

CITY OF IOLA

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06/09/2014

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on June 9, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., at the Riverside Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Council President Becker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member We;ss and seconded by Council Member Myrick to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval - May 27, 2014

B. Appropriations Approval – 2014-11

C. Personnel Action

- **Brandon Thomas – Water Production – Twelve Month Evaluation**
- **Andrew Fournell – Fire Department/EMS – Twelve Month Evaluation**
- **Michael Boeken – Street & Alley – New Hire**
- **Jed Rice – Electric Distribution - Promotion**

Council Member Franklin asked about the pest control and why we are still doing it monthly. Administrator Slaugh noted that he would resend an email to the council regarding costs of pest control. Motion made by Council Member French to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Wells. All in favor. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION

A. Jack Morrell Day – Council President Becker read the proclamation and declared June 9, 2014 Jack Morrell Day.

NEW BUSINESS

A. AAA Award Iola Police Department- Jim Haney from AAA presented the Gold Award for community traffic safety for 2013 to Chief Warner. This is the second year

in a row that the Iola Police Department has qualified for the award. The SAFE program that promotes seat belt use by teens has shown an increase from 88% to 97% that say they buckle up. The click-it-or-ticket tickets have dropped showing an increase in individuals wearing their seatbelts.

B. Electronic Cigarettes - Ordinance – The State of Kansas passed legislation in 2012, HB 2324, approved by Governor, effective July 1, 2012 adding new definitions of cigarettes. HB 2234 creates new crimes concerning minors and electronic cigarettes, which the bill defines. The legislation did not place restrictions on the use of electronic cigarettes in public places. The proposed ordinance would include electronic cigarettes in the definition of tobacco products that are restricted or prohibited from use in public places. Council Member French stated that he would support this ordinance with the current studies showing that the vapors cause health issues to individuals. Motion made by Council Member French to approve Ordinance 3433 adding electronic cigarettes to the definition of cigarettes banning them from public places. Motion seconded by Council Member Franklin. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Budget Amendments – The proposed amendment to the General Fund is to accommodate the merger of the county/city EMS. The Electric, Water and Gas fund will be amended to accommodate transfers to the General Fund to cover the extra expense. The Tourism and Convention Fund is being amended to accommodate the increase of transient guest tax and in turn the increase in disbursements. Council member Wells asked if there was money in equipment reserve to purchase new ambulances why that money couldn't be used to help offset this deficit. Council Member Wells would rather see a sales tax increase over a surcharge since this would have the potential to reach county residents. Council Member Ford stated that the \$20.00 monthly fee would be too much on some of our customers. Council Member Myrick stated that the county as a whole should be supporting the county wide service not just the citizens of Iola. Council Member French stated that every city in the county should levy one mill for the ambulance service. The three mills that the county has levied for ambulance service is not going away so citizens of Iola will not see a decrease in the county taxes so adding to their burden is not fair for everyone. Humboldt and Moran benefit from having an ambulance stationed within their cities but do not have to contribute to the cost of running the service. Council Member Wells stated that we could try and push the county into contributing to the service; however, they have stated that we agreed to the contract. Council Member Becker stated that the county is receiving tax money for the ambulance service. They need to state why they are not willing to give the money to Iola to run the service. The utility funds cannot be sustained by robbing reserves from them to support the ambulance service. Administrator Slauch noted that a sales tax increase is not an option for the 2014 budget since this would have to be voted on at a general election. If we don't act now we will have to shift more funds from utilities later on down the road. Council Member French would like a report on what the savings have been in the department. Motion made by Council Member French to take no action on the budget amendments at this time. Motion seconded by Council Member Franklin. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. Sale of Pseudoephedrine Product - Drug enforcement officials from Allen County and the City of Iola have monitored for some time the high incidence of the illicit manufacture, sale and use of the illegal drug known as methamphetamine. Ephedrine or pseudoephedrine is necessary for the manufacture of methamphetamine. Ephedrine or pseudoephedrine is necessary for the manufacture of methamphetamine. Ephedrine or pseudoephedrine has previously been available as over-the-counter cold medications. They currently are available behind the counter. The proposed change would make these drugs only available through a prescription from a medical professional. Chief Warner gave a slide presentation on the current conditions of meth manufacturing within the county. Sheriff Murphy noted that the doctors and pharmacists are on board with the ordinance. The goal of the Southeast Kansas Drug Task Force is to show the legislature that all of the towns in rural Kansas have passed this ordinance, why shouldn't the entire State. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Myrick to approve ordinance 3432 dealing with the sale of methamphetamine precursor drugs. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUNDTABLE

A. 2015 Budget Presentation

- **Police Department – Jared Warner** - Jared noted that the main part of the budget he was focusing on is vehicles. The vehicle maintenance line has increased significantly due to keeping the vehicles longer. There is one vehicle in the 2015 budget but he would like to go back to purchasing two vehicles every other year in the 2016 budget. The Taser replacement is due to the fact that the company will no longer be able to service the analog units. He will purchase eight digital units which will give the three on duty and the three coming on for duty and have two units for special duty. He has submitted the first portion of the COPS grant will be notified by the end of September if accepted. Judge Saxton noted that the AXON camera is the best purchase the city has made.
- **Street & Alley/Sanitation – Dan Leslie** – Dan noted that the street and Alley fund has the chip and seal program in it at a cost of approximately \$400,000. Discussed the pros and cons of extending the chip sealing past the three to four year rotation and the added wear to the streets. More money is being put back in equipment reserve to catch up from a previous year when the funds were used to purchase a non-budgeted piece of equipment for another department. The Solid Waste fund basically is two trucks and employees. They are putting money in equipment reserve to purchase new trucks as they are rotated through. Major Street Fund nothing is going to be done this year to build up funds for a future large project. Storm Water fund is building up funds. Discussion with Mitch Phillips, Gas, Water, Wastewater Superintendent about possibly lining the storm water drains much like the sewer lining done this year.

- **Parks & Cemetery – Berkley Kerr** – Berkley stated on the Park/Cemetery Fund the only increase is the insurance line item due to increase in property insurance and the flood insurance. Capital outlay to purchase mowers; would like to go to all rear discharge mowers so that they can be used in the cemetery as well as the parks. The Joseph and Mary Wolf fund will be the same as last year. This fund is used to purchase trees for the tree sale and then replenished with the money made from the sale. Prizes for the kids participating in the art contest are purchased out of this fund. The Cemetery Trust fund is currently being used to repair footings and reset stones. To date 802 stones have been done in the Iola Cemetery. The drainage problems at Highland Cemetery will need to be addressed in the near future.
- **Fire & EMS – Tim Thyer** – Tim Thyer and Ryan Sell presented the budget for the department. Ambulance runs have doubled since last year after merger with the county. Have made reductions in materials in supplies by rotating through the fleet instead of having to waste them due to be outdated.
- **Code Enforcement – Shonda Jefferis** – Shonda noted that there are few changes in her budget for 2015. Last year 546 weed notices were sent; on track this year to see about the same amount. The green space mowing has been reduced with the Cedarbrook development. Have done two demolitions this year so far working on three to four more in the near future. Have sent letters to three owners about accessory structures that need to be demolished, two have been removed by the owners. Animal Control activity is down this year. The current Animal Control Officer is working harder at trying to identify the owner instead of taking it to ACARF. Will try for the second year in a row for the Safe Routes to School Grant.
- **Municipal Court – Tom Saxton** – No changes in budget. Noted that one computer in the office is running on Windows XP, but will continue to use it until it no longer works. Discussed the advantages of having Shelia Sigg as a backup Municipal Court Clerk.
- **Iola Public Library – Roger Carswell** - Roger noted that there is a slight increase in revenue for the budget due to some increased grant money and an increase in rent from SEKLS. The levy requested this year is \$3,500 more than received last year. Roger then distributed an information sheet on the Flewharty house noting that the Library Board is not willing to put any more money into the house unless the city is willing to assume the cost of the major maintenance. The board does not want the house. The attorney for the Flewharty family, Clyde Toland, told Administrator Slauch a couple of weeks ago that he would visit with the family to explore if they were willing to modify the agreement on the usage of

the home. The council wanted to wait to hear back from Mr. Toland before taking action.

- **City Clerk Hutton, Employee Health and Convention and Tourism – Roxanne Hutton** – Roxanne informed the council that the Convention and Tourism fund should see an increase in revenue in 2014 due to the sale of the Crossroads Motel. The Employee Health fund will more than likely see an increase in the premiums due to large claims in the first few months of the year. The City Clerk department will be concentrating on replacing two of the 10 computers in the department each year. In the 2016 budget will begin setting funds aside to purchase a new server. The current server was purchased in 2011 for \$8,000. The council asked Roxanne to report back the possibility of recovering credit card fees that the city pays when a customer uses their credit or debit card to pay a utility bill.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- Absent

B. Council Member Wells–

- None

C. Council Member Ford –

- Reminded everyone that this Saturday is HOFNOD.

D. Council Member Franklin–

- None

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- Absent

F. Council Member Becker –

- Have asked Administrator Slaugh to visit with the city's energy consultant about possible electric increases with the EPA mandates on coal fired plants.

G. Council Member Myrick –

- None

H. Council Member Zornes –

- None

I. Council Member French –

- Would like to discuss at a future meeting of the council ways that the city could join with Kansas Fish and Wildlife by trapping animals such as fox or gophers and then releasing them on state land. He asked if the city could also purchase larger traps to accommodate some of these wild animals.

J. Administrator Slauch –

- Informed the council that at the July 14th meeting they will have a draft proposed budget.
- Council Member Wells asked if the council could have an update on the number of swimming pool passes that were sold this year.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Tuesday June 23rd, 2014

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday July 14th, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

8:21 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Franklin 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 23rd day of June 2014.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton