

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held November 3, 2014, 5:00 p.m. at city hall. Mayor Jennifer Brush presided. Council members present: David Draayer, Jerry Knouf, Teri Cordill, John Cary, and David Hardy. Also in attendance: Bruce Berkley, Cathy Shellito, Vickie Oviatt, Terry Gradig, LaRhea Cole, Edgar Reinert, Evan Joy, Ron Duran.

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

John moved, seconded by Teri, to approve the minutes of the council meeting of October 20, 2014. Carried.

Jerry reported for law enforcement that Halloween was quiet.

Dave Hardy entered.

Mayor Brush reported that she had received a letter from Claude Warren. He submitted his resignation as code enforcement officer effective October 31, 2014. Jerry moved, seconded by John, to accept code enforcement officer Claude Warren's resignation effective October 31, 2014. Carried. Mayor Brush asked the council to think about what action they would like to take to fill this position.

City Attorney reported that there were seven properties in Downs coming up on the county's tax foreclosure sale. A citizen complaint had been received on one of the properties. Bruce will contact both the owner of the property and the complainant. Bruce reminded council of the city's land sale on Monday, November 10th at the memorial hall, 7:00 p.m. Council discussed removing the rock at the old tree dump. John moved, seconded by Jerry, that at the land auction of the old tree dump site, it be announced that the city will retain the quartzite rock and move it within one year from the auction date. Carried.

Ron Duran, Animal Control, reported that he has an upcoming court case and he has sent out letters for delinquent dog tags. Jerry said that in the last week, late night, there has been a Husky dog at large.

City Superintendent reported that Harold Schleicher, KDOT, did not approve the "no right turn" sign for the trucks on Commercial. Terry said that the tree dump area has been cleaned up of trees and debris. Terry had delivered Keezer Construction price quotes to Co-op and Scoular for pavement and curb. The estimate for Midway Co-op was \$74,351.50; and for Scoular \$94,707.00. Terry said the trucks are over loaded and tearing up the streets. Mayor Brush asked if the project is completed by the city, what portion of the project is highest priority.

December 10th will be the water certification exam date for Josh Hofflinger and Brandon Behymer. Terry will provide details and cost at the next meeting.

Terry visited with Doug Goetz, Wilson & Co., concerning new sewer lines to service the industrial area the proposed annexation area. Doug will present information at the next meeting.

Terry said that the city crew has been sweeping streets, patching streets, and doing some dirt work at the west lagoons.

City Clerk read a thank you note from Breast Friends Foundation regarding the waived fees for the memorial hall.

John reported that the fire department has completed the annual hose and pump tests.

Jerry moved, seconded by Dave H., to approve building contractor's license #14-64. Carried.

John moved, seconded by Teri, to approve building permit #14-28. Carried. Jerry abstained.

John moved, seconded by Teri, to approve building permits #14-27; #14-29; #14-30. Carried.

Regarding the proposed annexation, city attorney has sent information for the land survey to Schwab-Eaton.

Dave D. has prepared five options for water and sewer rates for the council. He had no recommendation. Action tabled.

Mayor Brush reported for the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission passed a motion to send a recommendation to the council for accessory building approval. The planning commission will still need to conduct a public hearing on the change in zoning, but asked for council's approval to move forward. John said that he sees problems including the entire town, and suggested doing just the south end of town where there are more vacant lots. He thought it was a good start, but more specifics are needed. Teri commented that she didn't think it should be allowed in just part of the town, and favored including the entire town. Action tabled.

Mayor Brush noted that the downskis.net website has been rebuilt with new software.

John reported that he had visited with the railroad representative again concerning removal of the stock pile of railroad ties. The fire department is also aware of the concern.

Vouchers and payrolls were reviewed and signed. Dave D. moved, seconded by Dave H., to approve the payrolls and vouchers as presented. Carried.

At 6:50 p.m., John moved to recess into executive session for thirty minutes to discuss confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships with the mayor, council, and attorney present. Dave H. seconded the motion. Carried.

At 7:20 p.m., regular session resumed.

Dave H. moved to adjourn at 7:21 p.m. Jerry seconded. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

Jennifer Brush – Mayor

Vickie Oviatt - Clerk

