

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held August 3, 2015, 5:00 p.m. at city hall. Mayor Jennifer Brush presided. Council members present: John Bisnette, Teri Cordill, Devin Renken, and John Cary. Absent: Tonya Kuhn. Also in attendance: Bruce Berkley, Terry Gradig, Vickie Oviatt, LaRhea Cole, Jerry Knouf, Marty Christians, Glennys Doane, Candace Brummer, Ron Duran, Scott Renken.

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

John B. moved, seconded by Devin, to approve the minutes of the July 20 regular meeting and the special meeting of July 22, 2015. Motion carried.

Bruce reviewed the special use regulations with new applicants Devin Renken and Scott Renken. John C. moved, seconded by John B., to approve special use permits #15-32 and #15-33. Carried. Devin abstained.

Glennys Doane and Marty Christians presented a history on the organization of the community garden currently located on property owned by Kuhn's. The garden committee is looking at the possibility of expansion with the options of providing plots for individuals or families to lease as a garden space; a farmer's market area; or as an educational area for youth to learn about food sources. They asked council if the city would be willing to act as a vehicle for funding to flow through for grants. City Attorney Berkley commented that this would not be a problem. They also asked if the council would consider allowing the garden on a city owned lot not presently being used. There was also a possibility for use of privately owned lots. Glennys said that they would need electricity, water, and propane. They also have a donated green house. Mayor Brush said that she thought this is a fantastic idea. Terry noted a couple of city owned properties available. Council will give this some thought and decide at the next regular meeting.

Jerry Knouf, Osborne County Sheriff's Department gave the law enforcement report for the period of July 1, 2015 to August 1, 2015. He had communicated information on the dog bite incident of 7/6/15 to the city attorney.

Ron Duran, Animal Control, reported that 16 tickets relating to dogs have been issued. There will be additional letters and tickets for September court. Mayor Brush mentioned several areas for Ron to check where she has seen numerous feral cats. There has been a reported case of rabies in the county and it could be spread through these cats.

Candace Brummer, Housing Authority Director, reported that Carol Torkelson with NC Regional Planning Commission has completed the HUD environmental review. The review is necessary for any CFP Grants for the years of 2015 through 2019. John C. moved, seconded by John B., to approve the mayor to sign the Environmental Review letter to HUD on behalf of the Downs Housing Authority. Carried.

Terry reported that he had notified the property owners on south Morgan concerning mowing and clean up and they have made some progress. John C. asked Terry to check with the property owner at Roslyn

and Delay where a camper trailer is parked to see how long the person plans to live there. Terry will check the zoning regulations and bring this to their attention.

Terry reported that a semi had destroyed the sidewalk at the corner of Division and Third Street. City Attorney noted that if it was replaced, it should be ADA accessible. Following discussion, council agreed to tear out the sidewalk due to cost and let the owner reseed it.

Terry reported that the geometric improvement project on Morgan Ave. is almost complete. They hope to have it open to traffic before school starts.

Terry noted that two of the seasonal employees, John Hutson and Devin Bergmann, will finish up soon. He would like to extend the season a few months for Cody Burda for some additional street work.

John B. asked about the signage at Third Street and Commercial. Bruce advised to keep the yield sign for right-of-way purposes.

City clerk reminded council of the scheduled special meeting for the budget hearing on August 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Bruce reported that the county budget hearing is August 17, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

John C. moved, seconded by Teri, to approve the 2014 audit as presented. Carried.

Resolution #15-1, authorizing the mayor to execute and file the sewer system loan application, was introduced. Teri moved, seconded by Devin, to adopt Resolution #15-1. Carried.

John C. moved, seconded by John B., to approve building permit #15-19. Carried.

Teri moved, seconded by Devin, to approve building permit #15-20. Carried. John C. abstained.

Bruce presented Ordinance #959, annexing land into the corporate limits of the city, for council review. Action was tabled.

Mayor Brush reported that there is potential for further land owners to enter into an agreement for voluntary annexation. She asked if the council wished to offer the same terms as those previously approved. Council agreed.

At 6:33 p.m., John C. moved to recess into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with the mayor, council, superintendent, clerk, and attorney present. John B. seconded the motion. Carried.

At 6:41 p.m., regular session resumed.

Under council reports, Devin mentioned some tall weeds in back yard fence lines.

John B. reviewed the clinic needs. He reported \$8,544 in donations are still available for use. Chairs are needed for the three exam rooms.

Teri reported the final day for the pool to be open will be August 16.

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

At 7:15 p.m., Teri moved, seconded by Devin, to adjourn the meeting. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

Jennifer Brush, Mayor

Vickie Oviatt, Clerk