

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held March 3, 2014, 5:00 p.m. at Memorial Hall. Mayor Jennifer Brush presided. Council members present: John Cary, David Draayer, Teri Cordill, Jerry Knouf, David Hardy. Also in attendance: Terry Gradig, Bruce Berkley, Vickie Oviatt, Alice Bliss, Edgar Reinert, Vienna Janis, LaRhea Cole, Evan Joy, Kathy Shellito, Kevin Shellito, Josh Shellito, John Shellito, Don Harzman, Brian Sharp, Duane Miller, Kathy Miller, Rex Moubry, Cory Horacek, Aaron Dose, Susan DeBey, Stan Albrecht, Teresa Albrecht, Richard Boxum, Tom Brush, Julie Brush.

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

Jerry moved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2014 regular meeting. John seconded the motion. Carried.

Alice Bliss was present in regard to a hearing on a delinquent water bill. She said that she could pay the bill on March 5. Jerry moved, seconded by John, to allow Alice Bliss until March 5 to pay her water bill. Carried.

Jerry reported that the law enforcement activity will be reported at the next meeting.

Terry reported that he had attended a KDOT meeting at Phillipsburg regarding the bridge replacement south of Downs. The project begin date is March 24 with a completion date of October 31, 2014.

Terry presented a quote from Keezer Construction for the 181 project. Ron Eberle is also submitting a quote. Terry said the bidders had no problem with the city doing the demolition.

Dave Hardy entered.

Terry reported on additional quotes for a jackhammer attachment. No action was taken.

Terry presented a quote from Miller Welding, Inc. for a new 60" deck mower at \$9695.00, less 20% discount of \$1939.00, less trade in of \$4756.00 totaled a cost of \$3,000.00. John moved to allow the city superintendent to trade mower with Miller Welding for a price of \$3,000.00, as per quote. Dave H. seconded the motion. Carried.

Terry will present prices, for trees at the library, at the next meeting.

Tom and Julie Brush had presented a new application for a special use permit to operate a golf cart. Bruce reviewed the rules with Tom and Julie. Jerry moved, seconded by Dave H., to approve the special use permits #14-18 and #14-19. Carried.

John moved, seconded by Dave H., to approve the special use permit renewals #14-16 and #14-17. Carried.

John reported that the fire department did not get the bid on the brush truck. It went for \$10,850.00. The department will keep looking.

Bruce had reviewed the letter of agreement with Wilson & Company. The timeline for compliance is December, 2015. Jerry moved to allow the mayor to sign the Wilson & Co letter of agreement on the industrial waste water treatment facility. John seconded. Carried.

John moved, seconded by Jerry, to approve a solid waste permit #14-49 for Dunstan Trucking. Carried.

Dave D. moved to approve builder's contractor licenses #14-50 for Yoder Painting, and #14-51 for Oviatt Masonry LLC. Jerry seconded. Carried.

Dave D. moved to approve a builder's contractor license #14-52; a plumbing/gas fitting license #14-53; and an electrical license #14-54 for Josh Bowles. Dave H. seconded the motion. Carried.

Bruce asked about dates for the city wide clean up. Council agreed on April 5 with a rain date of April 12. An ad will be in the Downs News and Times.

Dave H. reported that the material had been ordered for the three exam tables at the clinic at \$150.00/each.

Dave D. asked about the water tower maintenance contracts. Bruce had reviewed and Terry had mailed.

Mayor Brush reported that ads will be in the paper March 6 and March 13 for summer help.

Mayor Brush and Bruce had listened to a webinar on annexation.

Bruce reported on the planning commission meeting.

Vouchers/payroll were reviewed and signed. Dave D. moved, seconded by Jerry, to approve the vouchers/payroll as presented. Carried.

At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Brush opened public comment time regarding the sales tax election to be held March 4, 2014. Mayor Brush had prepared a power point presentation regarding the proposition of levying a .5% retailer's sales tax in the city. She noted that the tax would generate approximately \$43,297.00 for the purpose of maintenance and improvement of water, sewer, streets, and emergency services. Mayor Brush reviewed current city projects and expenses such as the water tower/standpipe maintenance; geometric improvement project on Morgan Ave.; and the decommissioning of the industrial wastewater lagoons.

Council heard from Rex Moubry, who said an increase in sales tax would hurt every business in town. Richard Boxum noted the additional revenue that the city would receive with the recent raise in valuation by the county. Duane Miller asked about the use of the old standpipe. Evan Joy asked if the fire ISO number should have lowered with the new 8" water line installation. Brian Sharp commented on the budget. Following the continued comments and discussion, the mayor thanked the citizens for coming.

Jerry moved, seconded by Dave D., to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

Jennifer Brush, Mayor

Vickie Oviatt, Clerk