

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on September 10, 2012, at 6:00 p.m., at the Riverside Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Shirley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed the Boy Scouts from Troop 55 to the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Shirley, Council Members Becker, Kilby, Stewart, French, Wicoff, Franklin, Toland and Ford were present. Also present were Administrator Slaugh, Attorney Apt and City Clerk Hutton.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Kilby and seconded by Council Member Franklin to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Donna Houser spoke about the purchasing policy, commending the council members for trying to save the taxpayers money, however she wanted the council to reconsider the bidding process giving higher priority to those businesses that pay taxes within the city or county. She mentioned some of the businesses that have provided items to non-profit groups for nothing or at their cost.
- Mark Kauth was again present from the Iola High School Booster to assure that they would be able to shoot off fireworks at the football field for home games as long as the burn ban is lifted and they comply with Iola Fire Department guidelines. The council was in agreement that they could shoot off the fireworks at the home games as long as they comply with the guidelines.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval – August 27, 2012

B. Appropriations Approval – 2012-17

C. Personnel Action Items –

- **Chi Wiggin – Clerk’s Office – 6 Month Evaluation EMS Biller**
- **Carol West – Clerk’s Office – Retirement**
- **Clint Johnson – Code Services – New Hire**
- **Susie Call – Court - Retirement**

A motion was made by Council Member Stewart and seconded by Council Member Becker to approve the consent agenda adding Susie Call – retirement to the personnel

action forms and clarifying in the minutes the name of the park on page 7 to Elm Creek Park South. All in favor. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Recreation Department – Weather Policy At the previous meeting recreation staff presented a weather policy for your review and adoption. The policy has been modified based on council's recommendation to reflect the top end limit for recreational activities at 105-degree heat index. Motion made by Council Member Toland to approve the weather policy for the recreation department. Motion seconded by Council Member Franklin. Council Member French wanted to assure that there was not a discrepancy in the usage of the words degrees and heat index. Council Member Becker would like for the department to obtain some lightning policies from other cities and bring back to the council for further review at a later time. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Electric Generation – South Wind Energy Group – Scott Shreve – Scott Shreve informed the council that he will be bringing a recommendation on the Southern Star transportation contract that expires October of 2013. Scott's recommendation is to give our one-year notice to cancel the current contract to see if the other contract options would be a better financial decision for the city. Scott Shreve was present to discuss the agreement that the cities of Chanute, Sabetha, Iola, Fredonia, Centralia and Arcadia have drafted with Westar Energy Inc to provide transportation of energy to the above mentioned cities. Council Member French asked what the cost difference would be between our current KPP contract and this contract as part of the South Wind Energy Group. Scott did not have those figures available, however he will get those figures to Carl and he will email them to the council. One of the major differences with this contract versus the KPP contract is that the city can participate in peak shaving to lower our costs. The city has the power to control their costs. Mayor Shirley asked what we should be looking at for the future of the city as far as generation goes. Scott replied that the city needs to make a decision on extra power, either replacing the steam generators that were destroyed in the flood of 2007 with Wartsila engines or securing power from another source. Council Member Toland stated that he would like to see staff and Scott Shreve work together to come up with some options and bring back to the council prior to the end of the year. Motion made by Council Member Becker to approve the draft agreement with Westar Energy Inc and authorize the mayor to sign the necessary documents. Motion seconded by Council Member Stewart. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Housing Rehabilitation Grant – Shonda Jefferis- Administrator Slauch introduced new Code Enforcement Officer, Shonda Jefferis. Shonda was present to ask for the council to authorize the mayor to execute the notice of award to D&D Construction for the rehabilitation projects for 321 S Third and 215 S First as part of the CDBG grant. Discussion centered around how the target area was chosen and

how the city can reach more homeowners to participate in the program. Council Members Toland and French volunteered to go door-to-door if this would help get the word out. Shonda has sent out notices where new tenants are occupying the homes in the area. Shonda noted that four bids were received and staff is asking that council accept the lowest of the four bids received. Motion made by Council Member Becker to authorize the mayor to execute the notice of award for the projects at 321 S Third and 215 S First accepting the bid from D&D Construction, which was the lowest of four bids received. Motion seconded by Council Member Franklin. All in favor. Motion carried. Council Member French stated at a previous meeting and restated it at this meeting that the city needs to be proactive on houses in poor condition so we can prevent demolition if at all possible. Council Member Franklin asked what gets done on the homes. Shonda stated that it is a case by case basis. They identify the needs of the house and work with a maximum budget of \$20,000 per home. Council Member Toland stated that it would be a good idea to put a sign up in front of the homes that are being worked on at the time to draw attention to the program.

C. LKM Voting Delegates – The annual meeting of the League of Kansas Municipalities is scheduled for October 6-8, 2012 in Topeka. The City of Iola is allowed two voting delegates determined by population size to participate in the business and policy session Monday afternoon, October 8th. Motion made by Council Member Stewart to appoint primary voting delegates Carl Slaugh and Mayor Shirley. Secondary delegates Roxanne Hutton and Joel Wicoff. Motion seconded by Council Member Wicoff. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. Future Meeting Dates - Discussion – The following dates are observed holidays in which city offices will be closed that also happen to be scheduled council meeting dates. November 12th – Veterans Day and December 24th and December 25th – Christmas Holiday. Staff would recommend moving the November 12th meeting to November 13th and asking for council input on a date for rescheduling the meeting around the Christmas Holiday. Discussion centered on the December dates and possibly cancelling the meeting all together or moving it to the Thursday prior. Not holding a second meeting in December could create issues with possible budget amendments and or accounts payable approvals. Council will look at their calendars and make a decision at the next meeting.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Allen County Hospital Update – Harry Lee – Harry Lee, Allen County Hospital Board Member and Sheldon Streeter, Murray Company construction manager of the project was present to give an update on construction of the new hospital. The parking lot will be poured within the next two weeks and will be the last big concrete pour. The focus will then be on getting the roof done and covering in the building so weather will not play a role in construction. Harry Lee noted that some actual costs had come in under bid price, so the committee has chosen to upgrade some of the material with the cost differences. Council Member French commended the hospital board for making those changes. Council Member Becker

noted that the city has not had good experience with roof jobs and hopes that the board works closely to assure that the roof is done properly and with the best materials. Sheldon Streeter noted that the manufacturer of the roof material will come on site to assure that the roof was installed properly prior to giving a warranty on the roof. Mayor Shirley asked City Clerk Hutton for an accounting of the funds that have been given to the hospital to date from the ¼ cent sales tax dedicated to the new hospital build. City Clerk Hutton reported that \$326,333.47 has been sent from sales tax received from April 2011 to June 2012.

B. Fire/EMS Discussion – Review of the EMS Systems Analysis of Allen County was sent to the council earlier via email. The report looked at resources, responses, strengths, and weaknesses within both systems and then came up with three recommendations: Option one - one entity for all of Allen County, Option two – remain status quo, and option three – use a third party service for all of Allen County. It appears the intent of entering discussions was to come up with areas of cooperation to reduce expenses. Essentially one operation could cover the entire county, thus saving close to \$1 million per year. Ron Conaway, EMS Director stated that he and Jason Nelson, Allen County EMS Director, are working together to come up with an option that would benefit the entire county. Council Member French would like a report to the council showing what the city would lose and or gain if we lost the EMS service to the county and what the city would lose and or gain if we took over the entire county EMS service. Mayor Shirley reminded the group that an agreement was signed when the city agreed to give the county the ¼ cent sales tax for the hospital that there would be a 5 year moratorium on ambulance decisions. Council Member Toland encouraged Ron Conaway to work with Jason Nelson to come to some agreement.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Mayor Shirley –

- Inquired as to when the next city wide cleanup would be due to several inquiries about the downed limbs from last Friday's storm. Administrator Slauch noted that the next pickup will be held the week of October 1-5th. The city tried to spot pick up large limb piles that were out today, however the cleanup week in October will be the next available date for limb pickup.
- Informed the council that the Buster Keaton celebration will be held at the end of the month. This event draws a lot of people to the community bringing in a lot of tourism dollars.
- Inquired about the status of the purchasing policy revisions. Administrator Slauch stated that he and Corey have reviewed changes and staff has been asked to submit their changes. The revised policy will be brought to the September 24th meeting for council review.

B. Council Member Stewart –

- None

C. Council Member Ford –

- None

D. Council Member Wicoff –

- None

E. Council Member Franklin –

- None

F. Council Member Kilby –

- None

G. Council Member Becker –

- None

H. Council Member Toland –

- Informed the council of the Portland/Dally Marathon that will take place on November 3rd. The 26.2 mile run will begin in downtown Chanute and end in downtown Iola bringing in approximately 200 people to the area. Thrive will be requesting staff's assistance with some street closures.
- Complimented street and alley crew for painting the curbs and installing the crosswalk signs, however the city needs to look at investing in curbing around schools to adhere with ADA requirements. City Administrator Slaugh stated that it is current city policy that sidewalk upgrades are the responsibility of the adjoining landowner. Staff will continue to look at obtaining safe routes to school grant.
- Inquired about the lights not working properly at the rail trail intersection on State Street. Administrator Slaugh stated they are still under warranty and staff is working with the company to get the lights working properly.

I. Council Member French –

- Stated that he has requested the Iola Firefighters Union Representative to attend the next council meeting to listen to them about the city accepting the union collective bargaining agreement; would like for council to research the union and come with an open mind.
- Looked into some private ambulance billing companies and on the surface it looks like they have a pretty good collection rate; would like staff to talk to cities that use them and see if they feel it is beneficial to them.

J. Administrator Slaugh –

- Employee Health Fair October 8th
- Review of goals and priorities
- Human Resources Director – have advertised to fill this position.

- Infrastructure and CIP List – reviewed with the council, will look at budgeting and possible grant money for the items. All projects will obtain council approval prior to starting.
- Alzheimer’s Group Request – October 13th
- Cox Programming Letter
- Gas System Inspection –KCC Letter- commended Mitch Phillips and his staff for a great report.
- Municipal Court Report – August 2012
- Council Member Stewart inquired about the status of code services moving across the street. Administrator Slaugh informed the council that lines were run by the electric crew and Advantage computer will be here this week to run the Cad five lines for internet, phone and server connection.
- Council Member Toland asked how many layers are added to the street through the chip and seal process before a mill and overlay is done. Administrator Slaugh noted that staff looks at each section prior to doing chip and seal for that area to see if mill and overlay is needed.
- Council Member Toland inquired about the extra lots at Cedarbrook. Assistant Administrator Corey Schinstock informed the council that Tom Carlson has indicated he would still be interested in putting an option to purchase in on the remaining lots. Council Member Toland stated he would like Corey to find out where Mr. Carlson stands today.
- Personnel Manual – Will ask for feedback from the employee task force and then bring back to the council in January for approval.
- Municipal Code needs some updated legal language. This process will take a couple of years to accomplish. Staff will start looking at updating it following the approval of the personnel manual.
- Will look at the health insurance rates next month since it is up for renewal.
- Iola Industries is looking at a commitment from the county, city and Iola Industries to hire an economic development person supported equally by the entities.

Mayor Shirley declared a six-minute break.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Attorney/Client Matters - Litigation 7:55 p.m.

K.S.A.75-4319

Motion was made by Council Member Stewart and seconded by Council Member Kilby to recess into “Executive Session” for the purpose of conducting a meeting to discuss Attorney / Client Matters – litigation. All in favor. Motion carried. Present: Mayor Shirley, Council Members, Administrator Slaugh and Attorney Apt. The open meeting to resume in the Council Room at 8:10 p.m.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday September 24th 2012

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday, October 8th 2012

ADJOURNMENT

8:14 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Kilby and seconded by Council Member Wicoff to adjourn the meeting. As the vote was unanimous, the meeting was declared adjourned.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 24th day of September 2012.

Mayor, William A. Shirley

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton