

City Council Minutes

Meeting date:

Monday, June 22, 2020

The meeting was called to order in the Council meeting room at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor J.D. Hegwood. Present were J.D. Hegwood, Armando Gonzalez, Brian Kroth, Lance DeLissa, and George Lucas. Also present were City Administrator Dean Cordes and City Clerk Janet Gleason. Visitors were Bobbi Allison, Tom Kuhns, Chad and Tiffany Ziebart, Linda Tomlinson, Amy Loewen and Rachelle Schlochtermeier.

There were 7 utility extensions and 17 past-due accounts. All past due accounts had been mailed a notice of the amount due and notice was placed on the door of the property that the utility account was past due. Consensus of the Council was to resume business as usual assessing penalties and disconnecting for non-payment on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

Chad and Tiffany Ziebart presented more information regarding the request to rezone 152 N. Post St. from commercial to industrial for the purpose of opening a meat processing facility. The goal is 30-60 animals per month and possible opening for retail sales in 2021. A privacy fence would be constructed around the holding pens and a rendering company will be contracted for the waste. The facility would meet all state mandated requirements and inspections. Cordes stated that a public hearing has been set for July 13 at 6:00 pm prior to the planning committee meeting. Letters have been sent to all property owners within 200 feet of the facility and a notice has been placed in the Meade County News. Council asked if they had considered the old facility and Chad stated that it did not meet their needs and would be too expensive to update and upgrade.

Linda Tomlinson stated that she is in favor of the idea of having a processing facility but expressed concerns regarding the location so close to a residential area. She also asked if there would be any concern with the water and sewer systems. Cordes felt there should not be an issue with the water supply. There were no issues with the prior processing facility. Another concern was the possible odor from the facility.

Rachelle Schlochtermeier and Amy Loewen wanted to know how Council felt about the possible installation a power source to the empty lots located at 120-132 E. Carthage for the operation of a vending trailer. They also inquired about the process of purchasing the lots and what the requirements would be if the lots were purchased. Cordes will determine the cost of installing an electric meter and let them know.

Council reviewed the Police Report.

Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Lucas to approve the June 8, 2020 minutes with a correction that the vote on Permit 20011 carried 4-0 with DeLissa abstaining.

Motion by Kroth, seconded by Gonzalez to approve Building Permit #20012. Motion carried with all in favor.

Cordes presented the bids for the airport: Atlas Electric \$361,702.00. Electrical Excellence \$505,357.50.

Davis Electric \$692,033.78. The engineers estimate was \$512,400.00. Atlas Electric has worked with Airport Development Group. The FAA has approved all the paperwork. Total cost of the project is estimated to be \$515,715.64.

Cordes applied for and received \$20,000.00 in grant funding for the Airport through the CARES Act funding

The camera system for the municipal building has been installed.

Cordes reminded council of the special meeting scheduled for Monday, June 29 at 5:15pm to review and discuss the bids on the water project.

Shane Kitson, lineman, has turned in his notice.

Copies of the audit were distributed to the Council. Hay Rice and Associates is beginning to work on the 2021 budget. Gleason also distributed information to the council regarding the SPARK program.

Kuhns briefly discussed the SPARK funds that will be distributed to the county from the state. The county is waiting for directives from the state regarding the spending of these funds. The funds will be distributed in three phases. The county is putting together a committee to discuss the distribution of the funds. A portion of these funds are to be distributed to the municipalities in Meade County.

DeLissa has been approached by some citizens regarding the Library hours and restrictions. Cordes will visit with Audrey Flowers regarding the current restrictions and if they would consider the possibility of revising them.

Kuhns presented more details on the splash park plans. The Recreation Commission will be purchasing the system and installation. The city will maintain it and it will be covered on the City insurance under the general liability policy. Cordes will flag out some possible areas for the location, taking into consideration the Frisby golf course.

Economic Development will be hosting a strategic planning meeting to discuss ideas from community members regarding the future of Meade County. It will be held at the Courthouse on Thursday, June 25 at 7:00pm.

Motion by Kroth, second by Gonzalez to enter executive session for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to meet back in this same room in 20 minutes. Motion carried with all in favor. After executive session, no action was taken.

Motion by Kroth, second by Gonzalez to enter executive session for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to meet back in this same room in 15 minutes. After executive session, no action was taken.

Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Lucas to adjourn. Motion carried with all in favor.

ATTEST:

J.D. Hegwood, Mayor

Janet Gleason, Clerk