

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on February 9, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., at the Riverside Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval - January 26, 2015

B. Appropriations Approval – 2015-03

C. Personnel Action

- **Lyndon Kern – Water Plant – Promotion Assistant Superintendent**
- **Sheila Sigg – City Clerk – Resignation**
- **Tristan Roegner – Fire/EMS – New Hire**
- **Dennis Walden – Street & Alley – Annual Evaluation**
- **Ron Jenkins – Fire/EMS – Annual Evaluation**
- **Eric Miller – Gas, Water, Wastewater – Annual Evaluation**
- **Tom Nevans – Park/Cemetery – Annual Evaluation**

D. Board Appointments

- **Mark Peters – Planning Commission**

Motion made by Council Member Myrick to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Wells. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. AAA Award Presentation to the Iola Police Department – Jim Hanni of AAA was in attendance to present a traffic safety award to the Iola Police Department. Mr. Hanni noted that this is the third year in a row that Iola Police Department has been presented this award. With the SEATBELT program in conjunction with the Iola High School students, the use of the digital speed monitor, the addition of the sidewalks and

the bike sharrows and the click it or ticket program the department has shown they are visible to the community and are working to make the city a safer place. Officer Mike Ford accepted the award on behalf of the police department. The council praised all of the officers for a job well done.

B. Gates Expansion Incentive Package - Gates Corporation formally announced the expansion of the Iola manufacturing facility. An incentive plan was considered by the city council to encourage the expansion at the Iola plant location rather than at some other Gates facility. The incentives include city and state options. The city incentive plan includes property tax abatements and certain electrical equipment to provide power to the new facility. The proposal for tax abatements was for 100 percent abatement for 10 years (95% effective rate with 5% retained by the county). The electrical system upgrades are estimated at approximately \$300,000 and include transformers, substation breakers, labor and equipment. The electrical work will be bid out in accordance with the purchasing policy and brought back to the city council for approval at a later date. The abatement has to go through the State of Kansas for approval. Council Member Myrick asked what happens if the state does not approve the abatement. Administrator Slaugh stated that the city does have the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan in place. The purchasing policy will be followed for purchasing the equipment. Some of the work will be done in-house with city employees and some by contractors. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member French to approve the staff to file the application with the State of Kansas for the tax abatement. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion made by Council member Wells and seconded by Council Member Myrick to have staff let out for bid the large equipment items per the purchasing policy. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Year –End Accomplishments for 2014 and goals for 2015 - Council Member French stated it would be nice to have the department heads present during this presentation to commend them in person and to ask any questions that arise. Administrator Slaugh reviewed highlights of the different department's accomplishments and goals for 2015.

The City Clerk Department is working towards an upgrade in the software and online bill pay.

The Police Department showed a 46% decrease in burglary and violent crimes offenses. Street and Alley Department completed the sidewalk on North State Street. Council Member French noted that they should be commended for saving the tax payers money by completing the project in-house.

Parks and Cemetery Department completed the special needs playground with the assistance of volunteers. Council Member French noted that you could hear Berkley's enthusiasm in his description of this project. Council Member Franklin stated that the

department is doing a great job on fixing and straightening the stones in the Iola Cemetery.

Fire/EMS Department is always fighting the staffing issues. With the additional funding from the county the department should be able to stay within budget or at least closer than in past years. Administrator Slaugh stated that the department wants to replace the garage doors at a cost of \$12,970. This would only be for cosmetic reasons since the doors function fine. The council didn't think they needed replaced.

Code Enforcement Department has just acquired the Safe Routes to School grant and will be working on that in the near future.

Gas/Water/Wastewater Department continues the replacement of bare steel gas main lines per KCC regulations. The SCADA system will be installed soon. Council Member French wondered if there was any way the city could monitor the I & I on the lines that were lined. We will continue to set aside money each year to replace or line sewer lines throughout the town.

Electric Distribution Department assisted Bolling's Meat Market with their expansion. The department replaced the traffic signals on Highway 54.

Electric Production Department had the catalytic convertors added to the Wartsila's last year and working on adding them to the EMD's in 2015 in order to comply with EPA standards. Council Member Myrick asked how much the generators are run per year. Administrator Slaugh will get back with the answer.

Water Production Department is working on getting the SCADA system upgrade done. Recreation Department is building and installing new batting cages that were made possible by donations.

Council Member Wells would like to see a measurable impact on department budget reductions; have department heads decide what they can do to reduce the budget.

B. 2014 Budget Review - Administrator Slaugh reviewed the end of year budget numbers that were presented to the council members. Everyone is continuing to work on building up the reserve amounts to obtain a three to six month operating capital amount, while maintaining infrastructure. Council Member Wells thanked Administrator Slaugh for all of his hard work on the budget and maintaining the dollars.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- Absent

B. Council Member Wells–

- Thanked all of the city staff. The city looks nice and you can see the pride in the work of the employees.

C. Council Member Ford –

- Thanked all of the city crews and noted that they are always willing to do whatever they need to do to work together to get the work done.

D. Council Member Franklin–

- Doesn't see the necessity to finish Cottonwood Street with the school not building in the area. The money can be used for other things such as purchasing land for economic development.

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- Absent

F. Council Member Becker –

- Complimented staff on the great work that they do.

G. Council Member Myrick –

- Thanked everyone that was involved in the Gates Expansion project.

H. Council Member Zornes –

- Thanked the city crew on the hard work that they do.

I. Council Member French –

- Noted in a recent issue of the Kansas Government Journal a city had restored an old fire truck and used it for parades and school projects. We have an old fire truck; maybe we could interest the local auto enthusiasts to help restore our truck to use in parades and events.

J. Administrator Slaugh –

- None

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday February 23rd, 2015

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday March 10th, 2015

Council President Donald Becker declared a five minute break.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council member Myrick to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of acquisition of real estate. Present: Council Members, Administrator Slaugh. The meeting will resume at 7:30 p.m.

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Administrator Slaugh noted that the THRIVE Economic Development Report was in the packet and asked if anyone had any questions for David Toland whom was present at the meeting. No questions were asked.

ADJOURNMENT

7:31p.m. Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Franklin 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 February 2015.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton