

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on April 10, 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, Ford, B. Franklin, Zornes, and Sigg were present. Also present were Administrator Fleming, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Absent were Council Members Becker, Shaughnessy, and A. Franklin.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes Approval

- March 27, 2017

B. Appropriations Approval – 2017-07

C. Personnel Action

- **Gregg Hutton – Code Enforcement – 12 Month**
- **Ron Conaway – Fire Department – Annual**
- **Richard Jones – Parks Department – Rehire**
- **Michael Wilson – Fire Department – Resignation**

Council Member B. Franklin asked if bids were taken on the mower purchased by the Park Department. Administrator Fleming noted that bids were taken and that size mower was not one that local dealers carried. The price paid was the state bid price. Council Member B. Franklin asked what the reason for the check to Iola School for the football stadium. City Clerk Hutton informed the Council that the money that was a donation and was deposited into the city CITF account and then checks are written out of the account when expenses come due. 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.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Humanity House Pool Pass Request – Humanity House is requesting that the City provide a single day pass for each “A” that a student receives on his/her report card. Georgia Masterson, representative of Humanity House stated that 39% of Iola is at 200% of

the poverty level and 18% are living at or below it. Humanity House pays utilities for these individuals, tries to help with rent and shelter, and provides laundry soap and \$800 a month in quarters for individuals to wash their clothing, and they have bought bicycles for children. They would like to give grades 3-12 a single day pass for each A that they receive on their report card. Humanity House would then have a pool party for the lower grades since they do not issue letter grades for those students.

Council Member Ford asked what if there is a family of several children and only one or two of the children actually earn a pass. This could cause some problems within the family if the parents cannot pay for the other children to go to the pool.

Council Member Wells suggested instead of giving a pass for every A giving students a set number depending on which level of the honor roll they have achieved. He stated that according to statistics he has read about tying incentives to grades does not work for children. Those that are not currently achieving an A just don't see it as reachable. If a child is challenged to an accomplishment such as reading a certain number of books they are more than likely to reach the goal. Council Member Wells thinks that having free days or free hours for certain grades would be better than tying the free pass to grades. He wonders if one child earns six pool passes would he hand them out to his friends that didn't earn them. Council Member Wells also noted that kids over the age of 14 can work at the pool and would be able to swim. He would like the council to concentrate on kids in grades 3-5 instead of the older ones that can work.

Council Member Ford agreed that tying it to the honor roll would include more kids.

Administrator Fleming stated that staff feels like when the pool has a free day it creates a safety hazard due to the number of participants.

Council Member Sigg stated that he was told by Jason Bauer, Recreation Director, that kids that have perfect attendance receive pool passes. Staff will have to check into this.

Mayor Wicoff informed Ms. Masterson that it sounds like the council is on board with helping Humanity House with this project but maybe in a different way than the original plan. He would like her to get with Administrator Fleming and work out a compromise.

B. Downtown Improvements – As a follow-up to the Downtown Summit, several sub-groups have been meeting regularly. These groups include Marketing, Events, and Infrastructure Groups. Assistant City Administrator Schinstock and City Administrator Fleming have been meeting with the Infrastructure Group. The Infrastructure Group approached the Community Involvement Task Force (CITF) regarding an idea to add some color to the downtown area. CITF and the Infrastructure Group eventually developed a plan to place flower pots and flower towers along a stretch of Madison Avenue and around the square. CITF is willing to put \$5,000 towards the project. CITF is also actively engaging other community groups to participate in the project. Mike Ford, CITF President was present to explain the flower pots to Council and where they would be located. The flower pots do not require water daily and do not require to be taken inside during the winter months. Mike Ford stated that CITF had raised approximately \$7,000 of the \$9,000 required. There is a four to six week wait time after ordering so they would like to get them ordered right away. Council Member Sigg asked who would be in charge of watering the plants and maintaining them. Administrator Fleming stated that the Park Department would

water them throughout the season and the CITF group would be responsible to replant the flowers every year and continue to keep them in good shape.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation – CASA – Mayor Wicoff read the proclamation and declared April 2017 Child Abuse Prevention Month. Donita Garner from Hope Unlimited informed the group that they are working with CASA to bring awareness to prevention of child and sexual abuse in the area. April 21st is pinwheels for prevention. If an individual brings a used pair of shoes to them they will receive a pinwheel in return to place upon the square. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to declare April 2017 Child Abuse Prevention Month and authorize the mayor to sign the proclamation. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Beer Garden Request – Thrive – In conjunction with the grand opening of Velo+ Thrive is requesting to have a beer garden ran by Rookies Bar and Grill on South Washington Street. This will require the street to be blocked off from Madison Avenue to Broadway Street to accommodate the beer garden. City Clerk Hutton stated that the group will have to comply with all of the statues regarding a temporary beer garden. Damaris Kunkler, THRIVE Representative, stated that they are expecting 40-50 riders for the opening of Velo+. She has talked to the area businesses and they are on board with the event.

Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin to approve Resolution 2017-07 to allow the sale of alcoholic liquor on Washington street on April 29th from 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Public Hearing – 310 N Fourth Street – Code Enforcement Officer, Gregg Hutton stated that he had contact the owner and her mother personally to tell them about the hearing this evening. He informed them that they would have a total of four months to get the property cleared. Mayor Wicoff opened the public hearing. No comments were heard. Mayor Wicoff closed the public hearing. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Wells to approve Resolution 2017-06 and proceed to condemn property and order the structure be demolished and removed. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. Public Hearing – 26 N Third Street – Code Enforcement Officer, Gregg Hutton, stated that the property has had numerous environmental nuisance violations, the property owner has been cited in court to clean up the property and has been assessed fines greater than the amount the property appraised value, \$1,930. He stated that the vehicles on the property have current registrations but some of them are not operational. Mayor Wicoff opened the public hearing. Eddie Radford, owner of the property stated that the vehicles ran for the Code Enforcement Officer that was in office over 9 years ago. He stated that someone keeps stealing parts off of his vehicles. He has taken pictures of properties all over

town that are in disrepair. He feels like he is being picked on. He stated “junking is my gift”. Council Member Sigg stated that Code Enforcement Hutton is doing the job that the Council is paying him to do. He is supposed to keep properties safe for residents. From what he can tell of the pictures the property is not safe for him to live there. Mr. Hutton stated that Mr. Radford had been given many opportunities over the last six months to clean up the property. He stated Mr. Radford currently owes \$2,225 in fines ordered by the judge for trash on the property. Mayor Wicoff closed the public hearing. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to approve Resolution 2017-05 and proceed to condemn property and order the structure be demolished and removed. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Ford, Sigg, Wells, Becker, B. Franklin and A. Franklin. Voting against the motion was Council Member Zornes. Motion carried by majority vote. Administrator Fleming informed Mr. Radford that there are resources available to help him with the transition out of his property.

E. Accessory Structure Wall Height – Ordinance – Current City ordinance allows for a maximum wall height of an accessory structure is 9 feet. Staff is requesting to change it to a maximum of 10 feet. Code Enforcement Officer, Gregg Hutton stated that currently when an individual purchases a building that is over the maximum height they have to appeal it to the Board of Zoning Appeals that requires a \$100 application fee. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member B. Franklin to approve Ordinance 3473 changing the maximum height of an accessory structure from 9 to 10 feet and authorizing the mayor to sign it. All in favor. Motion carried.

F. Spyglass Communications Audit- The Spyglass group performs audits of telecommunications accounts. Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that the group just recently completed an audit of USD 257. He stated that if they find some discrepancies the group will get 50% of the refund from the telecommunications companies. For the next twelve months they will get ½ of the savings. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Sigg to approve staff to execute the necessary documents with The Spyglass Group to perform an audit on the city’s telecommunications accounts for potential savings. All in favor. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION – Council Member Austin Sigg – Mayor Wicoff presented Council Member Sigg a plaque recognizing his service to the city as council member.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- None

B. Council Member Wells–

- Stated Council Member Sigg will be missed.
- Reminded the group that during the Strategic Planning Session that will be held next week that the council consider the current government of the city. Think about the reason you as an individual would want to change the number of seats. Why do you want to change and what do you wish to accomplish?. He encouraged members to reflect on it before making a decision.

C. Council Member Ford –

- Stated Austin will be missed and wished him luck.
- Stated John gave good insight on the government size topic.

D. Council Member B. Franklin–

- Attended the open house of the Coffeyville National Guard following Council Member Sigg's invitation. It was very nice.
- Thanked Council Member Sigg for his service.

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- Absent

F. Council Member Becker –

- Absent

G. Council Member Sigg –

- Thanked everyone. Stated he has learned a lot in the last couple of years.

H. Council Member Zornes –

- Stated Council Member Sigg will be missed and he enjoyed working with him.

I. Council Member A. Franklin –

- Absent

J. Administrator Fleming–

- Reminded the council of the upcoming KOMA/KORA meeting that will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Neosho County College. If you would like to attend please let me know.
- Reminded the council of the strategic planning meeting that will be held on Monday and Tuesday at the ACC at 5:30 p.m.

- Noted that the Mayor received thank you cards from Safe Base and an individual that was pleased with the EMS service they recently received.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday, April 24th, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

7:15 p.m. Motion made by Council Member B. Franklin and seconded by Council Member Sigg to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 24th day of April, 2017.



Mayor Wicoff

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton