

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on August 24, 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, Sigg, Zornes, Ford and Shaughnessy were present. Also present were Administrator Slaugh, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jan Sigg, Iola Booster Club representative, stated the club is working with Modern Woodmen and Coach Kerr to revitalize the football stadium. They are going to put sidewalks on the south side of the stadium that will connect all five entrances into the stadium. The sidewalks will help prevent spectators having to walk in muddy areas. Part of the property where the sidewalks will be installed is city property. The club is asking for permission to place the sidewalks on city property and ask if the club could be reimbursed through the sidewalk replacement program. The bid received for the cost of the material and installation was about \$3,100. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member A. Franklin to allow the Iola Booster Club to use the sidewalk replacement program for installation of the sidewalk at the football field and allow them to put the sidewalk on city property. All in favor. Motion carried.

Donna Houser stated that the stadium does need updating and she is glad the city is supporting this project. She stated that the swimming pool was very clean this year and appreciated the council setting the time for adult swim. She noted that the rail trail is used frequently. Reminded the council that See, Hear, Iola will be held this Friday.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval

- August 10th
- August 17th Special Meeting Budget Discussions
- August 17th Special Joint City/County Discussions

B. Appropriations Approval – 2015-17

C. Personnel Action

- **Daniel McKarnin – Electric Generation – Annual**

- **Andrew Chester – Electric Distribution – Promotion**
- **David Harrison – Sanitation – Annual**
- **Charlotte Sexton – Clerk/Utility Office – Six Month**
- **Michael Burnett – Fire Department – Annual**
- **Eric Sanders – Fire Department – Annual**
- **Ron Knavel – Gas, Water & Sewer – Annual**
- **Joe Bonczkowski – Gas, Water & Sewer - Annual**
- **Patrick Wilson – Parks & Cemetery – Annual**
- **Nathaniel Keylon – Fire Department – Promotion**

D. Fire Department Boot Block Approval – September 5, 2015

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Hands Free Driving - Resolution – The council made a motion at the August 10th council meeting for staff to prepare a resolution supporting hands free driving. Staff has prepared a resolution and is presenting it to the council for discussion and/or approval. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Becker to approve Resolution No. 2015-17 in support of legislation that will restrict the use of handheld devices while driving. Authorize the mayor to sign the resolution and direct staff to send to the county commissioners and state representatives. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Feasibility Study Funding Request – David Toland – THRIVE is requesting the City of Iola pay 50% of the \$4,950 Field Research Hotel Evaluation Study. The study will be used to determine the need for an additional hotel in the city. David Toland stated that he had recently attended an event at the Sleep Inn in Ft. Scott. Since the Sleep Inn has been open in Ft. Scott the Convention and Tourism tax receipts have gone up 63%. This money is used to help pay for events held in town that will draw more people to the area. Once the people are here they will spend more of their money in Iola. This survey will show if there is a need for more rooms and/or more options for travelers. Council Member Ford wondered if the study would be done after US Highway 54 was open west of town. David Toland stated that the study would be done after the opening of the highway for more accurate numbers.

Council Member Wells stated that the college would need to be added to the list of those individuals that are adding input to the study. The college has to put students in one of the motels for the first few weeks of school due to housing shortages.

Council Member Sigg stated that he never has an issue with not enough rooms, when he has to put 50-75 national guardsmen in the motels every month.

Council Member Ford stated that it may not be the availability of rooms, it may be what the prospective guests are looking for. Maybe a name brand motel is higher priority for some individuals.

Council Member Becker stated he didn't want to agree to pay for part of the study until he was able to look at the remodel of the Regency Inn.

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin to approve the request for the city to pay one half of the feasibility study for motels, at a cost of \$2,475, and contingent upon Iola Industries paying the remaining one half.

Council Member A. Franklin asked if the housing study could be combined with this study. David Toland stated that the two are totally different.

Mayor Wicoff stated he had been asked what it would do to the existing motels. David Toland stated that the more rooms that are available, the more options there are, drawing more people to the area which would potentially cause restaurants to be built. It would be growing the pie instead of dicing it into pieces. Council Member Wells and Council Member B. Franklin amended the motion to include the expense would come from the council budget if funds are available, if not from the Industrial Fund. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Ford, Zornes, Wells, Shaughnessy, B. Franklin and A. Franklin. Voting against the motion were Council Members Becker and Sigg. Motion passed by a majority vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Financial Audit Agreement 2015 – Jared, Gilmore and Phillips completed the audit for the 2013 and 2014 calendar years for the city. The proposed fee for them to complete the audit for the 2015 calendar year will remain the same. The fee of \$10,700 includes \$8,800 for the audit and \$1,900 for the single audit if the city receives more than \$500,000 in federal awards during the calendar year. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve the audit engagement agreement with Jared, Gilmore and Phillips, P.A. to perform the audit for the City of Iola for the year ending December 31, 2015 and authorize the mayor to sign the document. All in favor. Motion carried. The city also needs to approve, by resolution, a waiver of the requirements of the law relating to the preparation of financial statements and financial reports that conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as provided by K.S.A. 75-1120a(c). This is generally referred to as a GAAP waiver. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve Resolution 2015-16 the GAAP Waiver. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Kentucky Street Parking – Discussions – At the August 10, 2015 city council meeting it was decided to discuss the parking issue at a future meeting and see what concerns the residents might have if parking on the street were restricted to insure the safety of those traveling to the hospital. Council Members stated that they had not received any feedback on this issue other than one to Council Member Wells stating they were not in favor of no parking signs. Council Member A. Franklin had received prior comments from the public asking for the signs to be installed. Council Member A. Franklin asked what the costs of the signs would be. Administrator Slauch stated he wasn't sure and would have to check into the actual cost. Council Member Ford asked if

any complaints had been made by emergency medical personnel. Administrator Slaugh stated that no comments had been received from the emergency personnel. No action was taken by the council.

D. Standard Traffic Ordinance and Uniform Public Offense Code -

Every year the STO and the UPOC have to be adopted to enforce the codes contained within each of them. Motion made by Council Member Wells to adopt Ordinance 3449 regulating the public offenses within the city limits. Motion seconded by Council Member B. Franklin. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to adopt Ordinance 3450 regulating traffic within the corporate limits of the city. All in favor. Motion carried.

E. Southern Star Easement Request – Corey Schinstock – Southern Star is requesting a utility easement at the west town gas border station. They are requesting the easement because they need to install some electronic monitoring devices at their border stations. Staff has some concerns with their request of such a large area. Council Member Wells made a motion to approve the easement presented with staff's recommendation for additional wording to only allow the electric monitoring equipment outside the currently fenced area and approve the Mayor to sign after necessary changes are made. Motion seconded by Council Member Sigg. All in favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- The car show held this past weekend by the Hirschsprung's group was a success.

B. Council Member Wells–

- Reminded everyone that school is starting. Pay attention to the school zones and the new no stopping rule around the middle school.

C. Council Member Ford –

- Good to be back.
- Chip and Seal on her street looks great.
- Watch out for kids with school starting this week.

D. Council Member B. Franklin–

- Bike riders are out and about pay attention to them.

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- Thanked Mayor Wicoff and Police Chief Warner for judging the car show this weekend. The fundraiser went well with over 60 cars participating in the event.

F. Council Member Becker –

- None

G. Council Member Sigg –

- Good to be back.

H. Council Member Zornes –

- None

I. Council Member A. Franklin –

- Questioned the twenty minute parking signs on the north side of the street south of the middle school. Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that only the signs on the south side of the street were changed. The parking on the north is to enable the parents a parking spot in case they have a need to go into the school and allow for loading and unloading.

- Stated he had received some complaints of a number of electric outages on the south side of town. Assistant Administrator Schinstock asked that he get them specific addresses because they had not had a number of outages on the south side of town. Administrator Slaugh noted that the engineer was here last week to try to fix the problem with the breakers on the east side of town.

J. Administrator Slaugh –

- City staff has entered into an agreement with EMG, Scott Shreve, and Utility Data Intel, LLC, Don Rankin, to perform an analysis of the utility billing practices of the city. The intent is to cross check customer billing records with property addresses to see if errors or omissions exist and if the correct rates are applied. There will no direct cost for the service. In the agreement the city agrees to share any savings from increased billing due to errors on a 50/50 basis for one year.
- Requested that citizens not mow grass clippings or leaves into the streets. They get into the storm sewer inlets and cause backups. The street sweeper cannot cover the entire town every day to clean the clippings and leaves up.
- Reminded the council that a special called meeting will be held on Thursday, September 3rd at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall for budget hearing.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council – Special Called 5:30 p.m. Thursday September 3rd, 2015

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

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday September 28th, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

6:52 p.m. Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Wells to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

CITY OF IOLA

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Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 14th day of
September 2015.

Mayor, Joel Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton