

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on July 13, 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 Wells, B. Franklin, Sigg, Ford, Zornes, and Shaughnessy were present. Also present were Administrator Slaugh, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Absent were Council Members Becker, and A. Franklin.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve the agenda adding 9 A Update on G&W grocery store and moving the other items under unfinished business down. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Donna Houser noted that members of the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City were in town and toured the Disc Golf Course, the downtown area and other areas of interest. They were impressed by the cleanliness and the sites in town. Donna commended the city employees that have helped CITF with the various projects.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval - June 22, 2015

B. Appropriations Approval – 2015-13

C. Personnel Action

- **David Shelby – Police Department – Annual**
- **Brandon Andres – Police Department – Annual**
- **Charles Heffern- Electric Generation – Annual**
- **Mike Phillips – Electric Generation – Annual**
- **Kevin Appling – Electric Generation – Annual**
- **Terry Friend – Gas, Water, Sewer – Six Month**
- **Terry Skaggs – Fire Department – Resignation**
- **Kenneth Thompson – Fire Department – Resignation**
- **Tristan Roegner – Fire Department – Re-Hire**

D. Board Appointments

- **Board of Zoning Appeals – Tony Godfrey – Appointment**

Council Member B. Franklin asked why we didn't purchase the medical supplies from the hospital. Administrator Slaugh stated that the current contract the hospital has with the pharmacy does not allow them to sell to the city. Council Member B. Franklin asked why

we did not use RVB trucking to service our trucks instead of taking them to Merle Kelley out of town. Staff will look into this. Council Member Sigg asked for more information on the rehire of the employee in the Fire Department. Council decided to discuss this item later in executive session. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin to approve the consent agenda except for the rehire of Tristan Roegner. Motion seconded by Council Member Zornes. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Southeast Kansas Regional Planning – CDBG Grant – The representative from Southeast Kansas Regional Planning was unable to attend the meeting. This item will be deferred until a later date.

B. Portland Alley Pedal fest Request – Damaris Kunkler– THRIVE is requesting the use of the park after hours for camping, the use of the restroom facilities in the recreation building, and to hold a beer garden in the park. Council Member Wells stated that he had been to other venues in neighboring towns that had beer gardens and it seemed to be secured and successful. Council Member Ford stated that she attended an event in Paola that had a beer garden in a fenced in area and it was well attended and seemed contained. Motion made by Council Member Wells to approve the camping in the park, use of the recreation building for restroom facilities, and a beer garden pending THRIVE obtaining a proper state permit. Motion seconded by Council Member Sigg. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Patrol Car Purchase – Jared Warner – Police Chief Warner presented the bids he had received for a 2015 Ford SUV Police Interceptor. The bids received were from Rusty Eck Ford in the amount of \$25,557, Twin Motors Ford in the amount of \$26,900, Olathe Ford in the amount of \$27,017 and Shawnee Mission Ford in the amount of \$25,528. Staff is recommending purchasing from Shawnee Mission Ford, the lowest bid. Council Member B. Franklin stated that it is not a good example for the city to buy out of town when we encourage our residents to buy local. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin to buy the 2015 Ford SUV Police Interceptor from Twin Motors Ford at a cost of \$26,900. Motion seconded by Council Member Shaughnessy. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. Coon Creek Properties – Corey Schinstock – The city has been approached by John Wallace Jr. regarding two properties he currently owns along Coon Creek. The properties are located at 802 N Cottonwood Street and 517 N. Sycamore Street. The city has an interest in the lots due to the fact that they are both affected dramatically by Coon Creek and the flood way. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Franklin for the city to accept the deeds to the properties at 802 N Cottonwood Street and 517 N Sycamore Street pending a clean tax bill on the properties. All in favor. Motion carried.

E. Wastewater Improvement Project Closeout – The wastewater and water improvement project began in 2009 with an assessment of the water distribution system and wastewater collection system. The City of Iola commissioned Professional Engineering Consultants (PEC) to look at projects to improve the system. The estimated cost of the proposed work recommended by PEC came to \$3,746,177. The City also obtained two grants totaling \$768,000 from the EPA to partially fund the projects, which required a 45% match from the City or \$628,000. In 2011 the scope of the proposed project was pared down to a size to match the EPA grant and a revolving fund loan was secured from KDHE to fund the city matching portion. A switch was made to Ponzer-Youngquist engineers to manage the project. The total cost of the projects came to \$1,396,364, not including the engineering expenses which were covered by the city in the amount of \$106,685. The KDHE loan amount to be financed is \$668,393.62. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to approve the closeout of the wastewater and water improvement project and authorize the mayor to sign the necessary documents. All in favor. Motion carried.

F. Water Plant Cryptosporidium Treatment- The city was notified by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Public Water Supply section, that it must show the ability to comply with an additional cryptosporidium treatment for LT2 rule. To meet this requirement, the city has solicited the services of Professional Engineering Consultants, P.A. (PEC) of Topeka. The water plant was originally designed by PEC and the existing treatment process should be capable of meeting the standard. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to approve the service agreement with PEC to conduct the disinfection evaluation at the water treatment plant to meet KDHE requirements for a lump sum amount of \$2,500 and authorize the mayor to sign the required documents. All in favor. Motion carried.

G. Economic Development Services Agreement – The attached Economic Development Services Agreement among Allen County, the City of Iola, Iola Industries and THRIVE was approved, however a signed copy was never obtained and finalized. The enclosed Exhibit A, dated October 1, 2012 is a “draft scope of services” that should be updated to a document that will include the existing services and add some guidelines on financial commitments. David Toland, THRIVE representative serving as the economic development director, stated that the “draft scope of services” would not change and should be approved as is. Motion made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve the Economic Development Service Agreement between Allen County, City of Iola, Iola Industries and THRIVE Allen County and authorize the mayor to sign. All in favor. Motion carried.

A. Update on G&W – David Toland – David Toland reported that the bid openings for the demolition of the hospital facility will be done tomorrow morning during the Allen County Commission meeting. A contract has been sent to G&W for the

sale of 7,200 square feet of property in the amount of \$29,000. Tom Carlson has been contacted about building multi-unit housing on the remainder lots on the property. Iola Industries has agreed to pay for a housing market study to see if the town warrants the extra housing units. A traffic study is needed and David Toland is asking the city to pay for the study. He received three bids and the lowest of the three is \$4,900 from Affinis Corporation. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Ford to approve hiring Affinis Corporation to perform a traffic study for the area of First Street and Madison. Mayor Wicoff was concerned that this is not the right traffic study needed for the site. They may do a study now and will have to redo it in the future. Administrator Slauch stated that the drawing by Land Works Studio is not an engineer site plan which is what is needed in order to obtain a usable traffic study. Mayor Wicoff noted that the number of bedrooms and the square footage of the housing units will factor in on the traffic study also. Council Member Sigg noted that it sounds like a more detailed site plan is needed. He doesn't want the city to put out the money for the traffic study if it will have to be repeated in the future. Motion withdrawn by Council Member Wells until we have more necessary information. He does want the county to know that the city is on board with the project. Council Member Ford withdrew her second to the motion.

B. Iola Middle School Traffic Flow – Corey Schinstock – Staff sent out letters to approximately forty-four property owners adjacent to East Street and Jackson Avenue from Cottonwood Street to First Street for the proposed traffic flow change areas. The letter was placed on social media site Facebook for comments, and was also sent to the Iola Register and KIKS radio as a public service announcement. Lisa Dunn stated that in Humboldt and other surrounding schools a drop off and pick up plan is in place and the parents and children are educated in those plans. Pedestrians and bikers are encouraged to use alternate routes during the pick-up and drop-off times around the schools. She feels that more enforcement needs to be done to make sure that kids don't cross where they are not supposed to. Council Member Ford stated it is hard to make a plan without seeing what is going to be the best plan. Police Chief Jared Warner stated that the officers have a presence at all of the schools the first couple of weeks of school to help educate the parents on the traffic rules. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to erect new signage that would state from 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. stating no parking, standing, loading or unloading on the streets that are opposite against the school. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin for staff to put in a crosswalk on Oak Street crossing Madison Street pending Mayor Wicoff's approval of the plan. Council Member Ford wondered if a grant could be found to help with the cost of the crosswalk. The second phase of the Safe Routes to School may help with the crossing lights in the future. Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that the north side sidewalk will need to be modified to comply with ADA requirements. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Van Scoyoc Lobbyist Committee – Appointments – Mayor Wicoff handed out a list of members to consider serving on the Van Scoyoc Advisory Board. The board will be asked to work with Van Scoyoc and have them search for funding for the drainage issues on North State Street, curb and guttering and sidewalks and to push the EPA to get the clean-up done east of town. They will work with the Comprehensive Plan to see how they can help to seek funding for projects within the plan. The members that the Mayor would like to appoint include: Jerry Dreher, Hannah Barclay, Steve French, Tony Godfrey, Ryan Sparks and Job Springer. The advisory board should make effort to meet and report back to the council at the August 10, 2015 city council meeting. Mayor Wicoff stated that as an advisory board to the council these meetings will be open meetings in which members of the public may attend. Council Member Wells wondered if a council member needed to be a part of the committee. Mayor Wicoff stated that this committee should work independently of the council and not have influence of council members. Motion made by Council Member Shaughnessy and seconded by Council Member Sigg to approve the above mentioned members to serve on the Van Scoyoc Advisory Board. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. Municipal Utility Rate Changes - Council Member Sigg noted that it seems the large transfers from the utility funds to the general fund and the recreation fund are what is making the cost higher. Administrator Slaugh noted that if it weren't for the transfers then the mill levy would have to be increased drastically. Council Member Wells noted that rate increases should be done in smaller increments to avoid a larger rate hike once every few years. Administrator Slaugh noted that the water rate increase is 3% across the board. The reasons for the increase in the water fund is in part trying to recover from the deficit a few years back and each time the loan payment of \$650,000 for the water plant is made it puts the fund in the red for a few months. The reason for the increase in the electric fund is due in part to the EPA mandates, upgrades to Gates Manufacturing and taking on the EMS service for the entire county. The funds should have a reserve for three to six months operating expenses. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin to approve Ordinance 3447, raising electric meter charges, with the changes. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Zornes, Ford, Wells, Shaughnessy, and B. Franklin. Voting against the motion was Council Member Sigg. Motion passed by majority vote. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve Ordinance 3446, raising water rates by 3%. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: B. Franklin, Shaughnessy, Wells, Ford and Zornes. Voting against the motion was Council Member Sigg. Motion passed by majority vote.

E. Transient Guest Tax Changes – Council Member Ford would like to see this increased by 1/2 % to help the non-profit organizations in town. David Toland stated that this is not the right time to increase the tax since they are trying to recruit new motels to the area. Council Member Ford wanted to make sure this item didn't get forgotten, wants to address it next year.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Hands Free Driving Ordinance – Discussions – Council Member Wells thought it would be good to table this item until the next meeting since Council Member A. Franklin was absent. He was the one that asked for this item to be on the agenda. The other members agreed.

B. Review 2016 Budget – Administrator Slauch presented the council with some suggestions to decrease the deficit in the general fund. Some of the ideas from the council members included:

Have staff tear down houses

Keep VanScoyoc

Look into overtime for the Fire Department

Only pay the second year of the wage study

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Ford to approve the changes as presented with the exception of cutting Van Scoyoc. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Industrial Park Options – Presented the existing land owned by Iola Industries and the adjacent vacant lots that are available for future building sites.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- Received some ideas from Council Member Becker. Has some concerns how the employees are perceived using their cell phones while driving.
- Wondered how the IMS is going to handle the number of students that are coming in.
- Noted that it is very difficult to see in the dark on North Kentucky Street.

B. Council Member Wells–

- Had received some concerns about the safety of the wooden bleachers for the main ball field.
- Great turnout for the Elks fireworks/fishing Fourth of July celebration. Thanked everyone for their contributions.
- Commended all of the service members including military, Fire/EMS and Police Officers for the job they do every day.

C. Council Member Ford –

- Reminded everyone of the Mad Bomber Run this weekend.

D. Council Member B. Franklin–

- Great fireworks show at the Elks.

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- None

F. Council Member Becker –

- Absent

G. Council Member Sigg –

- Appreciated the water line crew that worked on a water leak in his neighborhood recently.
- Great job by the electric crew on the Gates conversion project.

H. Council Member Zornes –

- None

I. Council Member A. Franklin –

- Absent

J. Administrator Slaugh –

- Commended the electric distribution, electric production and the water distribution crew on a job well done for the gates conversion last Friday.

Mayor Wicoff declared a three minute break.

Executive Session

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of non-elected personnel. Present: Mayor, Council, and Administrator Slaugh. The meeting will resume at 8:45 p.m.

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to approve the rehire of Tristan Roegner in the Fire Department. All in favor. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of non-elected personnel – administrator's evaluation. Present: Mayor and Council. The meeting will resume at 9:17 p.m.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday July 27th, 2015

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

ADJOURNMENT

9:27 p.m. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin 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 27th day of July 2015.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton