

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on May 26, 2015, 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, Wells, B. Franklin, A. Franklin, A. Sigg, Ford, Zornes were present. Also present were Administrator Slaugh, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Absent was Council Member Shaughnessy.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Virginia Macha, on behalf of ACARF, requested the council change the current ordinance for firework's sales changing the beginning sell date of June 29 to June 27th. This would give the fireworks stands an extra weekend to sell the fireworks. She is requesting the council make the change tonight so that they can notify the supplier. Council Member Wells asked if the city had a time frame for publication of an ordinance. Administrator Slaugh stated that once the ordinance summary is published it becomes effective. There is no time frame following publication. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin to have staff draft an amendment to Ordinance 3404 Section C changing the start date from June 29th to June 27th for sales of fireworks and authorizing the mayor to sign the revision. All in favor. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION – CITF-PRIDE – Barbara Anderson, representing Kansas Department of Commerce/Kansas PRIDE presented the Community Partner Award; to Donna Houser for her volunteer work in the Iola area.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval - May 11, 2015

B. Appropriations Approval – 2015-10

C. Personnel Action

- **Corey Isbell – Fire Department – Annual**
- **Tom Roush – Police Department – Annual**
- **Mitch Phillips – Gas, Water & Wastewater - Annual**

Council Member Wells asked if the flood insurance was mandatory. Administrator Slaugh noted that since the city received FEMA relief funds on those structures the city has to carry

flood insurance on them. This is a yearly cost for each structure. Council Member A. Franklin asked about the policy for purchasing mowers. Administrator Slaugh explained that the item is discussed during the budget process at which time the department head determines if they are going to purchase it in the budget year or reserve cash in equipment reserve for a couple of years. The purchasing policy states that if the purchase is between \$10,000 and \$20,000 bids are solicited and the department head makes the purchase. If the equipment is over \$20,000 the bids are taken to the council for their acceptance. Council Member B. Franklin stated it would be helpful if pictures could be provided of the equipment that is being approved for purchase. Motion made by Council Member Wells to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Becker. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. On-Call Electric Consultant - Contract – With the work being done for the Gates expansion in terms of electric improvements having Mid-States on board on an as needed basis should prove to be invaluable. This contract for services will be handled in the same way as the city on-call engineer of AMEC, Foster & Wheeler of Topeka. The city will contact Mid-States Energy Works of Salina, Kansas when electric engineering support is needed for such projects as Gates. Prior to any work being performed there will be a scope of work for our request as well as an approximate hours needed to provide their services with a detailed expense. Mike Phillips, Electric Production Supervisor, stated that with the projects coming up it would be beneficial to have an engineer available for expert advice. Council Member A. Franklin asked if the attorney had reviewed the contract. Administrator Slaugh stated that some changes had been requested by the attorney and sent to Mid-States for their approval. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Becker to approve the on-call electric consultant contract with Mid-States pending Mid States acceptance of the changes requested by Attorney Johnson. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Mini- Excavator Bid Acceptance– Bids were opened on May 15, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. with three sealed bids received for purchase of a mini-excavator. The bids were Victor L. Phillips Co in the amount of \$41,900. Scott Equipment no bid submitted, Rex Spencer Equipment in the amount of \$49,258.25. Sufficient funding for the purchase of this piece of equipment has been set aside in equipment reserve and has been budgeted in the 2015 budget. Mitch Phillips, Gas/Water & Wastewater Supervisor, stated that this is a compact piece of equipment and not as heavy as a backhoe. Council Member A. Franklin asked what projects he would use the excavator on. Mr. Phillips stated that the equipment would be used on a daily basis for alley projects around garages and other obstacles that wouldn't allow for a larger piece of equipment. Council Member A. Franklin asked what we look at when we buy equipment. Do we look at buying used versus buying new. Mr. Phillips stated that when you buy used it depends on how the equipment was taken care of whether or not it is a good deal. A person has to decide if

they are just inheriting another person's problem. Council Member A. Franklin asked what the life expectancy would be on this piece of equipment. Mr. Phillips stated that it should last 15 to 20 years. Budgeted funds were set back for the last three years for a pickup. The department determined that this is a greater need for their use. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve the lowest bid from Victor L. Phillips Co for the purchase of Hyundai R35z-9 Mini Excavator in the amount of \$41,900. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Annual Chip Seal Project – Bid Acceptance – Bids were solicited for the oil for the annual chip seal project. Bids were opened on May 20, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. Two bids were received one from Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions, Kansas City, Kansas in the amount of \$2.20 per gallon for emulsion, demurrage charge per hour after the first two hours \$80.00 per hour, and the environmental fee of \$0.00133 per gallon. The second bid was from Vance Brothers, Kansas City, Missouri in the amount of \$1.99 per gallon for emulsion, demurrage charge per hour after first 1.5 hour \$70.00 per hour and no charge for the environmental fee. The northwest section of town is slated to be chip and sealed this year. Council Member Sigg asked at what point do we mill and overlay instead of chip sealing. Administrator Slauch noted that mill and overlay is such an expensive process only the arterial streets are maintained in this manner. Staff budgets every two years to do a mill and overlay project in order to set aside funding the previous year. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Becker to approve the lowest received bid from Vance Brothers of Kansas City, Missouri for the annual chip seal project. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin for staff to move ahead with chip and seal of the northwest section of town in 2015. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. Convention & Tourism Funds Distribution – The Convention and Tourism Committee met with the applicants on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 to consider requests for receiving funds from transient guest tax monies. The committee recommends the following disbursements:

Veteran's Day Parade \$600
Buster Keaton Celebration \$1,200
Farm City Days \$1,000
Chamber of Commerce \$18,700
Iola Community Theatre \$1,000
Pickle ball Group \$250
Allen County Fair \$600
Southwind Rail Trail \$500
CITF/PRIDE \$500
Smokin' Hot Cars and BBQ – Rotary \$650

The total funds to be distributed are \$25,000. Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Sigg to approve the recommendation of the Convention and Tourism Committee with the aforementioned distributions. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Sidewalk Replacement Program – Shonda Jefferies, Code Enforcement Officer, brought this item to the council with a recommendation to increase the reimbursement per square footage. The current price of concrete mix would barely be covered by the reimbursement. In the past three years only three individuals have used this program. In the 2015 budget \$25,000 is set aside for reimbursement. Council Member A. Franklin asked if the city could assist with demolition. Administrator Slaugh noted that it is the owner's responsibility and the city would not have the manpower and should not take on the liability of replacing sidewalks on private property. Council Member A. Franklin asked if driveway approaches were covered in the reimbursement program. Shonda Jefferies stated that driveway approaches is not covered. Motion made by Council member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to increase the reimbursement rate to \$1.75 per square foot. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. CDBG Grant Options – Shonda Jefferies – Shonda Jefferies, Code Enforcement Officer, attended a workshop for available Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) a few weeks ago. She reviewed the criteria for applying for the grants which include the project must benefit low and moderate-income individuals, the project removes or prevents slum or blight condition, and the project eliminates an urgent need created by a disaster when local funds are unavailable. She reviewed the different grants available and the deadlines for application for the 2015 year. Council Member B. Franklin wondered if the restrooms on the square would fall into the community facilities grant. Barbara Anderson, with the Kansas Department of Commerce, stated that the restrooms alone would not be covered. Council Member Wells asked what the dollar amount was to qualify for low to moderate income level. Administrator Slaugh noted he wasn't sure of the exact numbers. (Allen County 2015 median income \$52,800, 50% income limit for family of four \$28,700) Average for Kansas is \$33,150. The city would have to participate in a survey since the 2010 census shows the city above the 50% level. Ms. Anderson stated that the income levels chart is available on the web site. She also stated that the employees at the Southeast Regional Planning Commission (SEKRPC) would be available to visit with the council and determine what areas the city would qualify. Council Member Ford wondered if storm shelters were a possibility. Administrator Slaugh stated that they could possibly be covered and possibly the city could combine a shelter with a restroom facility. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to have a representative from the SEKRPC at a future meeting to answer questions and help determine the best grant for the needs of the city. All in favor. Motion carried.

6:57 p.m. Attorney Johnson arrived at the meeting.

C. Safe Routes to School Grant Update – Shonda Jefferies – The city has received the signed agreement for the state for the Safe Routes to School Grant. The first

phase award of \$15,000 is to be used to create a plan that can then be used to apply for phase II of the grant that if awarded would help fund implementation of the plan. Hiring an engineering firm to help the city develop the plan is the next step for the city. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin defer to staff to choose an engineering firm to help develop a plan for the Safe Routes to School grant. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. Pedestrian Crosswalk Signage – Discussions – Over the past few weeks the street department has put the pedestrian crosswalk signs back up in various areas in town. However not all fourteen locations were put back up due to a limited amount of these signs after just a few years of having them in place. These signs were originally purchased by a grant that was obtained by Thrive Allen County in 2012. Since installation staff has reduced the amount of this signage due to some of the signs being destroyed by vehicles or semi-trucks driving over them. As for the downtown area we have reduced from two signs at the “V” crosswalks to one as it limits the amount of damage we encounter to the signs. At a cost of \$274.00 each staff is seeking council input regarding the replacement of pedestrian crosswalk signage. Comments were made that the single sign at intersections on the square are better. Council Member Ford stated that the signs around the schools are beneficial for children crossing the streets. Council Member Wells stated that it would be beneficial to budget for replacement of three signs per year. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Ford to approve the purchase of 10 new signs leaving one sign at each crosswalk on the square. All in favor. Motion carried.

7:12 p.m. Mayor Wicoff declared a five minute break.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Becker to adjourn to executive session for attorney/client privileged discussions. Present: Mayor, Council Members, Administrator Slaugh, Attorney Johnson and City Clerk Hutton. The meeting will reconvene at 7:32 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to adjourn to executive session for acquisition of real estate. Present: Mayor, Council Members, and Administrator Slaugh. The meeting will reconvene at 7:50 p.m.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- Hoped everyone had a great Memorial Day weekend.

B. Council Member Wells–

- Welcomed Donna Houser back and congratulated her on her award.
- Thanked all of the staff involved in getting the swimming pool ready for the season. He has worked at pools in the past and he knows how difficult it is to open a pool.

C. Council Member Ford –

- Congratulated Donna Houser on her award.

D. Council Member B. Franklin–

- Congratulated Donna Houser on her award.
- Asked about the sports officials pay sheet that was handed out. Administrator Slaugh stated that the officials pay was discussed at the previous meeting. He brought the pay sheet to show how they pay for officials. Council Member A. Franklin asked if volunteers were an option for these positions. Administrator Slaugh stated that they had probably considered using volunteers but this way assures that the officials are at all games necessary.

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- Absent

F. Council Member Becker –

- Welcomed Donna back.

G. Council Member Sigg –

- None

H. Council Member Zornes –

- Welcomed Donna back.

I. Council Member A. Franklin –

- Inquired about the strong odor at the lift station on Vine Street. Is it toxic and what can we do about the odor. Staff will look into the matter.
- Noticed a payment to Van Scoyoc in the payables wondered where we stood on their effort to obtain funding for city projects. Administrator Slaugh noted that he has a conference call scheduled for Friday at 2:00 p.m. with Van Scoyoc. Council Member B. Franklin wondered if a committee had been selected to work with them. Council Member Ford stated that in the past the CITF committee had worked with Van Scoyoc and would be willing to do so.
- Would like to start the process on an ordinance to make Iola a hands free driving city.

J. Administrator Slauch –

- Informed the council of the upcoming Gates picnic that will be held in Riverside Park on June 12th and 13th.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Tuesday June 8th, 2015

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday June 22nd, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

7:57 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Wells to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 8th day of June 2015.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton