

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held March 16, 2015, 5:00 p.m. at city hall. Mayor Jennifer Brush presided. Council members present: David Hardy, Jerry Knouf, David Draayer, Teri Cordill, John Cary. Others present: John Bisnette, Tonya Kuhn, Bruce Berkley, Vickie Oviatt, Terry Gradig, Evan Joy, LaRhea Cole, Wayne Krier, Josh Arnoldy, Tristan Schlaefli.

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

John moved, seconded by Teri, to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2015 council meeting. Carried. Jerry abstained.

Bruce reviewed the special use restrictions with new applicant, Wayne Krier. Jerry moved, seconded by Dave H., to approve special use permit #15-13. Carried.

Judy Fiala and Sherry Naasz, Cushing Insurance Agency, were present for the 2015 city insurance renewal. Sherry read the proposed renewal. Following review, John moved, seconded by Jerry, to approve the 2015 renewal of city insurance with Cushing Insurance Agency, with a total premium of \$36,317.00. Carried.

One application was received for code enforcement. Council agreed to interview Ellsworth Brown at the next regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Brush thanked Jim Keezer for eliminating a safety hazard at Jay Bingesser's on Hadley Street. The structure was demolished and the area cleaned up.

Bruce reported that several have not purchased special use permits but are driving. He is looking into decals to identify the year of the permit. Bruce reminded council of the city wide cleanup to be held April 11.

City Superintendent reported that Cody Burda has been helping out over spring break. Calgon is scheduled to inspect the ISEP equipment in the next week. The pool quote for a life guard chair was approved by the insurance company. Teri moved, seconded by Jerry, to allow the city superintendent to order the lifeguard chair "F" in white at a cost of \$1,628.00, plus shipping. Carried.

Terry had checked with insurance requirements and there was no problem in disconnecting phones at the shop and the memorial hall. Council agreed to disconnect these phones. The phone booth at the memorial hall will also be removed.

Terry asked if the council wanted the sidewalks replaced on the east and west sides of Morgan Avenue. He had received bids from Jim Keezer. John moved to allow the city superintendent with Keezer Construction to replace the sidewalks on the east side and west side of Morgan between Railroad Ave. and the railroad tracks at a total cost of \$8400.00 from the street fund. Jerry seconded the motion. Carried.

Terry reported that the Red Cross did not clean up the hall after their blood drive.

Terry reported that oil is needed for street work. Dave H. moved, seconded by Jerry, to approve Terry to order 6,000 gallon of MC800 oil for streets at \$3.07/gal at a total cost of \$18,420.00 delivered, from the general fund street department. Carried.

Council gave permission for Dale Goheen to plant soybeans at the west lagoon area for this year only.

Terry reported that Doug Goetz, Wilson & Co., had submitted the sewer project plans to KDHE. KDHE had not received the loan extension application. John noted that the preliminary report and updated drawings are needed. Mayor Brush will complete the loan application.

Terry gave an update on the 181 geometric project. Bids for the project will be let April 15.

Terry presented a quote from Miller Welding for a new mower. Jerry moved, seconded by Teri, to purchase a new 72" Boss Country Clipper mower from Miller Welding, less the trade in of the 2012 Country Clipper mower for a cost of \$4,500.00, ½ from the parks fund and ½ from the cemetery fund. Carried.

Terry said that he would still like to do the intersection at Third Street and Commercial. Following discussion, John moved, seconded by Jerry, to allow the city superintendent to repair the north ½ of Commercial and Third Street intersection at \$3,282.00 from the street fund. Carried.

Clerk reported that the water quality report has been received and the city had no violations in 2014. The report may be viewed on line.

John reported for the fire department that there is a county wide burn ban on. He asked that reminders of no open burning in Downs be put on the cable channel.

Sherry Knouf, Librarian, requested new appointments to the library board. Mayor Brush appointed Jennifer Bowles for a term of April, 2015 – April, 2019 and Joyce Henke to fulfill the unexpired term of Don Harzman of April, 2013 – April, 2017. John moved to approve the mayor's appointments to the library board. Dave H. seconded. Carried. Jerry abstained.

Jerry moved, seconded by Dave H., to approve 2015 special use permits #15-06; #15-07; #15-08; #15-09; #15-10; #15-11; #15-12; #15-14; #15-15, all effective March 16. Carried.

John moved, seconded by Teri, to approve a builder's contractor license #15-42. Carried.

Dave H. moved, seconded by Teri, to approve a demolition permit for Michael Miller #15-04 and waive the fee. Carried.

Mayor Brush presented a rough draft Agreement for Annexation between Solomon Valley Enterprises Limited Liability Company and the city. Action tabled.

Credit card information was presented. There was a question if the card would be in the city's name or each individual.

Mayor Brush asked the council if they wished to bid on any properties on the tax foreclosure sale to be held April 23. John suggested not competing with the tax payers. If the properties do not sell, the city could approach the county.

Dave H. presented updated information on the clinic equipment expenses. To date, \$1267.08 has been spent.

Jerry reported that the Fink Thomas Committee will be reviewing an application from Little Blessings Child Care.

Teri reported that the Downs Bank group of employees would like to donate a cement slab and picnic table to the memorial park area by the playground. Teri moved, seconded by John, to approve the installation of a cement slab and picnic table at the memorial park and to be paid for by the Downs Bank employees. Carried.

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

Dave D. moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. Dave H. seconded the motion. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

Jennifer Brush, Mayor

Vickie Oviatt, Clerk