

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held April 18, 2016, 5:00 p.m. at city hall. Mayor Jennifer Brush presided. Council members present: Devin Renken, John Bisnette, Tonya Kuhn, Teri Cordill, and John Cary. Also present: Terry Gradig, Bruce Berkley, Ron Duran, Vickie Oviatt, Doug Goetz, Nadine Sigle, LaRhea Cole, Sheri Naasz, Judy Fiala, Evan Joy, John Lemon, and Allen Sumpter.

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

Devin moved, seconded by John B., to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2016 meeting. Carried.

Nadine Sigle, Community Vitality Specialist, was present to introduce a program called First Impressions. This is a program that allows you to see your community through the eyes of a first-time visitor. A team of 2-3 is formed to make a visit to another community unannounced to explore and evaluate appearances, access to services, friendliness, and other community attributes. This provides an outside view of the strengths, areas of concern, and ways a community can improve itself. There are no fees to participate.

Sheri Naasz, Cushing Insurance Agency, updated council on the business auto, and sewer treatment plant/lift station premiums. Tonya moved, seconded by Devin, to approve the 2016 renewal premium after amendments, of \$35,373.00 with the pending change on the sewer treatment plant. Carried.

City Attorney reported that the zoning, for the newly annexed properties, will be processed by the planning commission. Bruce also noted that the council will need to consider changing the code on city election from the first Tuesday in April to November.

Animal Control Officer, Ron Duran, presented animal permits that he had approved for renewal. Devin moved, seconded by Teri, to approve animal permits for Wendell Brummer, Carla Schlatter, Jim and Diana Keezer, and Anna Garey. Carried.

Terry Gradig, City Superintendent, reported on his communication with Calgon regarding problems at the nitrate treatment plant and the difficulties in keeping it running. Doug Goetz, Wilson & Co., said that he asked Calgon what the price would be to take out the old unit and bring in a new. They said it would be \$420,000.00. Doug said that he has explored alternatives and is aware of manufacturers of the fixed bed types. Doug discussed KDHE requirements and grant possibilities. He said that a study needs to be completed for options including the individual home RO units, test wells, etc. Following extensive discussion, it was agreed that Doug would revise the engineering agreement.

Council conducted interviews for the Code Enforcement Officer position. At 6:33 p.m., John C. moved, seconded by John B., to recess into executive session for 10 minutes

for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel with the mayor, council, city attorney, city clerk, and John Lemon present. Carried.

At 6:43 p.m., regular session resumed.

At 6:43 p.m., John C. moved, seconded by Devin, to recess into executive session for 10 minutes for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel with the mayor, council, city attorney, city clerk, and John Lemon present. Carried.

At 6:53 p.m., regular session resumed.

At 6:55 p.m., John C. moved, seconded by Tonya, to recess into executive session for 10 minutes for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel with the mayor, council, city attorney, city clerk, and Allen Sumpter present. Carried.

At 7:05 p.m., regular session resumed.

City Superintendent reported that he is still looking into the possibility of sharing a sewer jetting machine purchase with nearby communities. He has checked with Cawker City and Glen Elder and will check with Osborne.

The Bureau of Reclamation's Special Use Permit authorizing construction of the extension of Railroad Ave., has been reviewed by Bruce. John C. moved, seconded by Teri, to allow the mayor to sign the Special Use Permit 16-LM-60-2650 with the Bureau of Reclamation. Carried.

Terry reported that 10 sample results have been received on the lead and copper testing and all have been under the limit.

Terry has replaced a 1 yard for a 2 yard dumpster at the memorial hall.

Terry asked about waiving the water deposit for the Community Garden water account. John C. moved, seconded by Devin, to waive the water meter deposit for the Community Garden. Carried.

Terry discussed street maintenance on Railroad Ave. in front of the elevator. John C. moved, seconded by John B., to allow the city superintendent to fix a portion of Railroad Avenue between First and Second Streets, not to exceed \$4500.00 from the Special Highway Fund. Carried.

City Clerk reported that the city audit will be conducted on April 26, 2016.

Tonya moved to approve a request from the Park and Recreation Commission for \$3,000.00 and also waive the fees for their end of the year pool party. Teri seconded the motion. Carried.

John B. moved to approve Building Permit #16-10 and Demolition Permit #16-11. Devin seconded the motion. Carried.

John C. moved, seconded by Tonya, to approve Special Use Dealer Permit #16-16. Carried. Devin abstained.

Devin moved, seconded by John B., to waive the memorial hall fees for Rose Valley Church on October 24, 2016. Carried.

Discussion on overnight RV parking on city property was tabled.

Devin discussed the letter of request received from Anita Winkel regarding engine/jake braking in the city limits. Action was tabled for further information.

John B. presented information on new chairs for the council's use. John B. moved to purchase eight new chairs for the city office at \$109.00 each, from Central Office Supply. Devin seconded the motion. Carried.

Tonya reported that Xi Theta Epsilon sorority has been raising funds for Downs parks beautification and will be selecting new playground equipment.

Teri reported on a meeting with Josh Arnoldy, Pool Manager. Josh will be taking an on line Red Cross course for managers @ \$58.00. He would like to open the week end prior to Memorial Day. Teri moved, seconded by Tonya, to leave the pool rates the same as last year: Sr. Citizens (55+) \$40.00; Individual Pass \$70.00; Family Pass (2)-\$90.00, (3)-\$100.00, (4)-\$110.00, (5)-\$120.00; Daily Admission (5 yr+) \$5.00, (4 yr & under) Free; Party Pass \$100.00 & Pay for own lifeguards; Swim lessons \$30.00 per child. Carried.

John C. noted that the March issue of the Government Journal contained the city tax rates.

John C. moved, seconded by Tonya, to pursue the First Impressions Program. Carried.

Vouchers and payroll were reviewed and signed. Devin moved, seconded by John B., to approve the vouchers and payroll as presented. Carried.

At 8:37 p.m., John C. moved, seconded by Tonya, to recess into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with the council and mayor present. Carried.

(Remaining minutes were taken by Jennifer Brush)

9:07pm regular session resumed. John Cary made a motion to offer the code enforcement position to John Lemon at a wage of \$12 per/hour and a \$50 per/month fuel allowance, with a 3 month probationary period, at a max of 20 hours a month. Tonya seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Tonya made a motion to offer Trystan an assistant pool manager position at a wage of \$7.80 per/hour. Teri seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

9:09pm Devin moved to adjourn. John Bisnette seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

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Jennifer Brush, Mayor

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Vickie Oviatt, Clerk

