

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on September 14, 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, Zornes, Ford and Shaughnessy were present. Also present were Administrator Slaugh, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Absent was Council Member Sigg.

## **REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Franklin to approve the agenda moving item 9 D to the next council meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Richard Luken asked the council members to wear their Sunday best to the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting so that he can take a picture for an Iola Register supplement coming soon.

Donna Houser stated that the CITF committee has received a matching grant through Kansas PRIDE. The committee is planning on installing directional signs throughout the city with the funding.

Donna Houser noted that there is now a league at the disc golf course every Thursday and Sunday evening.

Donna Houser stated she was mowing the ditch behind her house that is the property of the Nazarene Church. The church will not mow it because they say it is on the city's right of way. A gentleman, whom happened to be Council Member Ford's son-in-law, stopped and took over mowing for her. He informed her that he didn't think a lady her age should be mowing with a push mower.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **A. Minutes Approval**

- August 24<sup>th</sup>
- September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Special – 2016 Budget

### **B. Appropriations Approval – 2015-17**

### **C. Personnel Action**

- **Kevin Rush – Electric Distribution – Termination – Position to be filled**
- **Kendall West – Sanitation – Annual Evaluation**
- **Michael Aronson – Police Department – Resignation – Position to be filled**
- **Jeremy Troester – Police Department – Twelve Month Evaluation**

• **Matthew Sanchez – Fire Department – Resignation – Position to be filled**

Motion made by Council Member Franklin to approve the consent agenda removing Kevin Rush, Termination from the personnel actions to discuss later in the meeting in executive session. Motion seconded by Council Member Wells. All in favor. Motion carried.

**ROUNDTABLE**

**A. EPA Cleanup Update –Randy Schademann-** Mr. Schademann gave a brief overview of the history of the lead and zinc smelters in the area over 100 years ago noting that the residual of lead within the soil of many homes in the area has caused high levels of contamination. Due to the result of the high levels the EPA began a sampling and cleanup project. During the first phase of the project in 2005 and 2006 approximately 130 properties were remediated. The project was put on hold for a time due to funding issues. The second phase of the project, began in 2013, was the collection of soil samples of properties. All identified properties that have a lead count of greater than 800 ppm will be remediated this fall. The third stage will begin in 2016. The entire process will take approximately two years to complete. The funds have been allocated and therefore should not be a problem completing the project.

Council Member Wells asked if this is only for residential. Mr. Schademann stated that this funding is only for residential properties. Commercial properties have to go through the Kansas Brownfields funding.

Mr. Schademann noted that a public meeting will be held at the Public Library this Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

**B. Capital Improvement Project List – Review -** Administrator Slaugh stated that the conference calls with VanScoyoc have led to the request that the council and staff look at the current capital improvement list and determine what is priority. Van Scoyoc will then look into what funding aligns with the projects. KDOT has grouped trails and economic development funding in with the road projects that qualify for 80/20 funding.

**C. Municipal Code Revisions – Review -** Administrator Slaugh informed the council that staff and the city attorney are reviewing the changes that were recommended by the employee task force last year. Final changes will come to the council in the future for their approval.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Dangerous/Unsafe Structure Resolutions – Shonda Jefferis –** The office of Code Services has inspected and prepared reports on two structures that are unfit or dangerous. Staff is requesting the council approve a resolution setting a public hearing on each of these structures. To allow for the necessary resolution publications and

notification of the owners, the public hearings will be scheduled for October 26, 2015. The two structures in question are located as follows:

706 N Washington  
824 E Jackson

Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin to approve the resolutions for the two properties located at 706 N Washington and 824 E Jackson setting a hearing to hold a public hearing on October 26, 2015. All in favor. Motion carried. All in favor. Motion carried.

**B. Blue Cross and Blue Shield Renewal** – David Dillion reviewed the rates that go into effect on November 1, 2015. The Employee Task Force wants to stay with the current insurance policy. The rate for single will be \$418.18 per month for family \$942.79 per month. COBRA and retiree premiums will be set at these amounts. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to renew the medical policy for the City of Iola with Blue Cross Blue Shield for the period of 11/01/2015 to 10/31/2016 funding at the 125% level. All in favor. Motion carried.

**C. Farm City Days Event – Request** – Tracy Keagle informed the council of the change in the parade route, and that the carnival will run Wednesday through Sunday. All of the requests from the city are the same except for the swimming pool pass to be given away as part of the Farm City Days button sale. Chief Warner has been contacted about the new parade route and the street closures. Motion made by Council Member Wells to approve the requests from the Farm City Days Committee including the pool pass. Motion seconded by Council Member Ford. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Zornes, Ford, Wells, Shaughnessy, Becker and B. Franklin. Abstaining from the vote was A. Franklin due to the fact that he is chairman of the Farm City Days Committee. Motion carried.

**D. Cox Communications Franchise Agreement Renewal** - This item was moved to a later meeting.

**E. Special Assessments Forgiveness – 307 E Irwin St. – Corey**

**Schinstock** – The city staff was approached by local resident Mason Sigg about the property at 307 E Irwin Street. At the time he was looking at purchasing the vacant lot and building a home on it. Mr. Sigg visited with the owners and found out there were special assessments placed on the property by the city. The charges are from weed notices, mowing and demolition of a sub-standard structure. Mr. Sigg is requesting the city forgive the special assessments if he purchases the lots for the purpose of building a home in the near future. The amount that is owed to the city for the specials is \$2,973.53. City Attorney Johnson has drawn up a document that would forgive the special city costs at the aforementioned property address if he builds a home in the next year or two.

Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve the request from Mason Sigg to forgive the special assessments by the city at 307 E. Irwin and most recent mowing costs that have yet to be assessed to the property. Contingent upon Mr. Sigg signing the commitment document that is being drawn up by City Attorney Johnson that a structure will be built within two years. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Electric Rate Correction – Ordinance** – An error was made on Ordinance 3447 in the implementation of electric customer charges (meter fees). The customer monthly charge (per meter) for all-electric commercial users should read \$17.50 not \$7.50. The previous meter fee, set in 2002 was \$12.50. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Becker to approve Ordinance 3451 correcting Ordinance 3447 raising electric customer charges (meter fees) for all-electric commercial users from \$12.50 to \$17.50. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

### **A. Mayor Wicoff –**

- None

### **B. Council Member Wells–**

- Thanked all of the volunteers that made the weekend events possible at the pedal fest.

### **C. Council Member Ford –**

- Stated that this weekend there were a lot of events going on in town. It was nice to see the town buzzing. Thanked everyone for their work and efforts in making all of the events come together.

### **D. Council Member B. Franklin–**

- Received complaints about the loud music from the peddle fest and dislike of the beer garden.

### **E. Council Member Shaughnessy –**

- None

### **F. Council Member Becker –**

- Received calls about the loud music after midnight.
- Appreciate all city employees that have been working so hard on the ongoing projects.

### **G. Council Member Sigg –**

- Absent

**H. Council Member Zornes –**

- None

**I. Council Member A. Franklin –**

- On behalf of the Farm City Days Committee, thank you to the city for their generosity.

**J. Administrator Slaugh –**

- Iola was voted Best Tasting Water at the Kansas Section American Water Works Association.
- The water plant crews have placed first place eight out of nine times. This year they placed second.
- If anyone is planning on attending the League Conference in October please contact the administrator's office.

**Mayor Wicoff declared a five-minute break.**

**7:00 p.m.** B. Franklin left the meeting

**Executive Session –** Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to adjourn to executive session for non-elected personnel. Present: Mayor, Council Members, Administrator Slaugh. The meeting will reconvene at 7:25 p.m.

**Executive Session –** Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Ford to adjourn to executive session for non-elected personnel. Present: Mayor, Council Members, Administrator Slaugh. The meeting will reconvene at 7:40 p.m.

Motion made by Council Member Wells to approve the termination of Kevin Rush. Motion seconded by Council Member Becker. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Wells, Ford and Becker. Voting against the motion were Council Members Zornes, A. Franklin and Shaughnessy. Mayor Wicoff voted against the motion. Motion failed.

**DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**ADJOURNMENT**

**7:52 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of  
September 2015.

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Mayor, Joel Wicoff

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City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton