

Regular meeting of the mayor and council was held November 17, 2014, 5:00 p.m. at city hall. Mayor Jennifer Brush presided. Council members present: John Cary, Jerry Knouf, Teri Cordill, David Draayer, David Hardy. Others present: Terry Gradig, Bruce Berkley, Vickie Oviatt, Cathy Shellito, LaRhea Cole, Edgar Reinert, Mike Slipke, Chase Weis.

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

John moved, seconded by Jerry, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 3, 2014. Carried.

John moved, seconded by Teri, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held November 11, 2014. Carried. Dave D. abstained.

Jerry presented the law enforcement report for the period of October 1 – November 1, 2014.

Mayor Brush noted that she appreciates the library reports that are submitted monthly.

Bruce had made contact with a couple of possibilities for code enforcement. Mayor Brush said that it had been suggested that the council divide the duties, each taking a section of town. Bruce said this could be a conflict of interest. Council agreed to advertise for the position.

Bruce will prepare a resolution regarding the sale of farm ground.

Dave H. entered.

Terry reported that Johnson Service will be jetting sewer lines on Tuesday. Jerry moved, seconded by Dave H., to allow the city superintendent to have Johnson Service jet the sewer lines at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.00. Carried.

Terry reported that Doug Goetz with Wilson & Co., is working on a plan for sewer in the industrial park and proposed annexation.

Terry reported that Josh and Brandon will be taking the certification test on December 10th and 11th at a cost of \$140.00/each. John moved, seconded by Teri, to have the city superintendent send Josh Hofflinger and Brandon Behymer to Emporia for water certification and cover the cost of training, testing, mileage, meals, and motel on December 10 and December 11th. Carried.

Jerry moved, seconded by John, to approve city licenses #15-01 through #15-12 inclusive, and #15-13 subject to the insurance company listing the city as the certificate holder. Carried.

Teri moved, seconded by Jerry, to approve a Christmas bonus the same as last year of \$300.00 scrip for full time and \$150.00 for part time. Carried.

Dave D. reported that he thought there might be some misinformation out about the proposed additional water charges for customers outside the city limits. Dave explained the proposals. Mayor Brush said that she would like to see the council leave the water rates the same for those inside the city limits. Following review and discussion of options, John moved to approve the water rates at

\$1.75/1,000 gal. over the minimum for everyone and that the surcharge for water outside city limits be an additional \$34.00 and an additional sewer surcharge for outside city limits of \$37.00. Motion died for the lack of a second.

John moved to pass Ordinance #956. Dave H. seconded the motion. Carried.

Teri reported on a complaint she had received on overgrown weeds.

John reported that the railroad is removing the pile of railroad ties.

Mayor Brush reported that Brush Art donated a new sign at the gazebo park. Mayor Brush reported that Don Heiland represented Downs at the annual NWKP&DC meeting in Hill City.

Mayor Brush had received a letter from KDHE regarding the revolving loan funds. Terry can check with Doug Goetz regarding these funds.

Vouchers and payroll were reviewed. John moved to refund the memorial hall rent to Breast Friends in the amount of \$100.00. Dave H. seconded the motion. Carried.

Dave D. moved, seconded by Jerry, to approve the payroll and vouchers as presented. Carried.

Chase Weis was present regarding the lease for the cemetery farm ground. Bruce said that Meryl Garey would need to write out a lease termination letter to the city before it could be transferred to Chase. Bruce has prepared a farm lease.

At 6:20 p.m., John moved, seconded by Jerry, to recess into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships with the mayor, attorney, and council present. Carried.

At 6:35 regular session resumed.

At 6:35 p.m., John moved to go back into executive session for another 20 minutes to discuss confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships with the mayor, attorney and council present. Dave H. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Regular session resumed at 6:55 p.m. Dave D. made a motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Jerry seconded. Motion passed.

Jennifer Brush – Mayor

Vickie Oviatt – Clerk

