

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held January 7, 2019, 5:30 p.m., at city hall. Mayor John Bisnette presided. Council members present: Devin Renken, Evan Joy, Jane VanDonge, Charlie Stevens, and Tonya Kuhn. Others present: Bruce Berkley, Jeff Shelton, Danny Miner, Vickie Oviatt, Josh Hofflinger.

Mayor Bisnette called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

Devin moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of the December 17, 2018 minutes. Jane seconded. Carried.

Evan moved, seconded by Charlie, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of December 28, 2018. Carried. Devin abstained.

Deputy Danny Miner presented the law enforcement report for the period of December 1, 2018 – January 1, 2019.

Jeff Shelton, Code Enforcement Officer, presented a spread sheet report of activity for June through December. There was discussion concerning items placed on the city easement by the curb. There was discussion regarding nuisance vehicles. Bruce discussed the increase in J-turns.

Ron Duran, Animal Control, reported that this is a slow time of year. He presented his written report of patrolling every day.

Josh Hofflinger reported that he had passed the certification exam. Parts are in for the septic tank. Trees are trimmed at the cemetery. He renewed the contract with Hach for nitrate analysis.

City Clerk reported the next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, due to the holiday.

Bruce reported for the fire department. He discussed the department being over budget and could possibly use the funds in equipment reserve to make up for it. He explained the fire departments separate account, Firemen's Relief Account.

Tonya moved, seconded by Evan, to designate the State Bank of Downs as the depository for 2019. Carried.

Evan moved, seconded by Tonya, to approve special use permits #19-02 and #19-03. Carried. Devin abstained.

Tonya moved, seconded by Jane, to approve city licenses #19-32 and #19-33. Carried.

Chamber had submitted a request to waive fees for use of the memorial hall during celebration. A request to rent the hall was also received from the Downs Alumni. Council asked that a representative from each group attend the next meeting. Action was tabled.

Council reviewed information from the planning commission that outlined their 2015 recommendation to the council for a process to use for accessory buildings. The commission had spent a considerable amount of time on the subject. There was discussion. Bruce reviewed the purpose of zoning and due process.

Mayor Bisnette reported that it has been twenty years since the council has had a raise. He asked council to consider. The ordinance setting the current compensation was reviewed. Action tabled.

Vouchers were reviewed and signed. Devin moved, seconded by Jane, to approve vouchers and payrolls as presented. Carried.

At 7:31 p.m., Tonya moved to recess into executive session for thirty minutes to discuss employee wage review and health insurance renewal with the council and mayor present. Evan seconded the motion. Carried.

(Remaining minutes were taken by Tonya Kuhn)

Out of executive session at 8:00 p.m.

Tonya moved, seconded by Evan, to approve the BCBS insurance contract for 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Tonya moved, Jane seconded, to table employee wage reviews until the next meeting. Carried.

The city will run an ad for one week for a fulltime city employee to start March 1, 2019.

Tonya moved, seconded by Jane, to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

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John Bisnette, Mayor

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Vickie Oviatt, Clerk