

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held May 19, 2014, 5:00 p.m. at city hall. Mayor Jennifer Brush presided. Council present: John Cary, David Draayer, Teri Cordill, David Hardy, Jerry Knouf. Also in attendance: Bruce Berkley, Edgar Reinert, Ron Duran, Vickie Oviatt, Terry Gradig, Judy Fiala, LaRhea Cole, Kathy Shellito, Evan Joy.

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

Jerry moved, seconded by John, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 5, 2014 as presented. Carried.

Judy Fiala, on behalf of EMC Insurance and the Cushing Insurance Agency, presented a dividend check to the city in the amount of \$3,143.75.

Information from Claude Warren, code enforcement, was reviewed. Progress was noted on the properties at 1001 Railroad and at the Davis property on Third Street. Bruce suggested a follow up letter be sent.

City Attorney, Bruce Berkley, had contact the railroad's legal department concerning the Railroad Inn. He is waiting on a reply.

Dave Hardy entered.

Ron Duran, Animal Control, asked the council for guidance on the procedure for late dog tag purchases. Bruce will review the procedure and ticket books to be used.

Jay Bingessor, owner of the property at 717 Hadley Street, was present to update the council on the demolition of his structure. Jay said that he had a man tearing it down, who had quit before it was completed. Jay said that he has mowed and sprayed the area. Jerry asked that Jay show some progress, then he would be willing to grant an extension. John suggested that for starters, Jay submit an application for demolition, which Jay agreed to.

Terry Gradig, City Superintendent, reported that the pool has been filled and is ready to open May 24, 2014. He noted that the lifeguard chairs need to be replaced. The tree dump has been relocated to the industrial lagoons and is open to the public. A sign will be put up at the location. He also reported that the trees will be planted at the library on Tuesday. Terry had met with Kyle Railroad about the intersection on Morgan Ave. and no repairs are necessary at this time. Most of the rip rap is removed at the lagoons. It will need to be leveled off for drainage purposes.

City Clerk reported that 148 dog tags have been sold. Past years have averaged over 200. There had been an inquiry if fireworks would be allowed this year. Council noted that right now it appeared they would be allowed, but couldn't guarantee.

Jerry moved, seconded by Dave H., to approve the Downs Chamber of Commerce request to close streets for celebration: Railroad (Morgan to 4th), and Third St.(Commercial to Delay), July 3 through July 6, 2014. Carried.

Jerry moved, seconded by John, to approve a CMB license for Downs Chamber of Commerce for July 3 at 6:00 p.m. through July 6 at 12:00 a.m. Carried.

John moved to approve a special permit for consumption of CMB at Roadside Park, Permit #14-01. Jerry seconded the motion. Carried.

Dave H. moved to approve a building permit for Brandon Behymer, permit #14-08. Teri seconded. Carried.

An application for a special use permit (new) submitted by Bill Berkley was tabled because he could not be present.

John moved, seconded by Dave H., to waive the cost of memorial hall fees on May 31, 2014 for the Rose Valley United Methodist Church youth group. Dave H. seconded the motion. Carried.

Mayor Brush reported that the stone is falling off the clinic and the company has since gone out of business. She asked if Doug Oviatt would take a look at it.

Mayor Brush reported that the Rotary Club has offered to do some cleanup work on the landscaping at the memorial hall as a service project.

An informational letter was received from Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd, accountants regarding their responsibilities in preparing the scheduled audit.

CDBG Housing grant information from Corinna Cox was reviewed.

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

John moved to adjourn the meeting and the mayor and council meet at the west lagoons to view progress and make possible decisions on future work and expenditures. Dave H. seconded the motion. Carried.

(remaining minutes by Jen Brush)

At 6:25 council reconvened the meeting at the site of the old waste water lagoons west of the city. Terry explained the dirt work and process to decommission the lagoons. Dave Hardy made a motion to hire Ron Schlaefli to do dirt work for decommission of the lagoons at \$160 per hour with \$6,400 maximum paid from sewer fund. John seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jerry made a motion to adjourn at 6:42. Teri seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

_____ Mayor

_____ Clerk

