

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ira Allen, Bruce Smith, Rich Hamit, Jim Gates, Mayor Jack Young (late), David Gerisch absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Harmison, Charles Hamner, Yolanda Dickinson, Sue Martin, Vic Robbins, Bob Sisson, Everette Dannar (7:17pm), Cheryl Brown.

The meeting was called to order by Council-President Bruce Smith at 7:00 PM. Roll was taken.

MINUTES/ WARRANTS: Ira Allen moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2004 meeting as written. Jim Gates seconded; motion carried 4-0.
Jim Gates made a motion, seconded by Ira Allen, to pay all warrants presented. Motion carried 4-0.

PLANNING/COMPREHENSIVE: Sue Martin came before the council representing the steering committee to ask if the council has reviewed their proposed survey. The council agreed that what is on the survey should be satisfactory. There was discussion regarding mailing's, expenses. It was decided to get more information about the area to be covered and the expense. The mailing will probably not be done until after the first of 2005. There was discussion about where the survey's would be duplicated. Ira Allen said that it might be better to have them printed if the cost is not too much. The banks, library, grocery store and City Hall would be the most likely drop-off points for the surveys. Ira Allen suggested that the survey ask what each person feels is the most important issue. Martin said that several had already mentioned medical care and the city utilities. Allen also suggested putting some kind of notice about the survey in the local papers. Martin said they would report again at the December 8th meeting.

WATER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT: Vic Robbins reported that he has just received notice from KDHE regarding documents we need to submit. He will check into the matter.

Robbins updated the council on the desludging process. An additional set of soil samples will be taken next week. The check to Mayer's Specialties has been sent by certified mail, and the city has received the reimbursement from the state.

The city has received a consent agreement from KDHE regarding changes we requested in their order, but the actual letter was sent to Michael Coffman, City Attorney. According to the letter, the deadline for a decision on either expanding or building a new facility is March 1, 2005. Smith said that we won't know how much the current project will change the situation in that short amount of time. Robbins said that they could do enough engineering to come up with a recommendation. The council agreed to authorize the mayor to sign the necessary documents if approved by Robbins in order to avoid having a hearing on November 30th.

Robbins learned that a fiberglass pre-treatment tank would cost around \$7500 compared to \$5345 for a concrete tank plus \$750 set-up for a total cost of \$6095. There was discussion about hiring someone else to unload and set the tank. Robbins said that the city may have to publish a bid notice for the project rather than just hire it done to meet grant requirements. He will talk to KDHE and Donna Crawford about the need for bids.

DRAINAGE/SCHOOL PROJECT: The City of Topeka has notified us that this special project will be delayed until next fall.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Bruce Smith moved to appoint JoEllen Criger to the Planning Commission. Ira Allen seconded; motion carried 4-0. Mayor Young asked how many council members would be willing to meet with the Planning Commission on December 1st. The mayor said he will notify them of a meeting at 7 PM on December 1st for a work session. Ira Allen said they need to pick a chairperson, clerk and also set definite monthly meeting times.

HIGHWAY DECORATIONS: Rich Hamit said the area engineer has approved the city's request, and Cheryl Brown said Bob Call is already working with Ed Butterfield.

STREETS/CRACKS: Jim Gates made a motion, seconded by Bruce Smith, to approve spending up to \$5700 to seal the cracks as bid by Dennis Brown of Complete Pavement Maintenance. Motion carried 4-0.

CITY LAKE LEASE: Mayor Young reported on material he received at the meeting with Kansas Wildlife and Parks on November 17th. There are 3 options: 1. Opt out of program and receive no assistance 2. Basic which will give the city \$1200 and we would receive the same amount of support as now. This would mean the city wouldn't sell city lake permits. 3. Enhanced program would mean a better chance of receiving grants, but there would be more requirements for the city to follow. Jim Gates made a motion, seconded by Bruce Smith, to accept the Basic option from Wildlife and Parks for one year, which will pay the city \$1200 as a substitute for permit revenue. All the paper work needs to be submitted by January 1, 2005. The current ordinance will have to be amended where necessary. One of the requirements for accepting the payment is that the money must be spent on fish, etc. Quarterly reports are also required.

REQUEST FROM CLERK: Cheryl Brown would like to be paid for some of her unused vacation if the funds are satisfactory after the December warrants are paid. This amount would not exceed \$500. No opposition was stated at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Bruce Smith made a motion, seconded by Rich Hamit, to recess into executive session with Bob Sisson present, to discuss matters not related to elected personnel. Motion carried; meeting recessed from 8:02 until 8:12 PM. No action was taken when the meeting was opened by Mayor Young.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS: Jim Gates reported that stumps have been removed and a 36" drainage tube was installed by Butch Foster. Gates said that a John Deere backhoe has been provided for some of the work. The mayor asked about burning the brush. Gates also mentioned that some kind of grade needs to be established, so they will be getting some dirt from the lagoon area.

Ira Allen asked about the letter requested by Carl Anderson regarding his claim for property damage due to a sewer back-up. Allen asked why this problem wasn't addressed some time back if the council was aware of a problem, and if they didn't know about the problem his question is why didn't they know? Gates asked why the mayor was being asked to sign a letter written by Anderson himself. The mayor said he won't sign the letter without council approval. It's the mayor's understanding that there was a problem when the original tap was made according to Todd Goodyear. Allen said that he has a problem with the letter indicating that Bob Call knew of a problem when he wasn't the supervisor at that time. He also said that signing the letter would be admitting the city knew of the problem in advance, thereby admitting guilt. The council agreed by concensus to think about the wording before having the mayor sign it. After more discussion, the council understood that the pre-existing problem was at the old Church of Christ building and not the parsonage that was build later.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Young said Bruce Cole has given him a letter stating approximately \$4,000 in damages to his residence from the same storm that affected the Anderson's. The matter was tabled until the letter can be presented.

The mayor also asked the council to consider raising the annual stipend received by the governing body from the current \$75 when preparing the 2006 budget. This has been the same for the past several decades, and as the council now meets at least twice a month the mayor feels that an increase would be justified. One thing that might be considered is to set an amount per meeting attended. The clerk said that this can be done by a motion passed by the council. The council agreed to consider the matter at the next meeting.

2005 PATROLCAR: Officer Dannar told the council that the state bid he presented to the council at the last meeting for a 2005 Ford Crown Victoria police car would be good for all of 2005 but since everybody orders their's at the first of the year it would make it harder to get one later on. The price quoted was around \$17,800. Smith asked if that was planned for this year. Ira Allen said there was a reserve set up in the budget. Smith said he thought that was for health insurance. Allen said it was for that and a car. Mayor Young said this would be discussed at the next meeting.

There being no further business before the council, Jim Gates moved to adjourn. Bruce Smith seconded; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Brown
City Clerk

APPROVED: _____

12-8-04