

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ira Allen, Bruce Smith, Bob Sisson, Rich Hamit, Mayor Jack Young. Larry Coursen absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Long, Vic Robbins, Mike Dickerson, Ed Harmison, Bob Call, Michael Blood, Cheryl Brown

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Young at 7:00 PM. A quorum was present.

MINUTES/ WARRANTS: Rich Hamit made a motion, seconded by Bruce Smith, to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2005 meeting as written. Motion carried 4-0.

Ira Allen moved to pay all warrants presented. Bob Sisson seconded; motion carried 4-0.

AUDIT REPORT FOR 2004: Jim Long, of Bogner & Long, was present to review the audit of the city's 2004 financial reports. Long stated he was pleased to see the amount of cash balance this year, as compared to the balances of past years. There were some excess expenses in the Special Highway fund and also Street Maintenance, but Long didn't find anything that would result in a penalty.

Long went over each of the funds for the council's benefit. This report is available to the public during business hours. The clerk is planning to leave a copy at the library, too.

Long again encouraged the city to build up a cash reserve, and one way to do that is to continue to keep expenses down.

Bruce Smith moved to accept the audit report. Rich Hamit seconded the motion; carried 4-0.

2006 BUDGET PREP: After discussing the proposed 2006 budget as prepared by Bogner & Long, Ira Allen asked why the mill levy was decreased by 1.25 mills when the city is trying to build a reserve. Jim Long said that he can put the 1.25 mills back in the budget which would levy more money without increasing the levy. After more discussion, the council decided to increase the mill levy from the proposed 35.545 to 36.60 mills. This would be the maximum mills allowed without adopting an ordinance to increase the tax levy. The council agreed by consensus to allot the increase to the General fund, where it can be transferred to other funds if necessary. Bruce Smith made a motion, seconded by Bob Sisson, to approve the 2006 budget with those changes. Motion carried 4-0. The clerk will have the new "Notice of Budget Hearing" published after Long makes the changes requested by the council. The council also agreed to have the budget hearing for the public on August 10, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. This will be the first order of business at the next regular council meeting.

WATER/SEWER REPORT: Vic Robbins reported said that he and Bob Call had been inspecting some of the manholes that missed the inspection earlier this year. They still have a few to inspect.

Robbins said that progress is being made on the sewer inflow/infiltration inspections. He's still waiting to hear from Michael Coffman about a letter to those residents who have refused the initial inspection. He reminded the council that July 31st is the date that was set as the deadline. Robbins couldn't recall the names of those who have refused the initial inspection. The council told Robbins to contact Coffman about getting the letter to those property owners. Robbins asked Mayor Young to contact Steve Cross about his schedule in order to get his inspection done.

Rich Hamit asked about inspecting the perimeter drains. Robbins said that the method for doing this hasn't been addressed yet. The July 31st deadline applies to those whose sump pumps were connected to the sewer system.

Robbins gave a quick report on his inspection of the city lake dam. He has submitted the report. The only problem he noted was some unwanted vegetation on the dam itself. He's talked to Bob Call about the matter. He is recommending that the inspection be done yearly in order to keep the maintenance updated. The inspection could be done by someone other than an engineer. Safety inspections have to be done by a qualified engineer as required by the state. There was discussion about how much land the city owns surrounding the lake regarding a controlled burn in the spring.

Robbins reported that KDHE has approved the waterline replacement plan, but we need a performance bond from Donnie Bryant. Bryant is in the process of ordering the pipe, and should be ready to start in 10 days, and complete the project within 20 days. The contract allows 60 days, and Bruce Smith requested that Bryant not start until after the fair.

Robbins has been working on the Sewer Rehabilitation plans for KDHE, and should have it completed soon after the last 5 manholes get inspected. Mayor Young said that he's been concerned that we won't get any more grant money until this project is completed, and this first phase seems to be taking longer than expected. Robbins said that he has been a little slow due to other job requirements, but he's sure that completing the first phase will cost more than the first grant and loan. He doesn't think that doing this in pieces is a good idea. The mayor said that we may need to talk to Donna Crawford about the time factor and the best way to supplement the funds to pay for the total project. Robbins said that Crawford had indicated that we may be able to get more grant money, and someone needs to talk to Crawford. Mayor Young said he would talk to her.

LIBRARY ROOF BIDS: After discussing the need for re-roofing the library, Bruce Smith made a motion to accept the bid from Midwest Coating to apply the DuroLast roof for a total cost of \$26,868.00. 50% will be paid upon their ordering the material and the balance will be due in January, 2006. Bob Sisson seconded the motion; carried 4-0. The work will be done in October.

2005 CHANGES IN LICENSES FOR LIQUOR SALES: The council will review the changes made by the legislature regarding the sale of alcoholic liquor. The council must act before November 15, 2005 to keep the current city requirements, otherwise the city automatically becomes "wet" which would allow any state-approved person to operate a retail liquor store. Presently, this can only be done by approval of the voters after the necessary number of electors sign a petition. The mayor said he doesn't have a problem with letting the people vote on this issue. Hamit stated that passing an ordinance before the deadline would give the city more control. The clerk stated that after November 15th, if the council does nothing, any person with a state liquor license can open a retail liquor store in any commercial-zoned area without council approval. The mayor said that he thinks the matter should be decided by a vote of the people, and not a decision made by the council, so he's in favor of keeping the current requirements which would mean passing an ordinance before November 15th. Bruce Smith asked about the city revenue aspect of the matter. The clerk said the city would receive sales tax, and probably some extra from the state through the alcohol liquor tax, just as it now gets from Conrad's Bar & Grill. The clerk suggested that the mayor and council visit with a lot of residents before making any decisions.

Mayor Young said that he'd been asked by Casey's General Store about selling cereal malt beverages on Sunday's. The new state law retains existing days and hours of retail beer sales, but it also allows cities to expand the days and hours of sales to include Sunday's except Easter. The matter was tabled until the statutes are studied. The clerk said she would also contact the city attorney.

DRUG/ALCOHOL TESTING: The mayor said he's going to talk to someone at the state about exactly who is required to participate in the testing.

DRAINAGE REQUIREMENTS: The council is considering requiring certain sizes of drain tubes, and this has also been discussed by the Planning Commission. More time is needed to study.

WATER METER FEES: After discussing the cost involved, Rich Hamit moved to raise the price of water meters for new services from \$500 to \$1500. Bob Sisson seconded; motion carried 4-0. The price of replacing an existing service meter would remain at the cost of materials and labor which varies.

SERVICE FOR ANDERSON, MEGGISON, AND ARNOLD (RURAL): Bob Call told the council that the cost of new parts, including a 1" meter, to connect Bruce Anderson, Bob Meggison, and Jim Arnold would be \$494, excluding the cost of the pipe. The expense to connect the new line to the city line will be approximately \$600. Bob Sisson moved to install a new 1" meter and the necessary equipment to connect to the city line, with the 3 residents being responsible for the expenses. Bruce Smith seconded; motion carried 4-0. Bob Call will tell Anderson of the council's decision and the estimate of the cost involved. Bruce Smith said he would work on some kind of form letter that can be sent to inform residents of council decisions regarding water, sewer, drainage and street matters.

1992 DUMP TRUCK: Bob Call is still waiting on the final details about the 1992 dump truck and when it will be available.

MISCELLANEOUS: The mayor showed the group a letter written by Yolanda Dickinson thanking the police department for their prompt service in a recent robbery at her residence.

The clerk said that a post office box has been assigned to the police department and municipal court. They will be using PO Box 135 from now on.

Brown asked the council about purchasing 2 new monitors for City Hall. She has received a bid for 2 new 17" flat paneled monitors at a cost of \$269 each. Bob Sisson made a motion, seconded by Rich Hamit, to purchase the 2 monitors. Motion carried 4-0.

Rich Hamit moved to contract Bogner & Long to do the 2005 audit at a maximum cost of \$4250. Bruce Smith seconded; motion carried 4-0. This wouldn't include the state filing fee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Rich Hamit made a motion, seconded by Bruce Smith, to recess into an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel matters for 10 minutes, with Bob Call present. Motion carried; meeting recessed from 8:55 to 9:05 pm. Mayor Young called the meeting back to order.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS: Bruce Smith said that the city needs to make a decision about pursuing an agreement with the Pomona Lake project. After discussing the matter, Bob Sisson moved that the city remove itself from the project at this time. Ira Allen seconded; motion carried 4-0.

Bob Sisson said he'd been asked by a couple of fairboard members to ask the police department to keep the number of officers patrolling the fairgrounds on carts to a minimum. Chief Harmison told the council that they would have only one "gator" type vehicle in use this year.

Ira Allen said that when he dumped limbs at the tree dump he noticed what appeared to be building material. The mayor said he's noticed the same thing including furniture, and carpet. Hamit said he saw a swing set. Smith said that it's time to close it again. Several solutions were discussed, including fencing the area which would require people to sign for a key. Mayor Young said that the city will have to pay to have all the trash hauled away. Michael Blood suggested having it open just once a month with someone watching. The mayor said that people need to realize that this site has been provided as a free service and it can be closed at any time. Getting that message out was discussed. The clerk said she would have it put on the website too. The mayor asked Mike Dickerson to put something in the paper about the problem.

Rich Hamit asked if anyone has received email through the website. The mayor's email is forwarded to his personal email, and no one else has gotten any as yet.

MISC: Chief Harmison said he hasn't had any complaints or problems at the pool this year and wanted to commend the manager on doing a good job.

Michael Blood thanked the council for the "slow" signs in his neighborhood.

The clerk asked if the mayor found out who the "Mrs. Musick" was in a previously received thank you letter. Mayor Young said it was Linda Musick who had opened her business to help the people who wrote the note. This will be published at a later time.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The mayor would like to have some more details about the Recreation Commission that was formed when Jones Park was being formed. The council agreed that they need to know who authorizes the spending. The clerk said that Bob VonStein has the checkbook, and the bank statements. Rich Hamit said he would do some more checking when he has a list of current members.

There being no further business before the council, Bruce Smith moved to adjourn. Ira Allen seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Brown
City Clerk

APPROVED:_____