

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
August 14, 2024
5:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Gibson, Marty Allen, Robert Ellerman, Keith Edmonds via phone, and Tana Snyder

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Attorney Andy Parker, City Clerk Joann Karn, Water/Wastewater Supt. Trevor Saunders, Police Chief Dustin Winters, and Deputy Clerk Debbie Keebler

GUESTS PRESENT: Bill Noll

PRESIDING: Council President Terry Gibson began the meeting in Mayor Charles Batchelder absence.

Tana Snyder moved and Robert Ellerman seconded a motion to approve the regular city council meeting minutes of July 10, 2024. Motion carried 5-0

Robert Ellerman moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 5-0

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Mayor Batchelder – Absent

Attorney Parker – Indicated several individuals have inquired but no serious offer has been received on the city property on either Missouri Street or Ives Street. Asking price is \$5,000 per lot or a discounted price if a residence is ready by a certain date.

Clerk Karn – The 2025 budget summary has been published, LKM Annual Conference is October 10-12 in Wichita, and provided a 2024 legislative summary from LKM.

Police Chief Winters – Announced his duty schedule of the prior month and upcoming events; both car cameras are operating correctly; newspaper is asking for different information for publication than council requested – council consensus is to provide the council with the required information monthly and court provide information to the paper; needing tires for the PD truck in the next couple of months – tires off of the state bid will either be \$183/tire or \$170.55/tire.

Water & Sewer Supt. Saunders – Kevin Lackey has provided a quote of \$400 to repair the fence at Minier Park or should the chain link fence at the park be removed-Supt. Saunders to secure a quote; council consensus is to schedule a fall cleanup since the spring cleanup was postponed; will purchase crack fill foam – approximately \$150-\$200; council consensus is for Triple L to evaluate the maintenance truck; order internet – Starlink is now \$299; HOA online security is proposed at \$10,000/yr.-Supt. Saunders and council not interest at this time; Street Project will cost an additional \$520 above bid due to extra street lines; needing shut off valve at the former nursing home – approximately \$2,000. Robert Ellerman moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion for Supt. Saunders to purchase the necessary parts to repair the water meter/shut off at the former nursing home, costing up to \$2,000. Motion carried 5-0

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Finance Committee – Marty Allen & Keith Edmonds – Nothing at this time.

Law Enforcement Committee – Tana Snyder & Marty Allen – Nothing at this time.

Parks and Rec. Committee – Terry Gibson & Tana Snyder – Nothing at this time.

Street and Alley/Bldg & Grounds Committee – Robert Ellerman & Terry Gibson – Councilman Ellerman inquired about dead trees on private property, inoperable vehicles and tractor trailers in yards. Attorney Parker will review the ordinances.

Water and Sewer Committee – Terry Gibson & Robert Ellerman – Nothing at this time.

Planning & Zoning – Keith Edmonds & Marty Allen – Nothing at this time.

Personnel Committee – Tana Snyder & Robert Ellerman – Nothing at this time.

Mayor Batchelder arrived.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supt. Saunders announced Hach Service was on site at the WTP and repaired the nitrate analyzer which will decrease the salt consumption.

Attorney Parker stated property owners of the Simpson property have contacted Urban Construction and if progress is not made timely, they will seek someone else. Attorney Parker will continue to do research on the McVicker property.

Councilman Allen has no further information on the Sports Complex area.

Regarding annexation, Attorney Parker stated no one is volunteering to be annexed. The city property can be annexed, and Attorney Parker will provide more information on the cost of title search and survey. The council took no action.

NEW BUSINESS:

Terry Gibson moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion authorizing the mayor to sign the prepurchase agreement for 2,000 gallons of LP, option 1 for keep full price of \$1.70, from Consumer Oil & Propane, Inc. for the 2024-25 heat at the WTP. Motion carried 5-0

Keith Edmonds moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion to approve a water leak adjustment, dated July 22, 2024, for resident Darlene McNemee a rate of two-dollar (\$2.00) per thousand (1,000) gallons of water. Motion carried 5-0

Marty Allen moved and Terry Gibson seconded a motion to apply for approximately \$400,000 grant from the Kansas Water Office for fixing the major sewer lines problems with a cost of \$3,500 to BG Consultants and \$500 to Governmental Assistant Services. Motion carried 5-0

Marty Allen moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion to donate \$100 to the Doniphan West High School Mustang Booster Club. Motion carried 5-0

Attorney Parker provided an update on the possibility of a convenience/liquor store which would require a zoning change. Following discussion, Terry Gibson moved and Robert Ellerman seconded a motion for Attorney Parker to begin the zoning change. Motion carried 5-0

Marty Allen moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion to close the 200 and 300 block of Main Street for Trunk or Treat, October 27, 2024, 4 – 7:30 p.m. Motion carried 5-0

ORDINANCES:

Tana Snyder moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 603 regulating public offenses within the corporate limits of the City of Highland, incorporating by reference the “Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities”, 40th Edition of 2024, with certain changes and additions, prescribing additional regulations, providing certain penalties and repealing Ordinance Number 590 of said city. Roll Call – Gibson-yes, Allen-yes, Ellerman-yes, Edmonds-yes and Snyder-yes Motion carried 5-0

Tana Snyder moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 604 regulating traffic within the corporate limits of the City of Highland, Kansas, incorporating by reference the “Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities”, 51st Edition of 2024, with certain omissions, changes and additions, prescribing additional regulations, providing certain penalties and repealing Ordinance Number 591 of the City of Highland KS. Roll Call – Gibson-yes, Allen-yes, Ellerman-yes, Edmonds-yes and Snyder-yes Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION:

Tana Snyder moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-04 Establishing a Climate Change Resiliency Plan to Enhance Community Sustainability and Safety. Motion carried 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Tana Snyder moved and Robert Ellerman seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 5:50 p.m. for 15 minutes to review individual employee(s) pursuant to the non-elected personnel for the protection of the privacy rights of the protected employee(s) and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 6:05 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 Mayor asked City Attorney and Police Chief to remain. Police Chief dismissed at 5:56 p.m.

Tana Snyder moved and Robert Ellerman seconded a motion to recess into executive session at 6:05 p.m. for 5 minutes to review individual employee(s) pursuant to the non-elected personnel for the protection of the privacy rights of the protected employee(s) and the open meeting will resume in the city council chamber at 6:10 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 Mayor asked City Attorney to remain.

Robert Ellerman moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:10 p.m. Motion carried 5-0

Mayor

City Clerk