

CITY OF IOLA

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A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on August 10, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., at the Riverside Park Community Building, 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

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

Mark Kauth, Iola Booster Club representative, asked for permission to discharge fireworks at the football stadium for home football games. He has spoken with Chief Thyer and will obtain insurance. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin to approve the discharge of fireworks at home football games at the stadium after obtaining the proper insurance and Chief Thyer's approval. All in favor. Motion carried.

Tom Brigham, Bob Hawk and Jacey Gull representing the Iola Rotary Club were present to thank the city for all of the help they gave to make the Rotary Day in the Park a success. Bob Hawk mentioned that Berkley Kerr, Superintendent of the Park Department, had installed lights in the shelter house. They were a great help and the club is willing to pay for the lights.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval - July 27, 2015

B. Appropriations Approval – 2015-16

C. Personnel Action

- **John Ross – Purchasing/Stores – Annual Evaluation**
- **Brian Plumlee – Police Department – Annual Evaluation**
- **Lyndon Kern – Water Production – Six Month Evaluation**
- **Ryan Chapman – Fire Department – Annual Evaluation**
- **Robert Droessler Jr. – Street & Alley – Annual Evaluation**
- **James Boeken – Sanitation – Annual Evaluation**

Council Member B. Franklin asked about the starter for the turbine motor. Administrator Slaugh noted that this was for the Wartsila generator. Council Member B. Franklin asked about the work comp bill. City Clerk Hutton explained that the city's insurance carrier, EMC, performs an audit every year on the salaries and number of employees for each department. The Fire/EMS department added several employees with the merger of the city/county EMS service. The increase in the work comp premium is reflected in this bill. Council Member B. Franklin asked about the freight charge on the McCarty's Office Supply bill. Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that this charge was for shipping of water samples to the lab via UPS. Council Member B. Franklin asked if the sales tax paid to the hospital was \$300,000 each year. City Clerk Hutton stated that the city does send the collected amount monthly up to the \$300,000 per year for a period of ten years. Council Member B. Franklin asked about the licensing fee for the electronic signature with Tyler Technologies. Administrator Slaugh noted that this was to enable electronic signatures on the checks. Motion made by Council Member Wells to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Becker. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Southeast Kansas Regional Planning – Susan Galemore – Susan Galemore was in attendance to answer questions from the council on CDBG opportunities. She stated that the council had shown interest in grant opportunities for storm shelters, housing rehabilitation and curbs & guttering. She explained that in order to be eligible for a CDBG grant that would affect the city as a whole the city would have to do an income survey to prove they were at the 51% threshold of low to moderate income (LMI). Currently the 2010 census shows the city is at 34% LMI. The survey would be good until the 2020 census report is released. For a storm shelter grant Susan explained that typically they would have to include a restroom, a targeted area in town would have to be surveyed and the shelter had to be built to FEMA requirements.

For a housing grant the occupant has to be income qualified. Prior to submitting an application a housing assessment tool (HAT) must be completed. The state prefers that key community stakeholders be involved in this process. They must meet with the state to see what they could partner with the city on.

Council Member Wells asked about the Economic Development Grant for the incoming grocery store. Susan explained that the business has to be involved and willing to participate in the 25% payback of the grant.

Susan noted that all CDBG applications are due in the fall of each year except for the economic development grant which is open all year.

Susan explained on a water/wastewater grant there is a \$500,000 limit. The city must meet the LMI requirements city wide, an engineer must be hired by the city, requires a 25% match, however; one to one match applications have a better chance to get awarded. Administrator Slaugh asked if the grants without a federal mandate are getting awarded. Susan stated that some are. A second CDBG can be awarded while in the initial two year term of a current CDBG grant. If an extension is requested a new CDBG grant will not be eligible. Susan left some information which will be distributed to the council for their review.

B. Hands Free Driving Ordinance – Discussions – Administrator Slaugh noted that while the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Chiefs of Police recommended adoption of the statute they both stated that the enforcement side of it would be difficult. Chief Warner stated that there would need to be concentration on the public awareness. He is supportive of the ordinance. He has some concerns about selective enforcement. Chief Warner would rather see a statewide ban since it would be harder to enforce on the local level. Signs will have to be placed at the entrances to the city.

Council Member Wells stated he would like the council to pass a resolution in support of hands free driving and try to get the county to also pass a resolution in support. The more support from local government might pressure the state to pass statewide.

Council Member Shaughnessy stated that we need to make people aware of the ordinance if it is passed, educate them and give warnings for a time period before citations are issued.

Council Member A. Franklin stated that local government can take the steps now and maybe it will affect the state government to change. It is a reality that distracted driving is an issue.

Council Member Wells wondered about enforcement of a driver using a GPS device or other electronic device. He would like to see the cost of signs and possible fines. It would be great to get all of the towns within Allen County to support it.

Council Member A. Franklin stated that the city should be proactive, find out the cost of the signs and just do it and get others to follow in our path.

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member A. Franklin to instruct staff to draft a resolution to send to both the county and state level in support of enforcement of hands free driving. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Wells, Becker, B. Franklin and A. Franklin. Voting against the motion was Council Member Shaughnessy. Motion passed by a majority vote.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2016 Budget – Council President Becker opened the public hearing. No comments were heard. Council President Becker closed the public hearing. Council Member A. Franklin asked about the Fire/EMS personnel budget. The 2016 budget includes funding for 28 total employees, nine on each shift. Some of the council members had been contacted by the Fire/EMS employees regarding all of the overtime they have to work and wondering why more employees couldn't be hired for each shift. Council Member Shaughnessy asked why we have a two mill increase and we just increased electric rates. Administrator Slaugh noted that the electric department has had some large expenditures in the last few years and the rate increase is needed to help build the fund back up to a healthy level. Council Member Shaughnessy asked where the three mill savings is when we combined the county and city EMS service. That is a county mill levy not a city levy. He gave an example of a house he owns in Iola and a house he owns in Topeka the property taxes are lower in Topeka. Administrator Slaugh stated that

metropolitan areas that have more sales tax revenue generally have a lower mill levy because a large part of their income is generated by the sales tax.

Council Member Wells stated that the mill levy needs to be increased to keep the infrastructure where it needs to be.

Council Member A. Franklin stated that he has concerns about morale issues in the Fire/EMS Department with all of the overtime they are working. Administrator Slauch noted that this time of year many employees are taking vacations and this causes other employees to have to cover shifts.

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Becker to approve the 2016 budget as presented. Voting in favor of the motion were council members Wells, Becker and B. Franklin. Voting against the motion were Council Members A. Franklin and Shaughnessy. There was some debate on whether the budget could be approved with a simple majority or if it had to be approved by a majority of the council. The consensus of the council members present was to hold a special called meeting on August 17th at 5:15 p.m. to discuss the budget with possible approval.

B. Electric Capacity Purchase Agreement – The City of Iola is required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to demonstrate the capacity to provide the peak load of the city plus approximately 12 percent reserve. The city has 22.5 megawatts of power production capability and therefore must buy capacity from someone else. Currently the City of Chanute has excess power production capability and has agreed to sell a portion of the excess to the City of Iola. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin to approve the capacity purchase contract between the City of Iola and the City of Chanute for electric capacity purchase and authorize the mayor to sign the contract. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Wastewater Improvement Loan Agreement – The city council approved the closeout of the wastewater improvement project at the July 13, 2015 meeting. The loan amount was revised from the original \$785,000 to \$668,393.62. The documents for the Kansas Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (KWPCRF) loan, project number C20 1932 01, have been changed to reflect the revised amount and a new amortization schedule prepared. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve amendment number one to the wastewater improvement project loan agreement C20 1932 01 and authorize the mayor to sign the necessary documents. All in favor. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Portland Alley Pedal Fest – The council approved the sale of alcohol at the Portland Alley Pedal Fest on September 12, 2015. The council must pass a resolution that must be submitted to the State of Kansas with the license application. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve the resolution 2015-14 to allow the Portland Alley Pedal Fest to hold a temporary permit for

consumption of alcoholic liquor in the Riverside Park on Saturday, September 12, 2015 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Kentucky Street – Street Lighting – With the cost in front of them the council showed no support of installing lighting on North Kentucky Street. Erecting no parking signs on North Kentucky Street was discussed. The council decided to put it on the next agenda and if homeowners in the area that will be affected wanted to voice their opinion they could come to the meeting.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- Absent

B. Council Member Wells–

- Appreciated the street and alley crew working on the chip & seal project. He appreciates all of the city employees that have to work out in the heat.

C. Council Member Ford –

- Absent

D. Council Member B. Franklin–

- None

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- None

F. Council Member Becker –

- Thanked the street and alley crew for their work on the chip & seal project.

G. Council Member Sigg –

- Absent

H. Council Member Zornes –

- Absent

I. Council Member A. Franklin –

- None

J. Administrator Slaugh –

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- Presented the council with information on the EMD's and the importance of having them available as part of the city's energy capacity. If the city would be able to sell them they would only bring about \$1,000,000 which would not buy enough natural gas powered generation to make up for the capacity. Without the EMD'S the annual capacity payment would be closer to \$458,400 per year instead of the \$158,400 paid in 2014.
- Council Member A. Franklin asked about the city sidewalk program could be used for curbs and gutters and/or alley approaches. Administrator Slaugh noted that allowing homeowners to install curbing could cause some issues with the streets and slope the storm drainage. The alley approaches would also need to be done with city employees due to the connection with the street.
- He had set up a tour of Regency Inn on August 17th, however; with the special called budget meeting he will reschedule.
- Wondered if the council would be interested in pursuing a grant from the Kansas City Health Care Foundation that would promote drinking water. The grant would be at no cost to the city. The council showed their support of obtaining the grant.
- Reminded council members of the city employee picnic on Tuesday.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 5:15 p.m. Monday August 17th, 2015

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday August 24th, 2015

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday September 14th, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

8:17 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 24th day of August 2015.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton