

**CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**CITY HALL**  
**July 10, 2024**  
**5:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Terry Gibson, Marty Allen, Robert Ellerman, Keith Edmonds, 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, Deputy Clerk Debbie Keebler, and Maintenance Dustin Winder

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Pat Lackey, Jerry and Connie Higgins, John and Tammi Petrik, Ben Petrik, Roger Rush, Ted and Karen Rockhold, George and Wanda Moore, and Tom Williams. Grand Gladhart arrived at 5:15 p.m.

**PRESIDING:** Mayor Charles Batchelder

Tana Snyder moved and Robert Ellerman seconded a motion to approve the regular city council meeting minutes of June 12, 2024. Motion carried 5-0

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** All present guests were in attendance regarding preliminary discussion on annexation. Attorney Parker opened with reiterating this is only possible annexation and read the statue plus explaining the process. Numerous attendees provided comments regarding annexation. Mr. Petrik asked the city to open Colorado St. from Coronado Road west to Chalk Bluff Road.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:**

**Mayor Batchelder** – Thanks to everyone involved for an enjoyable 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

**Attorney Parker** – Later in the meeting.

**Clerk Karn** – The budget is prepared with a 2 mill increase over last year; 49.645 for 2025 and Gordon CPA has reviewed the draft budget. The firemen have donated \$1,000 towards the 2025 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks.

**Police Chief Winters** – Nothing at this time as it has been a calm month. Chief Winters asked about adopting a curfew ordinance to deal with the kids out after midnight. Trading night vision goggles for rifle, then trade rifle for shot gun as the goggles have no value in Highland. PD truck will need tires in the near future. Will be attending a couple trainings. Discussion on unsightly property, code enforcement, unsafe structures and reports provided to the paper after HCC begins.

**Water & Sewer Supt. Saunders** – Provided three (3) quotes from USA BlueBook for a magnetic locator. Following discussion, Terry Gibson moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion to approve the Schonstedt SPOT Magnetic Locator for a total of \$982.95. Motion carried 5-0 Supt. Saunders asked to purchase from Highland Hardware a Milwaukee battery chain saw for \$329 or purchase the combo with a leaf blower for \$500. Following Saunders recommendation, Robert Ellerman moved and Marty Allen seconded a motion to purchase the Milwaukee battery chain saw from Highland Hardware, \$329. Motion carried 5-0 Supt. Saunders indicated several “No trespassing” signs will be purchased at \$5 - \$7 each. Continuing to work on Starlink, water parts inventory, painting fire hydrants and asked if pay checks could be direct deposited. Consensus of council is for direct deposit information to be brought to the next meeting.

**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 – Councilman Ellerman inquired about the dead tree in Degginger Park and can the city spray in Degginger Park for beetles.

**Street and Alley/Bldg & Grounds Committee** – Robert Ellerman & Terry Gibson – Supt. Saunders is repairing the ditch line in the 400 block of North Kirkwood St.

**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.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Supt. Saunders presented the Hach Service contract for water treatment plant instruments. Following discussion, Tana Snyder moved and Terry Gibson seconded the motion to approve the Hach Service contract following Attorney Parker’s review and approval. Motion carried 5-0

Several properties are being reviewed for code and/or zoning violations.

Councilman Allen commented a team from KSU may be in the area looking at the Sports Complex area, then they will provide suggestions, ideas and/or plans.

On the request for a crosswalk from the Highland Christian Church to the fellowship hall, Attorney Parker indicated it could be done although a need for signage and parallel parking on the east side of Kansas.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Marty Allen moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion authorizing the mayor to sign the Notice of Intent to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2025 budget. Motion carried 5-0

Terry Gibson moved and Tana Snyder seconded a motion to purchase a new refrigerator for the community center, Cooler Depot, 55 in. 47 cu ft commercial auto-defrost upright 2 door in stainless steel from the low quote of Highland Hardware for \$2,675 delivered and acknowledged the donations from the fire district and firemen. Motion carried 5-0

Tana Snyder moved and Keith Edmonds seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:12 p.m. Motion carried 5-0

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Mayor

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City Clerk