

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on June 23, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., at the Riverside Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Mayor Wicoff, Council Members Zornes, Becker, Wells, Ford, Shaughnessy and Franklin were present. Also present were Administrator Slaugh, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Attorney Robert Johnson arrived at 6:45 p.m. Council Members Myrick and French were absent.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Administrator Slaugh asked that item 11 be moved after item 12. Animal issues were not put on the agenda if there are those in the audience that wanted to speak on this topic they can do so in the public comments section. Administrator Slaugh has received calls concerning the video of the council meeting and some council members not getting close enough to the microphone to be heard; he asked everyone to please remember this when they speak. Motion made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Becker to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Donna Houser noted that at a recent Pride meeting in Humboldt that she attended attendees commented on the nice streets and the lights around the Iola square. She reminded the group that this Friday is the See Hear, Iola Program.

Hazel Jones representing ACARF requested permission to paint paw prints on the sidewalk on Madison directing individuals to the Second Chance Flea Market at 209 South Street. Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve the painting of the paw prints with the understanding that they maintain them. All in favor. Motion carried.

Bill Maness handed out information regarding a dog in his neighborhood that he has concerns about the care he is receiving. (enclosed in original packet) The current ordinance does not allow animal control to intervene when the pet has food, water and shelter even if they are chained. He has made some suggestions for changes to the current ordinance and would like this topic to be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Approval - June 9, 2014**
- B. Appropriations Approval – 2014-12**
- C. Personnel Action**

- **Trent Rhodes – Parks & Cemetery – Annual Evaluation**
- **Denton Christian – Fire Department – New Hire**
- **Jason Bauer – Recreation – Promotion to Director**

Administrator Slauch informed the council that Jason Bauer promotion to recreation director was added and if the council wishes to approve as part of the consent agenda they can. Council Member Wells stated that he would like to pull it off of the consent agenda and discuss the rationale of the selection in executive session. Motion made by Council Member Wells to approve the consent agenda removing item C pending discussion later in the meeting. Motion seconded by Council Member Franklin. All in favor. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION

A. Community Pride Partner Award – Kara Godfrey – Barbara Anderson from the Kansas Department of Commerce informed the council about Partners in Pride (PIP) grants that the city was awarded along with a community of excellence award. Along with the PIP grant the city could nominate an individual that is instrumental in partnering with the community volunteers to complete projects. The CITF/PRIDE group nominated Kara Godfrey for the Community Partner award of which she was awarded. Barbara Anderson presented Kara Godfrey with the plaque. Barbara Anderson then distributed to the council members CITF/PRIDE brochures. (enclosed in original packet)

ROUNDTABLE

A. USD 257 School Discussions- Jack Koehn, Superintendent of USD 257 presented a slideshow showing the need for new schools within the district. The district is requesting a partnership with the city to place a proposal on the ballot for a city wide sales tax of ½% for a 30 year term ½ of which would go the school for payment of the school's bond payment and ½ to the city. The cost of a grade school attendance center and a new high school would be \$24 million each for a total of \$48 million. The State of Kansas will cover 51% of the cost, the sales tax would be an equivalent of 4.47 mills and the remaining funds would be put to a vote of the citizens that would include an increase of 9.25 mills. The current grade schools if not sold in the near future would be torn down; leaving the playgrounds that would become parks for the community, maintained by the city with money included in the bond issue. The high school gymnasium would be retained for use by the district. An interlocal agreement would have to be drawn up between the school and the city for the sales tax proposal. Council Member Wells had some concerns with the proposed location. The city does not have utility rights in those areas so the city would be losing a large utility user. Council member Ford asked about the cost of upgrading the Bowlus for the proposed uses. Mr. Koehn explained that the Bowlus could accommodate the proposed classes without any changes. The football/track facilities would continue to be used for the time being. Council Member Ford had some concerns with students getting to the facility, suggesting busing the students to the field in lieu of them driving. Council Member Wells asked what the timeline for the project is. Mr. Koehn explained that if the

issue is approved by the voters then the school could break ground in late spring of 2015 and be able to move students in within three years. Council Member Franklin would like Mr. Koehn to send via email a copy of the slide presentation and give them time to talk with their constituents and review the recommendations. Council Member Shaughnessy asked how they had arrived at the cost of construction. Mr. Koehn stated that the district had contracted architects to determine cost per student and allow the property to be large enough for future options.

Mayor Wicoff declared a five-minute break.

NEW BUSINESS

A. CITF/PRIDE Health Care Grant – Donna Houser – Donna Houser explained that the group is applying for the grant to help with the cost of a disc golf course and she is needing an authorization from the council for the mayor to sign the letter of support. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to authorize Mayor Wicoff to sign the letter of support for the CITF/PRIDE group to apply for the health care grant to help fund a disc golf course. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Water & Wastewater Improvements –

- **SCADA System at Lift Stations –**
- **Water Plant Software Upgrade -**

Approval was received from KDHE and the EPA to use the left over funds from the wastewater improvements project to purchase the water plant software upgrade and the SCADA system for the lift stations and allowing the city not to advertise for bids since the systems are proprietary. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to move ahead with the purchase of the SCADA system and the water plant software. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUNDTABLE

A. 2015 Budget Presentation

- **Gas, Water & Wastewater – Mitch Phillips -** Discussed with the council his desire to reallocate the funds that are currently being set aside for a new service truck in the gas department to a purchase of a mini excavator. The gas department is small enough now that two trucks are not used and the excavator would be beneficial for small areas and areas where there are a lot of utilities to maneuver around.
- **Water Production & Sewer Treatment – Toby Ross –** The ozonia agreement will include them inspecting the system and making all required repairs. This has not been completed since the plant was constructed nine years ago. Will eventually have sludge removal done on the ponds at the water plant. Money will be set aside for painting of the Oak Street Water Tower in the future. The power plant and the water plant are setting aside funds to purchase a new forklift the

current one has some mechanical issues that cannot be fixed and/or are not cost effective. The wastewater fund has the solar bee program and an oxygen analyzer for the 2015 budget.

- **Electric Distribution – Jim Baker** – Continue with the tree program. This is very helpful to both his department and the street and alley department. A flatbed truck that is used on a daily basis is showing several issues and he would like to replace it this year.
- **Electric Production – Mike Phillips** – With the RICE ruling the five EMD'S will have to have catalysts installed. The Unix control on the Wartsila engines are becoming obsolete and will need replaced.
- **Purchasing /Store – Dana Nauertc** – No changes noted in the 2015 budget. Two employees in his department including himself.
- **Recreation – Jason Bauer** – Setting aside money in equipment reserve for large items that may be needed for the pool in the future. Putting money in equipment reserve for a mower to be purchased in 2016. Opening up basketball to kindergarteners next year. Season Passes for the pool are not selling due to the number of times a family must attend to make it cost effective. The discount tickets are selling well this year.
- **Administration, Industrial and Capital Projects – Corey Schinstock** - Would like to look at putting the infrastructure in at Cedarbrook for the final phase.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. EMS & Budget Amendments – Setting of Public Hearing –

Administrator Slaugh reviewed the contract between the city and county for EMS services. The city is approximately \$400,000 short to continue to run the service. A sales tax and/or a mill levy increase could not be implemented until 2015. Having three sites for a department of this size is cost prohibitive. Council Member Becker stated that the \$750,000 that the county is paying to the city is only run money. The county is not contributing to the EMS service. The two candidates that are running for county commission have stated that they would not support the EMS service with funding from the county. The county levied taxes for the EMS service. They should turn those funds over to the city to run the county wide service. Mayor Wicoff asked Ryan Sell how many runs are done out of each station. Ryan reported that to date 71% of the calls have been out of Iola, 11/33% out of Humboldt, 6.4% out of Moran and 5% out of Gas and LaHarpe of which Iola responds.

Executive Session – Contract Negotiations - Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to adjourn into executive session to discuss EMS contract negotiations. All in favor. Motion carried. Present Mayor, Council, Attorney Johnson and Administrator Slaugh. The regular meeting will resume at 8:32 p.m.

Executive Session – Contract Negotiations - Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Shaughnessy to adjourn into executive session to discuss contract negotiations. All in favor. Motion carried. Present Mayor, Council, Attorney Johnson and Administrator Slaugh. The regular meeting will resume at 8:52 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Franklin to give City Attorney Johnson, Mayor Wicoff and Administrator Slaugh direction to negotiate the contract with the county. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion made by Council member Wells and seconded by Council Member Becker to have on the next agenda a discussion to initiate a service fee of \$5.00 on electric customers bills for the EMS service. In favor of the motion were Council Members: Wells, Ford, Zornes, Becker and Shaughnessy. Against the motion was Council Member Franklin. Motion passed by majority vote.

Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel - Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Ford to adjourn into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel/recreation director. All in favor. Motion carried. Present Mayor, Council and Administrator Slaugh. The regular meeting will resume at 9:10 p.m.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- None

B. Council Member Wells–

- None

C. Council Member Ford –

- Reminded everyone about the Mad Bomber event on July 12th.

D. Council Member Franklin–

- None

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- Noticed some work being done on the old M&M plant out west of town.

F. Council Member Becker –

- None

G. Council Member Myrick –

- Absent

H. Council Member Zornes –

- Some lights are out on the rail trail and graffiti painted on the trail. Administrator Slauch will look into.

I. Council Member French –

- Absent

J. Administrator Slauch –

- Received the Southern Star Gas refund will be issuing to customers soon.
- Asking for approval to hold the annual city picnic and disburse the day off tickets. Motion made by Council member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Becker to hold the annual city picnic and disburse the day off tickets to employees that win the drawing. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Discussed the options for pest control; will try to have all city buildings on an quarterly schedule.
- Have discussed the animal control options with Wildlife and Parks employee Ben Womelsdorf. No animal can be dropped on land unless permission is given.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

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

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday July 28th, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

9:22 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Shaughnessy 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 14th day of July 2014.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton