

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held May 20, 2019, 5:30 p.m., at city hall. Mayor John Bisnette presided. Council members present: Jane VanDonge, Charlie Stevens, Evan Joy, Devin Renken, Tonya Kuhn. Others in attendance: Bruce Berkley, LaRhea Cole, Linda Miller, Sheri Naasz, Don Heiland, Bill Cushing, Landon Lampkin, Kent Sullivan, Jim Cary.

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

Devin moved, seconded by Jane, to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 6, 2019. Carried.

Sheri Naasz, on behalf of Cushing Insurance Agency, and EMC Insurance, presented the city a dividend check from the Kansas Municipality Safety Group Program.

Bill Cushing was present to address the council and express his thoughts about the proposed zoning amendment to allow storage buildings in residential areas by special use. He discussed the purpose of zoning to protect the homeowners, the possibility of diminishing the values of houses in town, and running the risk of making the zoning process useless. He asked council to consider the long-term effects before approving this change.

Linda Miller, Planning Commission Chairman, was present to report that the Planning Commission had conducted a public hearing on May 7, 2019 for the purpose of adding a definition of a storage building and allowing them in R-1 zones by special use. There was one favorable comment recorded and one not in favor. Linda noted the members spent many hours reviewing. She presented their recommendations.

Bruce reviewed the proposed ordinance. Bruce reviewed the purpose of zoning. Jim Cary, Planning Commission member, said that he agrees with Bill, but it was the commission's directive to come up with something. He said this would be a major change to residential areas. Don Heiland, Planning Commission member, said that he also agrees with Bill and Jim.

Mayor Bisnette asked the council not to rush into making their decision. Tonya moved to table Ordinance #995 to the first meeting in June. Devin seconded the motion. Carried.

Landon Lampkin, Pool Manager, was present. He plans to open the pool on Saturday, May 25th. He will have a training meeting with the guards on Wednesday this week. He is looking into the purchase of a new spine back board. Landon will check with the Agape Shop for possible funds. Tonya will look into security cameras for the pool. He will be ordering supplies on the credit card. Tonya moved to allow the clerk to contact the State Bank to increase the credit card limit to \$2,000.00. Jane seconded. Carried.

Bruce received the emailed personnel manual for review. Bruce presented a picture of his daughter, Avery, with the newly constructed picnic table that she made in shop class and donated. Bruce presented the fire contract and ordinance.

Evan reported that he had attempted to get the number of fire runs from the fire chief. The townships had requested this information.

Tonya moved, seconded by Jane to pass Ordinance #994. Carried.

Tonya moved to allow the mayor to sign the contract for fire/rescue protection. Jane seconded. Carried.

City Superintendent reported that they had been doing some painting on the city office. The awnings have been ruined by hail damage, and he will present prices and information at the next meeting. New signs have been ordered for the school area. The cemetery was mowed and should be good.

Kent will be getting samples of raw well water for Wilson & Co. They have been doing maintenance work at the pool. The ball park is ready and the fencing is up. A sewer line had to be unplugged at the ballfield. A water leak was repaired. They have been mowing.

Kent discussed the east/west alley between the pool and the park and the speed limit.

Kent will check with the insurance agent concerning what would be required for a bucket truck.

Kent asked council what can be done on with the deterioration on east Commercial Street. There was discussion.

Clerk presented a thank you bag of goodies from Solomon Valley Transportation.

Evan moved, seconded by Jane, to approve special use permit #19-18. Carried.

Devin moved, seconded by Charlie, to waive the memorial hall fees for the Downs Arts Council on May 30th. Carried.

Devin moved, seconded by Jane, to waive the memorial hall fees for the Red Cross. Carried.

Tonya moved to increase the swimming Pool Manager, Landon Lampkin's wage to \$9.75/hour, Assistant Manager, Kelli Hennes at \$9.50/hour, Assistant Manager II, Mason Duskie at \$8.00, returning guards at \$7.85, and 1st year guards at \$7.60. Evan seconded the motion. Carried.

Tonya moved, seconded by Jane, to keep the pool admission rates the same as last year and raise the swim lesson amount to \$35.00/per child. Carried.

Kent discussed the high grass at various properties that are just now receiving notices.

Evan moved to table the fluoride public opinion until January, 2020. Charlie seconded. Carried.

Bruce is working with the Railroad on the extension to east Railroad Ave.

Vouchers and payroll were reviewed and signed.

Devin moved, seconded by Jane, to have Kent install a one-way (east to west) sign at the alley between the pool and the park. Carried.

Devin moved to approve vouchers and payroll as presented. Jane seconded. Carried.

At 7: 45 p.m., Tonya moved to recess into executive session for 30 minutes with the mayor, council, city superintendent, and city attorney present for matters of non-elected personnel. Carried.

(Remaining minutes taken by Tonya)

At 8:00 p.m., regular session resumed.

Tonya moved to change City Superintendent to a salaried position at \$39,000.00 per year. Evan seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

Tonya moved, Jane seconded, to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

John Bisnette, Mayor

Vickie Oviatt, Clerk