

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on July 8, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., at the Riverside Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Wicoff called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Wicoff, Council Members Becker, Zornes, Shaughnessy, Franklin, Ford, Myrick, French and Wells were present. Also present were Administrator Slaugh, and City Clerk Roxanne Hutton.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Donna Houser informed the group that the elephant slide will be in the parade of lights for the Mad Bomber Race this weekend. Herb Sigg furnished all of the paint, Utley's Body Shop painted the base, Williams Monument cleaned off the old paint, Lois Murray painted the details and Berkley Kerr and members of his department moved it from place to place. 10:00 a.m. Monday a picture will be taken for the newspaper if anyone would like to participate.

Thanked Council Member Myrick for attending the Safe Base trip to Colorado, this was an experience those children will never forget and she applauded all those that participated.

Thanked the council for the tourism money for the CITF/PRIDE committee.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval - June 24, 2013

B. Appropriations Approval – 2013-13

C. Personnel Action

- **Jason Ellis – Street & Alley – Annual Evaluation**
- **Kevin Appling – Electric Production – Promotion**
- **Jeremy Ellington – Fire Department – 6 Month Evaluation**
- **David Shelby – Police Department – 12 Month Evaluation**
- **Brandon Andres – Police Department – 12 Month Evaluation**
- **Michael Aronson – Police Department – Annual Evaluation**
- **Danny Rodriguez – Police Department – Annual Evaluation**
- **Mike Phillips – Electric Production – Annual Evaluation**

D. Board Appointments

- **Connie Prock – Iola Housing Authority**

Motion made by Council Member French to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion seconded by Council Member Franklin. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. EMS Merger Proposal – County Commissioners Tom Williams, Dick Works, Jim Talkington and County Counselor Alan Webber were in attendance. Commissioner Williams presented the council with a proposal for the City of Iola to take over EMS services for the entire county. Council Member Myrick asked about the rent at Humboldt and Moran Ambulance Stations. Mr. Webber stated that the current rent at each of the Moran station is \$4,200 per year and Humboldt is \$1.00 per year; however Humboldt is looking at building a new site and would possibly be interested in paying this cost knowing that a type I service will remain in the city. Council Member Wells inquired about the capital outlay budget and what would happen with the money that is in this fund if the agreement is ever terminated. Commissioner Williams stated that it would remain with the county. Commissioner Works stated that his goal was to improve the quality of service throughout the county and he feels that Iola has stepped up to the plate and he hopes that the level of service continues. Council Member French wondered if the hospital peer review process that is in affect could also handle the EMS peer review. The Commissioners felt like it could be handled amongst the current staff. Council Member Myrick asked why the agreement called for only one biller and why Terry Call. Commissioner Williams stated that the only reason that he was chosen is because he currently is bringing in more revenue and he will remain a county employee. Council Member Myrick asked Commissioner Works how Humboldt feels about this service. Commissioner Works stated that they are wanting to be assured that they will received the same type I quality of service as they are receiving now. Mayor Wicoff had some concerns with the city having no jurisdiction over the buildings in Moran and Humboldt. The commissioners stated that both cities have stated they are willing to put money into new buildings. Motion made by Council Member Franklin to table this item until the next meeting allowing time for the city attorney to review the contract and advise the council. Motion seconded by Council Member Wells. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Dangerous/Unsafe Structures – Shonda Jefferis –

- **402 S 4th – Resolution Public Hearing**
- **432 S 4th – Resolution Public Hearing**
- **307 E Irwin – Resolution Public Hearing**

Shonda Jefferis stated that none of the properties are occupied and all owners will be notified of the public hearing and it will be published. Council Member French stated it would be helpful to have pictures of the properties to see what shape they are in. Motion made by Council Member French and seconded by Council Member Becker to approve a resolution to hold a public hearing for the properties listed. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Banner Hanging Policy – The policy was presented to the council. Council Member French thought a nominal fee of \$25 to put it up and \$25 to take it down. Discussion centered on sponsorships. Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Shaughnessy to approve the policy with no fee attached. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. On Call Engineering Contract – The contract was presented to the council for approval. Administrator Slauch noted that the city will continue to use engineering firms that are currently being used for projects. This service will be used for civil type services. Mayor Wicoff wondered if cost estimates would be given prior to doing work. Administrator Slauch noted that on certain projects cost estimates will be requested. No minimum charge is stated in the contract. Council Member Wells approved the contract with AMEC Environment and Infrastructure, Incorporated following city attorney approval. Motion seconded by Council Member Becker. All in favor. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Transient Guest Tax - Resolution – The resolution was presented to the council for an increase in the transient guest tax from 4% to 6%. The council approved the increase at the last meeting. Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Zornes to increase the transient guest tax from 4% to 6%. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Becker, French, Zornes, Shaughnessy, Wells, Ford, and Myrick. Voting against the motion was Council Member Franklin. The motion passed by a majority vote.

B. Re-Zoning Ordinance –

- **315 N Cottonwood - R3 to C2**
- **319 N Cottonwood – R3 to C2**
- **321 N Cottonwood – R3 to C2**
- **331 N Cottonwood – I to C2**

The rezoning was approved at the last meeting. Motion made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve the ordinance to rezone the properties. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Bicycle Lanes – Discussions – Council Member French wondered if we shouldn't put signs around the square making people aware that bicycles are allowed on the sidewalks. Council would like to see the map of the designated bicycle routes from the Vision Iola Plan. Motion made by Council Member French and seconded by Council Member Becker to table this item until the next meeting and ask David Toland to attend. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUNDTABLE

A. 2014 Budget - Discussions – The 2014 draft budget was presented to the council for discussion. The hearing will be set at the July 22nd meeting for August 12th. Carl gave an overview of the last ten years noting that property tax revenue increased 54.4%, the mill levy has increased from 32 to 37.7 a 18% increase for the city while the county has increased 48% for the same time frame. The COLA has had a 27% increase while expenditures have increased 36%. Council members wondered what would happen with the budget if the EMS merger occurs; staff will put together numbers for this scenario.

Discussion centered on the Flewharty house and the library maintaining the property. Council Member French noted that a possible CDBG grant could be obtained if the library could secure volunteer hours that could be used in place of matching funds. The library board needs to weigh the cost and benefit against the cost of upkeep of the house. Clarification of the agreement will be obtained concerning razing the house. Council Member Wells made a motion to leave the mill levy the same for 2014 for the library. Motion seconded by Council Member Myrick. All in favor. Motion carried.

Council Member French stated that he would like to see staff pursue potential CDBG grants and the offer from the National Guard for demolition of structures, if necessary staff could haul debris to the landfill following demolition by the guard. Council Member Becker would like staff to pursue all avenues to remove as many of the structures as possible. Council Member Franklin wondered if street and alley crew could possibly remove some of the smaller structures in the winter.

Council Member French inquired if the \$1,000 budgeted for the criminal investigation line item for the police is adequate if the COPS grant is awarded.

Discussion centered on the five year rotation versus the four year rotation for the chip and seal program, possibly having a comprehensive road plan done at a cost of around \$20,000. Staff researched possible bathroom facilities for the Elm Creek Park South. A container unit that the Kansas Wildlife and Parks use costs \$30,000, vandalism is always a problem with restroom facilities that are not closely monitored. Porta potties could be secured with cinderblock partial walls and a concrete floor.

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

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- Had a safe and enjoyable 4th of July.
- Glad that a potential agreement has been presented for the EMS merger.

B. Council Member Wells–

- None

C. Council Member Ford –

- Reminded everyone of the Mad Bomber Run at 5:00 p.m. on Friday.

D. Council Member Franklin–

- August 13th is the city picnic.
- Suggested an elephant naming contest for the elephant slide.
- Reported that Wichita and Chicago uses goats to eliminate mowing of green space.

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- Reported that Shonda Jefferis, Code Enforcement Officer, is pleasant to work with and is very helpful on projects.

F. Council Member Becker –

- Would like to get groups involved in helping those that can't help themselves to pick up trash and mow. Need to get citizens and businesses to take pride in their properties by keeping them clean of trash.

G. Council Member Myrick –

- Noted that Officer Shelby attended the safe base trip to Colorado. Kept the group safe. He was a great asset to have with them.
- Stated that the drain on South First Street is cleaned out and will see how it works with the next rain fall.

H. Council Member Zornes –

- None

I. Council Member French –

- Has received some public comments about the Mayor allowing time before each agenda item for public comment and possibly summarizing on agenda so the public has more information on the topic. Mayor Wicoff stated he will try to be better about asking for public comments.
- Asked about the status of the land acquisition on Cedarbrook. Administrator Slaugh noted that it is still in the works.

J. Administrator Slaugh –

- KOMA training is scheduled for July 25th in Pittsburg and July 26th in Paola. Council Members can register online individually. Contact Kara if you are unable to register.
- His contract is up for renewal and handed out evaluation forms. The mayor asked council members to turn them into Administrative Assistant Kara Godfrey for compilation. They will have an executive session at the next meeting to give feedback to Carl.
- Enbridge is holding a public meeting for the pipeline project on July 18th.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

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

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 12th, 2013

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ADJOURNMENT

8:52 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Myrick 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 July 2013.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton