

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on April 24, 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, Zornes, A. Franklin, Shaughnessy and Becker were present. Also present were Administrator Fleming, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, City Attorney Robert Johnson and City Clerk Hutton. Absent were Council Members Ford, and B. 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

- April 5, 2017 Special
- April 10, 2017
- April 17-18, 2017 Special

B. Appropriations Approval – 2017-08

C. Personnel Action

- Elaine Stewart – Code Enforcement – Annual
- Ashley Robb – Fire Department – Annual
- Dakota Hufferd - Gas, Water & Sewer – Annual
- Aaron Wight – Gas, Water & Sewer – Annual
- Kristy Sutherland – Recreation – Annual
- Carla Smith – Administration – 12 Month

D. Board Appointments

- Cathy Greenwood – Board of Zoning Appeals - Appointment

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Attorney Client Privilege – Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to adjourn into executive session for Attorney/Client Privilege. The purpose of the executive session is to discuss contract negotiations and shall include the Mayor, Council, City Administrator Fleming, and City Attorney Johnson. The meeting will reconvene at 6:18 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Attorney Client Privilege – Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to adjourn into executive session for Attorney/Client Privilege. The purpose of the executive session is to discuss contract negotiations and shall include the Mayor, Council, City Administrator Fleming, and City Attorney Johnson. The meeting will reconvene at 6:38 p.m.

Attorney Johnson left the meeting.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Debt Collection Presentation – Chad Hollins, CBK of Kansas- Chad Hollins of CBK of Kansas gave a brief overview of the company and how they can help collect debts from utilities and court fines. There are three ways the City can collect debt. Those include using the State Set-off Program, utilizing a collection agency and/or legal action. CBK utilizes all three of these resources to increase collections for the City. For the court costs State Statute allows the City to charge the individual the cost incurred. CBK will offer a client portal where clients can check on balances and citizens can pay their bill electronically. Administrator Fleming noted that the accounts that have been sent to bad debt for individuals that are deceased or have applied for bankruptcy will need to be adjusted off as they will not be collectable by CBK. The Council was in consensus this would be something for staff to pursue and bring back for a vote at a future meeting.

B. Levee Trail Project – Recently, Thrive Allen County approached City staff about placing a trail on the levee at Riverside Park. The trail would provide a loop around the park and connect to the Southwind Rail Trail. City staff has reached out to the Army Corp of Engineers, who has provided guidance for placing a trail on the levee. Administrator Fleming noted that it is unlikely that screenings would be used due to the fact that the levy is not as wide as first thought. It will be difficult to get equipment on top of the levy to place the screenings. Staff will mow down a path and add screenings at the entrance points to the Southwind Trail. Over time and excessive use a path will be worn down by walkers. The only cost to the City would be the labor of city employees, and the cost of the signs designating it as a trail. Council wanted staff to move forward with the project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Pool Pass Reward Program – A proposed plan includes the City hosting a series of “free swim” events for individual grade levels or maybe by school. Additionally, individual pool passes would be linked by student achievement level or honor roll. Administrator Fleming met with Georgia Masterson and Angie Linn regarding the best way to carry out this project. Council Member Wells stated that he would like to look into tying the passes to A/R reading points instead of grades for next year. Georgia Masterson stated that tying the passes to honor roll students still may eliminate some members of the same family receiving passes. Council Member A. Franklin stated that he feels it should be based on achievements and not just give each student a free pass. Mayor Wicoff asked about the cost for each idea. Administrator Fleming stated he had figured the cost if the passes were given for each A but not the honor roll idea. He wondered if our goal was to reward for achievement or to increase access for kids who wouldn’t otherwise be able to afford going to the pool. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member A. Franklin to award each student in grades 6-12 three passes if the student is on the All “A” Honor Roll, two passes if they are on the Principal’s Honor Roll and one pass if the student is on the Regular Honor Roll. Each student in grades K-5 would be given one free pass and free days would be determined by staff. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Downtown Improvements – CITF is requesting the City’s approval to place the planters in the City’s right-of-way. The City would also take delivery of the planters and coordinate their placement in the downtown area. CITF would coordinate filling the planters with soil and planting the flowers. The City would then be involved with the routine watering of the planters. The planters are self-watering and are advertised to go three weeks between watering. Staff would plan to water the planters once a week. Staff feels a weekly watering schedule is manageable with our current employee resources. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to approve the CITF proposal and move forward with the placing of the planters and direct staff to maintain the flower pots and water them once per week. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Talk, Read, Play Allen County – Talk, Read, Play Allen County and Allen Community College are requesting permission to add enhancements to South Elm Creek Park and along the MoPac and Prairie Spirit Trails. Elizabeth Toland addressed Council. She stated that the goal is to give higher quality experiences to children, and engage children and their families. Administrator Fleming stated that Park Superintendent, Berkley Kerr stated that the items the group wants to place in the park would be manageable to maintain if Staff assists in the location of equipment. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to authorize staff to proceed with the

project and assist the groups in placing the enhancements to South Elm Creek Park and along the MOPac and Prairie Spirit Trails. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Iola Area Chamber of Commerce Circus - Request – A request from the Iola Area Chamber of Commerce to hold a circus on City property has been submitted for Council's consideration. This request is a fundraising event for the Chamber and is being requested to be held on City property located at the west end of Scott Street south of U.S. 54 Highway on the old Thohoff site. Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that last time the City provided water connection and a trash receptacle for the circus. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to provide the requested water and trash receptacle and allow the circus to set up on City property for the fundraising event for the Chamber. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Road Vacation - Request – The Planning Commission met on April 19, 2017 to hear a road vacation request from Don Britt. The request was to vacate 225' section of N. Ohio Street. This section of road is not maintained by the City. The street has long been abandoned and is not evident from overhead maps. Land on both sides of this road is owned by Don Britt. Motion made by Council Member Wells and seconded by Council Member Zornes to approve Ordinance Number 3474 vacating the 225' section of N. Ohio Street and authorize the Mayor to sign the Ordinance. All in favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Mayor Wicoff –

- None

B. Council Member Wells–

- None

C. Council Member Ford –

- Absent

D. Council Member B. Franklin–

- Absent

E. Council Member Shaughnessy –

- None

F. Council Member Becker –

- None

G. Council Member –

- Position Vacant

H. Council Member Zornes –

- None

I. Council Member A. Franklin –

- Stated that the Recreation Department is having a hard time recruiting coaches for baseball/softball and soccer. Would like the Council to consider if a parent volunteers to coach not charging them for the child to play in that particular sport.

J. Administrator Fleming–

- Noted that 379 loads were picked up during Spring Cleanup Week, utilizing 384 man hours and a total cost of labor and equipment of \$18,319.
- Will be sending out a red-line copy of the Purchasing Policy. Would like some clear direction from Council on local purchases.
- Will be sending out a document that outlines the information obtained from the Strategic Planning Session.
- Noted that April 28th will be the deadline for those interested in the open Council position for Ward 3.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

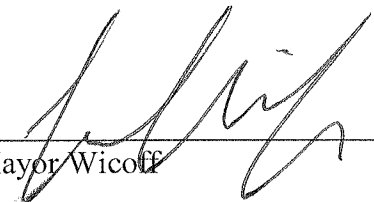
City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Monday, May 8th, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

7:40 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 8th day of May, 2017.





Mayor Wicoff



City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton