

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
July 14, 2021
5:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Delzeit, Marty Allen, Dan Collins and Terry Gibson

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Rocky Ruhnke

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Attorney Ted Collins, City Clerk Joann Karn, Water & Sewer Superintendent Trevor Saunders and Police Chief Brandon Whetstine

GUESTS PRESENT: Russell Karn and Ben Gilmore

PRESIDING: Mayor Charles Batchelder called the regular city council meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Marty Allen moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2021, regular city council meeting. Motion carried 4-0

Terry Gibson moved and Marty Allen seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2021, special city council meeting. Motion carried 4-0

Greg Delzeit moved and Marty Allen seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2021, special city council meeting. Motion carried 4-0

Marty Allen moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 4-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ben Gilmore provided a brief update on the progress of the Doniphan Darlings childcare facility in the former Highland Elementary School building. Mr. Gilmore indicated part of the licensing requirement was an enclosed fence area and asking if the city could provide labor to install the fence. After Mr. Gilmore knows more details on the fencing requirement, he will provide the council with an update to be decided upon at that time.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Mayor Batchelder – Noted the 4th of July celebration was excellent.

Attorney Collins –Regarding Well #3, the committee has preliminary numbers. Gerald Neibling and HCC staff to meet for the best plan on moving forward. Attorney Collins asked about scheduling a council work session to review annexation. Consensus was to hold a work session on Wednesday, July 21st at 10 a.m.

Clerk Karn –The city received the first half payment of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds on July 14, 2021, \$75,474.04.

Police Chief Whetstine – Everything has slowed down. National Night Out will be held in Highland on August 3rd.

Water/Sewer Superintendent Saunders and City Superintendent Lackey –Supt. Saunders reported with all the recent rains two manholes overflowed, one pipe burst and lift station pump #1 tripped out which overflowed to the lower lagoon. Recommended purchase of a 6-8” muni-ball bypass plug, \$400-\$500 from USA BlueBook; over the phone electronic detector, \$250 - \$1,200; transit receiver and pole, \$250 from Jack Horner Supplies; and transducer at the west water tower shorted out which produced false readings. Terry Gibson moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to purchase the muni-ball from USA BlueBook costing between \$400-\$500, and the transit receiver and pole from Jack Horner’s costing \$250. Motion carried 4-0

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Finance Committee – Marty Allen & Rocky Ruhnke – Nothing at this time.

Law Enforcement Committee – Terry Gibson & Marty Allen – Nothing at this time.

Parks and Rec. Committee – Greg Delzeit & Rocky Ruhnke – Greg Delzeit wished to publicly thank the following for extra assistance in making the 4th of July celebration a success: Amanda & Travis Clary, Roger & Esther Gormley, Landon Allen, the fire department, the Pride group, Joann Karn, Brianna Cluck, and Marty Allen. Also, thank you to everyone for another successful and safe 4th of July celebration.

Street and Alley/Bldg & Grounds Committee – Terry Gibson & Dan Collins – Three loads of rock will be arriving and installing tubes. Received several complaints regarding a safety issue at the corner of S. Avenue and W. Pennsylvania which will be discussed later in the meeting.

Water and Sewer Committee – Rocky Ruhnke & Terry Gibson – Terry Gibson reported an individual had a large water leak, consensus was for individual to submit an application for adjustment.

Planning & Zoning – Marty Allen & Greg Delzeit – Nothing at this time.

Personnel Committee – Greg Delzeit & Dan Collins – Nothing at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Attorney Collins will visit with Councilman Ruhnke on updating the Highland Community Ballpark agreement and the development of Matthias/Saddle Club area. Information on Well #3 repairs for HCC Irrigation will be updated later.

NEW BUSINESS:

Marty Allen moved and Greg Delzeit seconded a motion to approve the Temporary Extension of Premise application for Kirkwood & Co., August 14, 2021, which includes closing Kirkwood Street from Main Street south to the alley at 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 midnight, as requested by Kirkwood & Co. Motion carried 4-0

ORDINANCE:

Greg Delzeit moved and Dan Collins seconded a motion approving Ordinance No. 572, clarifying the public real estate records by vacating any street and alley rights of way within the tract on the plat of the original town, now City of Highland, designated Highland Female College Grounds. By roll call vote: Delzeit-yes, Allen-yes, Collins-yes, Gibson-yes Motion carried 4-0

RESOLUTIONS:

Following review of 2021-04 resolution, Terry Gibson moved and Dan Collins seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-04 which is a resolution of the City of Highland, KS regarding the governing body's intent to levy a property tax exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR). Motion carried 4-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Greg Delzeit moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 5:40 p.m. for 20 minutes for consultation with an attorney on legal matters that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried 4-0 Mayor asked the City Attorney, Police Chief and Clerk to remain. Police Chief excused at 5:55 p.m.

Greg Delzeit moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:00 p.m. for 15 minutes for consultation with an attorney on legal matters that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried 4-0 Mayor asked the City Attorney and Clerk to remain.

Greg Delzeit moved and Marty Allen seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:16 p.m. Motion carried 4-0

Mayor

City Clerk

CITY OF HIGHLAND

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS REGARDING THE GOVERNING BODY'S INTENT TO LEVY A PROPERTY TAX EXCEEDING THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE

WHEREAS, the Revenue Neutral Rate for the City of Highland, otherwise defined and established by state law, has been calculated as 36.896 mills by the Doniphan County Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Highland, as part of its role of providing essential services, annually adopts a budget that it believes serves the best interests of the taxpayers and residents of said City; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 budget proposed by said Governing Body will require the levy of a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body intends to hold a hearing and hear testimony from all interested taxpayers desiring to be heard as required by state law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND:

SECTION 1. The Governing Body of the City of Highland hereby sets a public hearing regarding its intention to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate for September 8, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., to be held at Highland City Hall, 220 W. Main, and directs that notice of the public hearing be given as required by state law.

SECTION 2. Said Governing Body expresses its intention to exceed the General Fund Revenue Neutral Rate with a proposed mill levy of 39.896 mills.

SECTION 3. Said Governing Body directs the City Clerk to provide this resolution to the Doniphan County Clerk as notice of the City's proposed intent to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate.

This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and shall remain in effect until further action is taken by the Governing Body.

Adopted this 14th day of July, 2021 and SIGNED by the Mayor.

Charles N. Batchelder, Mayor

ATTESTED TO:

Joann Karn, City Clerk