboard will not be used). Mr. Batchelder volunteered to run, with Dana Clary assisting, a 3 on 3 basketball for a 4th of July activity. A 4th of July meeting will be held next week.

Street and Alley Committee – Rocky Ruhnke – Secured a bid from Luedke Excavating for the community center parking lot. Previous bids and this bid were not bid to the same specifications. Following discussion, more information is needed with the possibility of a joint special meeting with the local fire district board. Other discussion is the speed of vehicles entering town from the south (K120). Attorney Collins will again contact the state on the city’s concerns regarding the speed limit entering the city.

Water and Sewer Committee – Matt Peterson – Committee has met and recommends council adoption of the “Guidelines for Adjustment of Water-Sewer Billing for Water Leaks” which is a procedure on possible adjustment of a substantially larger billing than normal which is not the result of the intentional action and/or negligence of the user. Rocky Ruhnke moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to adopt the “Guidelines for Adjustment of Water-Sewer Billing for Water Leaks” with added language and retroactive to January 1, 2018. The second bullet point should read “Absent exceptional circumstances, an adjustment will not be made for any user more than one time in any calendar year per location”. Motion carried 5-0

Outreach Committee – Jerry Twombly, Jesse Marriott – Nothing at this time

Planning & Zoning – Jerry Twombly, Matt Peterson, Jesse Marriott – Nothing at this time

Personnel Committee – Jesse Marriott – Nothing at this time

Rocky Ruhnke commented on the possibility of combining insurance groups, similar to what the schools districts are looking at, under the new government guidelines, to receive a better rate when bidding. Attorney Collins will contact the League of Kansas Municipalities inquiring what is possibly offered for the cities.

NEW BUSINESS:

Matt Peterson moved and Jesse Marriott seconded a motion allowing Highland PRIDE to use the city hall building for the annual Citywide Garage and Bake Sale on Saturday, June 16th. Motion carried 5-0

Jesse Marriott moved and Dana Clary moved seconded a motion allowing City Attorney Ted Collins to attend the city attorney's association meeting in Lenexa on June 8th costing \$217.67 (registration and lodging). Motion carried 5-0

Council consensus is to review the appointment of the wastewater treatment operator next month.

Discussion was had concerning the removal of the existing asphalt and additional dirt work required around the basketball court at Minier Park. The consensus was for the city crew to move forward with that work as soon as time permits. The grass seeding bid of Moran Lawn & Landscape was reviewed and discussed, following which Jesse Marriott moved and Rocky Ruhnke seconded a motion to approve the bid. It was agreed that the timing of the grass seeding of the area following the cleanup, possibly around mid-August, should be left to the discretion of Terry Moran. Motion carried 5-0

The estimate for Lackey's Loader Works to install the chain link security fence around the well is \$2,500. Bid reviewed and council approval was given last month.

ORDINANCES:

Following discussion, Dana Clary moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion to adopt Ordinance #544. An Ordinance of the City of Highland, Kansas granting to Kansas Gas Service an extension to operate under a contract franchise for the right to furnish, sell, and distribute natural gas to customer within the city. By roll call vote: Marriott – yes, Batchelder – yes, Ruhnke – yes, Peterson – yes and Clary – yes. Motion carried 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Dana Clary moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:02 p.m. for 15 minutes for consultation with an attorney on information that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 6:17 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 Mayor asked the city attorney to remain

Dana Clary moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:17 p.m. for 5 minutes for consultation with an attorney on information that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 6:22 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 Mayor asked the city attorney to remain

Dana Clary moved and Matt Peterson seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:22 p.m. for 15 minutes for consultation with an attorney on information that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 6:37 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 Mayor asked the city attorney to remain

Charles Batchelder moved and Dana Clary seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. Motion carried 5-0

Mayor

City Clerk