

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on April 8, 2013, 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.

ROLL CALL

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

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval - March 25th

B. Appropriations Approval – 2013-07

C. Personnel Action Items –

- **Ronald Ballard – Fire Department – Annual Evaluation**
- **Jared Warner – Police Department – Annual Evaluation**
- **Brandon Westerman – Street & Alley – Annual Evaluation**
- **Denise Schomaker – Municipal Court – 6 Month Evaluation**
- **Clint Johnson – Code Enforcement - Resignation**

Council Member French asked about the appropriation for Iola Animal Clinic where we paid for surgery on a cat. Code Enforcement Officer Shonda Jefferis informed the council that the cat was taken to Dr. Knewtson because it was declawed, tame and appeared domesticated. Council Member French wondered if the city could pass these vet costs onto the owner if they claim the pet. This topic will be discussed at a future meeting. Motion made by Council Member Franklin to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Becker. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. National Volunteer Week Proclamation – Donna Houser – Donna Houser was unable to be at the meeting. Mayor Shirley read the proclamation and declared April 21-27 as National Volunteer Week. Mayor Shirley asked that the council thank volunteers as they see them.

B. CDBG Request for Payment –Requests for payments of four houses that were completed were presented to the council for approval. The houses are located at 402 S First, 203 S Second, 311 S First and 215 S First with a total amount of \$89,043. Code Enforcement Officer Shonda Jefferis gave a brief overview on the work that was done on the houses. Code Enforcement Officer Shonda Jefferis informed the group that there are three houses to be completed with the remaining funds. Mayor Shirley asked how much it currently costs to tear down a house. Code Enforcement Officer Jefferis stated that on average for a single story or a small two story \$3,500. Motion made by Council Member French and seconded by Council Member Franklin to approve the payment request. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Mill & Overlay Project 2013 – Bid Acceptance – The only bid received for the projects was from SeKan Asphalt Services in the amount of \$219,040.39. \$140,000 was budgeted for this project Assistant Administrator Schinstock explained that funding for the project would come from the current budget amount of \$140,000, from the major projects fund, \$14,762.89 and \$64,277.50 from the federal funding exchange program. Council Member Toland inquired about the possibility of adding a curb cut with a ramp on Broadway and Jefferson as part of the project. Assistant Administrator Schinstock stated that the Street & Alley crew would be able to do that in house. Motion made by Council Member Toland to approve the mill and overlay project with the inclusion of the curb cut at Broadway and Jefferson. Motion seconded by Council Member French. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. City Engineer – Consultant - Discussions – Currently the city does not have a designated city engineer or firm to provide routine support. Staff is requesting to solicit requests for qualifications and select a firm and engineer to be called upon when assistance is needed. Motion made by Council Member Toland and seconded by Council Member Becker to allow staff to solicit for a firm and engineer to perform routine engineering services. All in favor. Motion carried.

E. Iola Municipal Band – Contract Renewal – The Iola Municipal Band has been performing each Thursday during the summer months for many years. In 2001 the amount paid for their performances was \$5,200, increased to \$5,900 in 2005 and in 2009 to \$6,500. The band will perform nine evening concerts on the square beginning June 6th through August 1st and also perform for the annual Memorial Day ceremony at Highland Cemetery on May 27th. The band is requesting \$6,500 again this year. Motion made by Council Member Stewart and seconded by Council Member Kilby to approve payment of \$6,500 to the Iola Municipal Band for their continued performances on the Courthouse square for the 2013 season. All in favor. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Bicycle Lanes Grant – David Toland – Council Member Toland noted that after he and Assistant Administrator Schinstock looked at the streets in question they have determined that Washington Street would fit the parameters, therefore THRIVE is requesting to use Washington Street from Broadway to Vine as a demonstration project

marking the bicycle lane on the outside of the designated parking area. Council Member Kilby wondered why we couldn't go ahead and continue the marking down Vine to the park. Council Member Toland stated that the street is not wide enough without removing the parking area on the street. The other option is to paint the bicycle symbol on the streets to remind motorists that bicycles share the streets. Council Member Wicoff noted that he would like to see signs designating Iola as a bicycle friendly town without marking the streets. Council Member Wicoff has concerns about the bicycles riding on the outside of the parking lane and vehicles opening their car doors into the bicyclists or pulling out right into that lane. Council Member Becker wondered why we couldn't make the sidewalks wider to allow for both pedestrians and bicyclists. Council Member Ford stated that educating the community that bikes are there would be a big part of the project. Council Member Toland stated that the city could request the Kansas Bike Coordinator with KDOT to help design the bike lane on Washington. Council Member French would also like the council to reconsider the previously passed ordinance that allows bikes on the sidewalks in the downtown area.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Wastewater System Improvement Project – Public Hearing – At 7:03 p.m. Mayor Shirley called the public hearing to order. No public comments were made. Mayor Shirley closed the public hearing. The project will continue as previously approved.

B. Elm Creek Park South – David Toland – Don Britt wants to donate an old piece of machinery that was part of the brick plant that was near the Elm Creek Park South. Jim Smith and Don Britt will clean up and paint the machine to put in the Elm Creek Park South for historical purposes. They are asking for assistance from city staff to move it from its current location to the park. Motion made by Council Member French and seconded by Council Member Franklin to accept the gift and have city staff assist in the moving. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. PSRT Trail Head – Discussions – Staff presented a cost analysis of putting a trail head south of US Highway 54. This area could also be used during soccer and football events at the athletic fields as well. Staff is recommending that this item be a part of the 2014 budget discussions since this item is currently not budgeted. Council Member French would like to have a cost of putting bathrooms in this area. Council would like to see this item added to the 2014 budget.

D. Permanent Banner Poles – Discussions – Staff presented a price estimate to put permanent banner poles on the east and west ends of town. Staff is awaiting KDOT approval. The council noted that it would be a good way for nonprofits to advertise their events. A policy would need to be drawn up which would include a nominal fee for hanging the banner. Council would like staff to bring back to a future meeting following KDOT's approval and a policy.

E. EMS Discussions – Administrator Slaugh noted that the next joint meeting will take place on May 6th if the county commissioners agree to that date and the ad hoc committee is ready to present options.

F. Economic Development Policy – Discussions – Staff is looking for some direction on preparing an Economic Development Policy to offer incentives to future retail or industrial business operations. Council Member Toland noted that there are limited tools available to support smaller businesses. The City of Chanute has a revolving loan fund that seems to be working well for them. Council Member French noted that offering the neighborhood revitalization to the new restaurant coming to town was a good idea. Administrator Slaugh stated that state law has limits on what municipalities can offer to incoming business. Council Members wondered if there was a economic development fund could the utilities for incoming businesses be paid out of that fund.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Mayor Shirley –

- Congratulated all election winners and thanked those that took the time to run. Thanked the council for showing courtesy to him and all of their support.
- Reported that the Kansas legislature is looking into passing a law that would allow those with a concealed carry permit to enter governmental offices with their weapons unless the office has sufficient security at the door such as a metal detector. He advised the council to continue to monitor this legislation.
- Wondered if the council could do anything about Cedarbrook Estates changing their rules to allow individuals under the age of 55 to move into their housing units.
- Will be visiting with Danny Foust a fifth grader that wrote a letter to the mayor about improvements he would like to see at the skate board park.

B. Council Member Stewart –

- None

C. Council Member Ford –

- Thanks to the city employees that helped with the MOMS group that was held at the park this past Saturday.
- Aggie Day at the College was held last Thursday. A lot of individuals were in town and it was a very interesting event.
- Thanked Mr. Shirley for his service.

D. Council Member Wicoff –

- None

E. Council Member Franklin –

- Wanted to explain why she voted no at the last meeting to allow Dean Development 15 years to pay the city for the property. Felt like the council members should have discussed it more and weighed their options prior to voting. Concerned about the fact

that the city will have no collateral against this debt. Hopes that the city attorney draws up an airtight contract so that the city recoups their money.

F. Council Member Kilby –

- Wanted to thank the staff, citizens and Mayor Shirley for their support during his tenure as council member.

G. Council Member Becker –

- Thanked Mr. Shirley for his dedication and respect to the country by saying the Pledge of Allegiance prior to every meeting and having someone pray over each meeting.

H. Council Member Toland –

- Farmers Market starts this Thursday.
- Encourage council to pursue an ordinance to not allow pseudoephedrine without a prescription to help combat meth manufacturing.
- Encouraged the council to continue to work with Allen County to lay a sidewalk out to the hospital.
- Encouraged the council to set aside money for the next year's budget to purchase a new trolley for the city. The current one was a used one when the city obtained it and it has been very successful.
- Encouraged the council to look at the \$500,000 that was budgeted in 2012 for the downtown streetscape and not spent.

I. Council Member French –

- There was a proposal a few years ago to put the phrase "In God We Trust" at city hall and as far as he knows it has not happened would like Mayor Shirley to continue working towards this effort.
- Would like to look into funding a way to correct the State Street drainage issue.
- Wondered what happened with the proposal with the National Guard and exchanging land with them for the old IGA property. Administrator Slauch noted that the city had no property to exchange; an agreement has been made between the Guard and Iola Industries.
- Would like to review the snow policy again. The city needs to have a friendlier policy and give the merchants a copy of the policy so they are aware of what is expected of them.
- Would like to review the ordinance concerning rubbish in the yard. Giving individuals 10 day notice and they clean it up right on the 10th day and then continue to accumulate again should not be allowed.

A. Administrator Slauch –

- Voiced his appreciation for the outgoing council members and the mayor. Mayor Shirley has been a great supporter and has given him great feedback.
- Wondered how the council felt about participating in funding a lobbyist for the 169 corridor. Will bring back to a future meeting.
- Will send out an email reminder of the upcoming LKM Governing Body Institute.

- Presented KMU Board Delegates Carl Slaugh with Mike Phillips as an alternative. Motion to approve the delegates to the KMU Board was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wicoff. All in favor. Motion carried.

8:10 p.m. Mayor Shirley declared a five-minute break.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –Real Estate/Trade Secrets 8:15 p.m. K.S.A.75-4319

Motion was made by Council Member Toland and seconded by Council Member Franklin to recess into “Executive Session” for the purpose of conducting a meeting to discuss Real Estate/ Trade Secrets. All in favor. Motion carried. Present: Council Members, Administrator Slaugh, The open meeting to resume in the Council Room at 8:25 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –Real Estate/Trade Secrets 8:25 p.m. K.S.A.75-4319

Motion was made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Becker to recess into “Executive Session” for the purpose of conducting a meeting to discuss Real Estate/ Trade Secrets. Voting in favor of the motion were council members: Becker, Ford, Wicoff, Kilby and French. Motion carried. Present: Council Members, Administrator Slaugh, The open meeting to resume in the Council Room at 8:30 p.m.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday, April 22nd, 2013

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday, May 13th, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

8:35 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Toland 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 22nd day of April 2013.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton