

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on January 9, 2017, 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, Ford, Sigg, Zornes, A. Franklin, and Becker were present. Also present were Administrator Fleming, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton.

### **REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Donna Houser stated that she had received many compliments on the Christmas decorations around the square.

Told the council that the Trolley Board could sure use a new trolley, she stated that it has been repaired about as much as it could be repaired.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **A. Minutes Approval**

- December 12, 2016

#### **B. Appropriations Approval – 2016-24 and 2017-01**

#### **C. Personnel Action**

- **Tony Hutton – Street and Alley / Sanitation – Six Month**
- **Terry Friend – Gas, Water & Wastewater – Annual**
- **James DePriest – Water Plant – Merit**
- **Denver Mitchell – Fire Department – Six Month**
- **Andy Hill – Fire Department – Six Month**
- **Spencer Hart – Fire Department – Resignation**
- **Bo Becker – Electric Distribution – Reinstatement**

#### **D. Kansas Pride Program-Resolution**

Council Member B. Franklin asked if the Wartsila repairs were paid for out of the electric fund or the equipment reserve fund. Administrator Fleming stated that the expenses were paid for out of the equipment reserve fund in order to have some reserve cash in the electric fund.

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

## NEW BUSINESS

**A. Water Main Extension - Request** – Since taking over Rural Water District #7 on the southern edge of Iola, staff has been approached by resident Calvin Parker with regard to serving his residence with city water. Staff had conversations with Mr. Parker and learned that other residents are interested in having their residence also served with city water. Staff estimates the cost to extend to these residents at approximately \$12,000 to install approximately 6,000 feet of 2” water main to serve another four to five residents on the most southern edge of our water service territory. The customers are interested in moving forward and paying one half of the cost up front and paying for the remainder of the project when it is completed. City Attorney Johnson will be asked to draw up a contract for those interested residents to sign. Motion made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Wells to authorize staff to move forward with the water main extension project pending all residents execute agreements and pay the first half of the estimated project cost. All in favor. Motion carried.

**B. Fence Allowance Request – Job Springer** – Mr. Springer is seeking to install a welded wire type fence in the extreme southeast corner of town. Mr. Springer is seeking to place the fence across platted but unmaintained street right-of-ways of South Vermont Street and East Spruce Street. Council Member B. Franklin stated that she had driven to the property and sees no problem with allowing the fence in that area of town. She stated that if the property is maintained by Mr. Springer it will actually improve the property. Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that the fence material would be non-conforming to current policy, however with the location it shouldn't be a problem. Motion made by Council Member Wells to approve Mr. Springer to install a fence and gate in accordance with the indemnification and acknowledgement of responsibility agreement and authorize staff to execute the document. Motion seconded by Council Member B. Franklin. All in favor. Motion carried.

**C. Riverside Park – Use of Tobacco Products** – At the July 11, 2016 council meeting Council approved a policy regarding the use of tobacco products in Riverside Park only in designated areas. Thrive provided signage for the designated smoking areas. Administrator Fleming noted that an ordinance is being presented for council approval. At council's request there are no penalties for violating this ordinance. Council Member A. Franklin asked what good is the ordinance if there is no penalty for violation. Administrator Fleming stated that at the time of approval that was the council's wishes. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to approve Ordinance 3469. All in favor. Motion carried.

## ROUNDTABLE

**A. Electric ECA Base Rate Modification - Discussion** – The City of Iola purchases power as part of the Southwind Energy Group (SEG). Over the last few months,

SEG has secured agreements, which have the potential to reduce the cost to purchase power. Administrator Fleming gave a brief synopsis of our current power purchases and the new options available to the city. With this option the city will see a potential savings it is staff's recommendation to modify the base rate of the electric Energy Cost Adjustment (ECA) in an effort to capture potential savings from purchasing power. Council Member Wells stated that he would like to see us figure out a way to recover our decrease in funding in the electric department and not lose more income by passing these savings onto the customers. Council Member B. Franklin asked what the large expenditures were in 2014 and 2015. Electric Production Supervisor, Mike Phillips noted that those expenses were the Gates project and the RICE mandates that required updates to the generators. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin to have staff draft an ordinance modifying the base rate to allow the city to capture the savings revenue while at the same time the customer charge should be the same as it is now. All in favor. Motion carried.

**B. City Council Meeting Date and Time** – Staff has looked at potential changes to the meeting date or time. There are a lot of conflicts with the current building the council is meeting in. The North Community Building has some problems such as the acoustics are not good, the audio/visual equipment would have to be moved, and the building is not ideal for executive sessions. Council Member Wells asked if the 4-H group was asked about moving to another building. They were not interested in moving because they utilize the kitchen in the current building and all of their stuff is located here. Council member Ford stated she is not available the first Monday of the month due to a prior meeting commitment. Council Member Wells noted that it is nice to meet prior to the County Commission meetings in case the City Council wants to present something to them. It was noted that there are already several meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Council Member Zornes stated she would like to leave it as is. Council Member A. Franklin asked if other non-city owned buildings could be looked at as possibilities. Council Member Ford wondered if the school board would be interested in changing. Administrator Fleming will visit with the school district and look at some alternative meeting locations and report back at a future meeting.

## **COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS**

### **A. Mayor Wicoff –**

- None

### **B. Council Member Wells–**

- Wished everyone a safe 2017.

### **C. Council Member Ford –**

- Wished everyone a safe and happy new year.

**D. Council Member B. Franklin--**

- Wished everyone a happy 2017.

**E. Council Member Shaughnessy –**

- Absent

**F. Council Member Becker –**

- Concerned about the weather that is supposed to come in this weekend. Wants city crews to be prepared and everyone to be safe.

**G. Council Member Sigg –**

- Pleased with the letter the city received stating our electric crews had a quick and professional response to a recent outage.

**H. Council Member Zornes –**

- Proud of the electric crew.
- Encouraged everyone to be safe on the ice.

**I. Council Member A. Franklin –**

- None

**J. Administrator Fleming--**

- Since the upgrade to the Wartsila our current parts in inventory have become obsolete. We were given a 15% discount to purchase the new parts to have on hand. Will be seeing that expense come through.
- Brett Heim has resigned as city prosecutor. Staff have begun the process to fill that position.

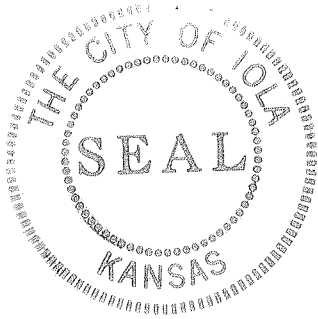
**DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING**


City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

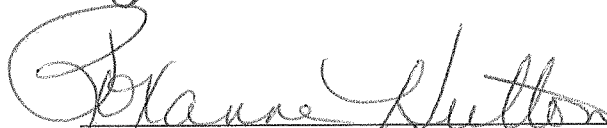
**ADJOURNMENT**

**6:51 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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of  
January, 2017.



  
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Mayor Wicoff

  
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City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton