

CITY OF IOLA

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06/08/2015

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on June 8, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., at the Riverside Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

Mayor Wicoff and Council President Becker were absent. The remaining council members needed to appoint someone to lead the council meeting. Motion made by Council Member Zornes to nominate Council Member Wells to run the meeting. Council Member Wells noted that Council Member B. Franklin is the longest active member of the council present so he thought she would be a good choice. Council Member Zornes withdrew her motion. Council Member Wells nominated Council Member B. Franklin to run the meeting for tonight. Motion seconded by Council Member Zornes. All in favor. Motion carried.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Council Member B. Franklin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Ford to approve the agenda adding #7 D. Board Appointment, Eugene Myrick to the Board of Zoning Appeals and adding under #7 C rehire for position in recreation department. Move item #9 B to July 13th meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Donna Houser thanked the city employees for fixing the intersection at Garfield and Walnut.

Donna commented that the trail is busy and used daily.

The Disc Golf course is going well. Donna warned citizens that there is poison ivy in the area of the disc golf course even with the city employees spraying.

Reminded the council members that See, Hear, Iola is Friday June 26th. If you are unable to attend she encouraged them to watch it on channel six.

Donna encouraged everyone to go and see Jim Smith's electric train collection at the Globe building on Saturday's from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Donna informed the group that the Allen County Historical Society will be holding a General Funston 150th birthday celebration on July 25th.

Russell Beth, representing Iola Elks, stated that the group is trying to raise funds for the annual fireworks display and is wondering if the city could donate. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to contribute \$300.00 to the annual Iola Elks fireworks display for 2015. All in favor. Motion carried.

Russell Beth, representing Iola National Guard thanked the council for allowing them to use the recreation building free of charge last weekend for their annual family picnic.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval - May 26, 2015

B. Appropriations Approval – 2015-11

C. Personnel Action

- **Andrew Hill – Fire Department – Twelve Month**
- **Gary Kimball – Fire Department – Twelve Month**
- **Charles Ecton – Fire Department – Twelve Month**
- **Jordan Oswald – Police Department – Six Month**
- **Chad Reeves – Police Department – Six Month**
- **Brandon Thomas – Water Production – Annual**
- **Charles Sellman- Water Production – Retirement (Position not to be filled at this time.)**
- **Michael Boeken – Street & Alley – Twelve Month**
- **Kristy Sutherland – Recreation – Resignation (Position to be filled)**

D. Board Appointments

- **Board of Zoning Appeals – Eugene Myrick - Appointment**

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. Dangerous/Unsafe Housing Public Hearings – Shonda Jefferis – Council Member B. Franklin opened the public hearing for 616 South Street. Code Enforcement Officer, Shonda Jefferis, stated that the owner was present and he is requesting to make repairs to the structure. The resolution that was prepared will give the owner 180 days to repair the home and get it up to current code. Council Member B. Franklin closed the hearing. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to approve the resolution to repair the home at 616 South Street. All in favor. Motion carried.

Council member B. Franklin opened the public hearing for 210 S. Chestnut. Code Enforcement Officer, Shonda Jefferis, stated that the homeowners have pulled a permit and have begun repairs on the home. Council Member B. Franklin closed the hearing for 210 S Chestnut. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to approve the resolution to repair the home at 210 S. Chestnut. All in favor. Motion carried.

Council Member B. Franklin opened the public hearing for 1209 N. Sycamore. Code Enforcement Officer, Shonda Jefferis, stated that the property had experienced a fire in

the past and the property had not been cleaned up. This has made the property dangerous and unsightly. Council Member B. Franklin closed the public hearing. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Shaughnessy to approve the resolution to declare the property at 1209 N. Sycamore is unsafe and/or dangerous and directing the structure be removed and the premises made safe and secure. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. 2014 Annual Audit Report – Neil Phillips– Neil Phillips presented the 2014 audit for approval to the council. He noted that the council needs to continue to increase the reserve balance in the general fund. Capital Projects are not a budgeted fund. Before a capital project begins they are approved by the council. The goal is to have six month reserve in the utility funds. The city is doing better in reaching the goal. A single audit was done due to the amount of federal funding received during the 2014 budget year. No findings or material weaknesses were found during the audit process. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Ford to approve the audit report for the 2014 financial records of the city. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Hope Unlimited – Funding Request – Michelle Miewes, representing Hope Unlimited, was present to ask the city to support the organization with a \$3,000 donation which is the same amount as last year. She stated that out of the 62 women, 27 children and 1 male that were served in 2014, 37 of them were from Allen County which accounts for 41%. Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Wells to support the Hope Unlimited organization with a \$3,000 donation. All in favor. Motion carried. Council Member B. Franklin asked if they received support from other counties. Ms. Miewes stated that they receive funding from Anderson and Woodson Counties proportional to those served from each county.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Economic Development Update – David Toland – David Toland reported that the county commission had voted two to one to sell G&W foods property at the old hospital site. The county is accepting bids for demolition of the hospital structure. It will more than likely be spring of 2016 before the grocery store company breaks ground. The first stage of apartment buildings is proposed to be built by Iola Industries. These apartments are market rate and will not be built with tax credits. Once they are built and the need is demonstrated a developer will be sought to build the other apartments and town homes. Proposed support from the city will be street improvements, possible utility movements on the property, a traffic study, parking and street changes.

David stated that he had attended a convention of shopping center developers and contacted twenty possible prospects and two hotel chains that might have interest in small community development. They have been looking at a possible interest in a restaurant on the east side of Iola.

They are currently working with Van Scoyoc to determine a logical location for a county wide Industrial Park.

THRIVE has hired a retail head hunter to help locate businesses for the area. If a deal is made through this head hunter THRIVE will need financial help from the city to help cover the cost of the head hunter fee.

B. CDBG Grant Information - SEKRPC – This agenda item was moved to the July 13, 2015 meeting.

C. 2016 Budget Presentations – The general fund Department Heads presented their 2016 projects and budget items.

Iola Municipal Library – Roger Carswell – Roger presented the council with some informational handouts that showed the services of the library. He stated that the budget was about the same as last year. The state aid continues to decrease so that lost revenue will need to be made up.

Iola Municipal Court – Judge Tom Saxton – Judge Saxton was not present. Administrator Slauch stated the only budget increase is replacement of a printer.

Code Enforcement – Shonda Jefferis – Shonda informed the group that the city had recently been awarded the safe routes to school grant and will possibly be applying for a CDBG grant. These are the main projects for the 2016 budget.

Fire/EMS – Tim Thyer – Tim Thyer reviewed the increases in the 2016 budget. He noted that they have sent off the defibrillators to be certified and recalibrated. Ryan Sell is working with the county to obtain bids for the new ambulance which will be purchased by the county as per the agreement.

Parks & Cemetery – Berkley Kerr – Berkley stated that all of the departments within the city work together all of the time to accomplish the tasks at hand. There is an ongoing drainage issue at the cemetery with the increased rainfall. They are continually working on that issue.

Police Department – Jared Warner – Jared noted that the department has seen a reduction in burglary cases in the city limit. The increase in budget is in part to the COPS grant that was awarded to the department, and the purchase of two police vehicles due to the increased maintenance costs of the older vehicles.

Street/Alley & Sanitation – Dan Leslie – Dan stated the chip and seal program will continue on a four-year rotation. Dan stated that a mill and overlay for a 24 foot by 300 foot block is approximately \$6,000 compared to the chip and seal at \$2,000 for the same area. Dan stated that the solid waste budget includes a new truck. The special highway budget will continue to accumulate the gas tax money received from the state so that a large mill and overlay project could be done on one of the main streets.

8:20 p.m. Council Member B. Franklin declared a five-minute break.

City Clerk's Office – Roxanne Hutton – Roxanne stated that the city clerk budget includes computer replacement, server replacement for the current 2007 model and a possible update to the software. Discussion centered on whether or not to charge a customer that uses a debit/credit card to pay for their utility bill, cost of online bill pay and sending utility bills via email. Roxanne noted that when her office tried to obtain emails for email bill distribution less than twenty were received.

Administration and City Council – Corey Schinstock – Corey noted that a new minivan for administration will be purchased this year and the current van will be handed down to the clerk's office. Computers will be purchased for the department. Salaries for the 2016 budget were determined based on the remainder of the pay plan study done. The council budget includes Van Scoyoc, the Bowlus and special projects determined by the council. Council Member A. Franklin wondered about trying to go paperless for council meetings and other areas of the city.

Administrator Slaugh noted that the overview of department budgets will be done during June. The priorities of the council will be determined in July and the final budget hearing and approval will be done in August. Council Member A. Franklin asked if the council could have access to five years of budget numbers to see the trend. Council Member Ford stated that she thought the transient guest tax should be increased. The council would like to see the last rate increases that were done on the utility rates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DUI Cases Municipal Court – Ordinance 3445 – Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to approve Ordinance 3445 and authorize the mayor to sign the ordinance. All in favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- Absent

B. Council Member Wells–

- None

C. Council Member Ford –

- The city auction went well.
- Grand opening for the disc golf course is June 24th.

- HOFNOD will be held on June 20th.

D. Council Member B. Franklin–

- None

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- None

F. Council Member Becker –

- Absent

G. Council Member Sigg –

- None

H. Council Member Zornes –

- None

I. Council Member A. Franklin –

- It was nice to see the department heads at the meeting.
- Appreciated Berkley stating that the departments work together. The public perception is that the departments don't get along with each other.

J. Administrator Slauch –

- Will have on the agenda at the next meeting for the council to appoint a group to work with the lobbyists.
- Will have on a future agenda the hands free driving information.
- Had a telephone conference with Van Scoyoc. Will move forward with them after the council sets a committee to work with them.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

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

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday July 13th, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

8:52 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

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Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 22nd day of
June 2015.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton