

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held April 16, 2018, 5:00 p.m., at city hall. Mayor Justin Towery presided. Council members present: Jane VanDonge, Evan Joy, John Bisnette, Devin Renken, Tonya Kuhn. Others present: Bruce Berkley, Terry Gradig, Ron Duran, Vickie Oviatt, Gary Doane, Jim Cary, Linda Miller, Ces Reinert, Lisa Reinert, Aaron Geist, Landon Lampkin, Kelli Hennes, LaRhea Cole.

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

Tonya moved, seconded by Jane, to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 2, 2018. Carried. John abstained.

Gary Doane, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, was present along with committee members, Ces Reinert, Lisa Reinert, and Aaron Geist. The committee presented a proposal that was given to the Osborne County Commissioners to establish an Osborne County Economic Development Commission. They are asking councils in the communities to support a multi-year interlocal agreement outlining the services and duties to be expected as well as the cities obligation of support for the Economic Development commission. The primary goal is to support local business and industry, bring new opportunities for employment to the area, and provide a reason and resources for people as they return to or chose Osborne County as their home.

Linda Miller, on behalf of the Alumni Association, requested that the council waive memorial hall fees for the banquet during celebration this year. Devin moved, seconded by John, to waive the memorial hall fees for the Downs Alumni banquet, June 23, 2018. Carried.

Linda Miller, Planning Commission Vice-Chairman and business owner, was present to comment about the change being proposed by ordinance #987 regarding the regulation of nuisance vehicles. The ordinance proposes to exempt from regulation, any junked motor vehicles stored in commercial or industrial zones. She asked council to consider the downtown commercial business district where first impressions are formed, and the possibility of nuisance vehicles being stored/parked there.

Jim Cary, Planning Commission member, was also present to question the reason for considering the change. He noted that the person that appeared before council regarding his nuisance vehicle did not request a change, but questioned why he was receiving notice and others in commercial areas were not. Jim noted that the Sheriff's department didn't list Thomas Trucking, where a dozen untagged vehicles are in plain sight. He questioned why the council would change the ordinance, when something is already in force. He suggested that they just enforce the current ordinance for everyone, and not pick and choose.

Landon Lampkin, Pool Mgr., and Kelli Hennes, Assistant Manager, were present to discuss the upcoming pool season. Kelli said that there could be a lifeguard recertification class at the pool May 21-25<sup>th</sup>. Fees are reimbursed by the city at \$180.00 for first time and \$100.00 for recertifications. Pool hours and family passes were discussed.

Bruce reported that Downs Enterprises members will present a report at the next meeting. Bruce said that the memorial hall committee will meet Tuesday night. They are getting closer to submitting a grant application.

Ron Duran reported on dogs at large and trapping skunks.

Terry Gradig, City Superintendent, was directed to contact Wilson & Co. to attend a meeting. The new sidewalk has been completed at the memorial park/ballfield area. Torrie Bros. are painting the pool. Equipment has been removed from the south ballfield. He is waiting on a quote for the memorial hall roof.

Following review of Ordinance #987, amending the nuisance vehicle code, Devin moved to pass Ordinance #987. Evan seconded. Jane, Evan, Devin – Yes; John, Tonya – No. Motion carried.

John moved, seconded by Devin, to approve special use permits #18-23, #18-24, #18-25, and #18-26. Carried.

Evan moved to approve Builder License #18-38. Jane seconded. Carried.

Devin moved to approve Building Permit #18-08. Jane seconded. Carried.

John moved to allow Wilson and Co. to submit the KDOT City Connecting Link Improvement Program Application for Program Fiscal Year 2021. Jane seconded. Carried.

The current ordinance #923, regulating the number of dogs a person can own, was reviewed. There was discussion.

The current Procurement Policy was reviewed. Small purchase procedures were discussed. An update from \$500.00 to \$1000.00 was proposed. City Attorney will prepare an update to the policy for approval.

Industrial Promotion was discussed. Jane asked what Downs Enterprises used the tax money for. Bruce handed out a listing of past projects.

Council reviewed the current Court Fine Schedule.

The Chamber would be willing to help with cost of security cameras for main street. There was discussion of placement, etc. Jane thanked the chamber for the new trash cans.

Jane reported that memorial hall still needs continued cleaning by the Downs Arts Council, and also the stage should be cleaned after each use.

A letter from Don Heiland, Planning Commission Chairman, and a notice of resignation was received from Don Heiland. Devin moved to accept Don Heiland's resignation from the Planning Commission. Evan seconded. Carried.

Vouchers and payroll were reviewed and signed.

Jim Cary reviewed the county ROZ program.

Devin moved, seconded by Evan to approve vouchers and payroll as presented. Carried.

At 8:35 p.m., John moved to recess into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with the mayor, council, and superintendent present. Jane seconded. Carried.

(Remaining minutes taken by Tonya Kuhn)

Terry Gradig left at 8:50 p.m. Regular session resumed at 9:05 p.m.

At 9:05 p.m., Tonya moved to go back into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with the mayor and council present. John seconded. Carried.

At 9:20, regular session resumed.

Tonya moved to approve the updated pay scale for pool employees and summer help. John seconded. Carried.

Evan moved to adjourn at 9:21 p.m. Jane seconded. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

---

Justin Towery, Mayor

---

Vickie Oviatt, Clerk

