

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held June 20, 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 in attendance: Bruce Berkley, Terry Gradig, Vickie Oviatt, LaRhea Cole, and Janice Boland.

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

Tonya moved, seconded by John B., to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2016 meeting. Carried.

Bruce had prepared ordinances #971 amending the zoning map, and #972 relating to the discharge of fireworks. A Charter Ordinance relating to the election of officers, their terms of office, and the transition from April to November elections was presented for council's review.

Bruce had drafted a letter for animal control to use regarding the complaint on number of cats.

Terry had checked on a price for curb and gutter replacement at a residence. If it is torn out the price to replace would be \$20.00/foot. Bruce explained the procedure for tax assessments.

Terry reported that a vehicle had driven through the cemetery knocking down headstones. Law enforcement is investigating.

Council gave approval for temporary no parking zones on Morgan Ave. during celebration.

John C. asked about a camper, at the basketball courts, that is hooked up to water. LaRhea said that it is for Chamber and celebration.

City Clerk presented a thank you note from the girl scouts for the use of the swimming pool. She also noted that the Downs Celebration was listed in the Government Journal city events.

Janice Boland, Osborne County EMS Director, was present to update the council on EMS activity. She presented June and July schedules for Downs. She is still searching for qualified EMT applicants. John C. suggested that Janice approach the commissioners about an increase in the budget for EMS payroll.

John C. moved, seconded by Devin, to pass ordinance #971. Carried.

John B. moved, seconded by Devin, to pass ordinance #972. During discussion time, John C. said that he was opposed to the ordinance due to double the risk for house fires caused by fireworks, and the risk of injuries and fires in the community. Devin presented a list of 131 signatures on a petition for discharge of fireworks July 1 through July 4. Voting yes – Devin, Teri, and John B. Voting no – John C. and Tonya. Motion carried.

Tonya moved, seconded by John B., to approve special use permits #16-24 and #16-25. Carried.

John C. moved, seconded by Teri, to approve CMB license for Alta Convenience. Carried.

Devin moved to approve collection permit #16-48. Tonya seconded the motion. Carried.

Devin moved, seconded by John B., to approve building permit #16-18. Carried.

Tonya moved to waive memorial hall fees for the American Red Cross on July 20, 2016. Devin seconded. Carried.

Tonya moved to approve the mayor to sign the representation letter to Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd, LLC in connection with the audit. John C. seconded the motion. Carried.

Tonya moved to approve setting up an account with Guaranty Bank for processing utility billing collection. Devin seconded. Carried.

Teri reported that the mats have been ordered for the swimming pool.

John C. had visited with Ed Carl about his concern of water standing at the cemetery where a concrete slab has sunken. Terry said that there is no drainage issue.

John C. discussed adding a special line item in next year's budget to provide for tearing down and cleaning up properties.

Vouchers and payroll were reviewed.

John C. left the meeting.

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

At 6:10 p.m., Tonya moved to adjourn the meeting. John B. seconded. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

Jennifer Brush, Mayor

Vickie Oviatt, Clerk

