

The Moran City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 7, 2022. Mayor Jerry Wallis called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor

Jerry D. Wallis

Council Members Present

Bill C. Bigelow

Kenneth D. Kale

Corliss E. Lynes

James A. Mueller

Kris R. Smith

Council Members Absent

City Staff Present: Bret Heim, City Attorney; Michael Stodgell, City Superintendent; and Lori Evans, City Clerk

Visitors Present: Lee Roberts, Nancy Gardner, and Power Home Solar representatives Linda Bench, Bryan Law, and associate.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Mueller moved to approve the February 2022 consent agenda as follows:

- January 2022 Minutes with corrections to the monthly labels.
- January 2022 Petty Cash Report
- February 2022 Pay Ordinance totaling \$91,395.48
- January 2022 Certificate of Deposit Report
- January 2022 Utility Audit Trail Report
- January 2022 Utility Billing and Use Report

Lynes seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

VISITORS

No new business was brought to the Council.

OLD BUSINESS

Solar Energy – Bryan Law spoke with the Council about Power Solar Home’s plans to install a solar power system for Nancy Gardner. Mayor Wallis advised Mr. Law that the City does not have a solar policy allowing customers to integrate solar equipment with the City’s power system. Mr. Law discussed the safety features that would be installed in addition to the solar panels to protect City employees. Attorney Heim suggested the City consider allowing parallel generation rather than net metering. Discussion followed with Council member Mueller asking what benefit a Moran power customer would see if they installed solar panels. Mr. Law noted customers would see a reduction in their electric bills. However, the customer must be connected to the power system to utilize the power generated by the solar panels. Customers would need to install a battery backup to store excess energy for use during the night time hours or during an outage. No action was taken and the topic was tabled until the March meeting.

Sewer Lagoon Operations – Superintendent Stodgell advised the Council that he is planning to purchase chemicals to help control the sludge at the lagoons. Stodgell said he only plans to use the chemicals for two to three months to see if they help. He estimated the chemicals will run \$900 to \$1000 a month.

Water Project Update – Clerk Evans informed the Council that she would need to attend a meeting with the Kansas Department of Commerce on February 22 in Eureka KS to receive the City's Community Development Block Grant award. Council member Lynes moved Mayor Wallis sign the Loan Agreement with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Mueller seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Library Internet – Clerk Evans spoke about ongoing problems with providing internet service to the Library. Evans noted she had made a few changes to the equipment and the service seems to be more reliable. Mayor Wallis suggested Clerk Evans check with CrawKan to see if they might offer discount service to the Library. Topic will be set on the March agenda for further review.

NEW BUSINESS

Pete's Corporation Letter/Offer – The Council discussed an email received from Gratz Peters offering the City the opportunity to purchase the building and property housing the fitness center. Mr. Peter's purchase offer to the City was for \$100,000. After discussion, Council member Kale moved the City decline the offer. Lynes seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

KMEA Board of Director Appointments – Clerk Evans noted the City had received notice from KMEA asking the Council to make appointments for three positions on the KMEA board. Directors 1 & 2 serve a two year term with the Alternate Director serving a one year term. Council member Kale moved to reappoint Bill Bigelow to the Director 1 position. Mueller seconded the motion, motion passed with Kale, Mueller, Lynes, and Smith approving. Bigelow abstained from the vote. Council member Kale moved Kris Smith be reappointed to the Director 2 position. Mueller seconded the motion, motion passed with Kale, Mueller, Lynes, and Bigelow approving. Smith abstained from the vote. Council member Kale moved to reappoint Council member Lynes to the Alternate Director position. Mueller seconded the motion, motion passed with Kale, Mueller, Bigelow, and Smith approving. Lynes abstained from the vote.

Fair Housing Month Proclamation – Council member Mueller moved Mayor Wallis sign a Proclamation declaring April as Fair Housing Month. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Covid 19 Work Place Policy – The Council agreed the City should follow CDC guidelines in effect at the time a Covid positive case occurs. Employees diagnosed with Covid will use any available leave time should an employee need to quarantine for a specific time period.

Chip and Seal Project – The Council discussed the need to chip and seal city streets. Mayor Wallis noted the County may not be able to provide rock due to equipment issues with the County rock crusher. No action was taken.

Annual City Wide Clean Up – Council member Kale moved the City sponsor a City Wide clean up in late May. Mueller seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving. A roll off dumpster will be set at the park during this period. Curb side pickup up will be May 24th or May 31st.

Website Renewal – Clerk Evans reported the City’s account with Go Daddy was up for renewal in April. Yearly website costs are unchanged from 2021 with costs of \$20.99 for the morancity.org domain and \$179.88 for web hosting for a total of \$200.87. Council member Bigelow moved to approve renewing the website. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

The Council was informed the City had received a request asking the City to consider purchasing a bow flex or some similar type of equipment for the fitness center. The Council discussed the request and agreed to take no action on the topic until the City knows where the fitness center will move if the current property is sold.

The Council discussed an offer received from Steve and Christina George asking if the City would like to purchase the property they own just north of the Front Street lift station. Council member Bigelow moved to purchase the George’s property for \$1,200. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Superintendent – Stodgell reported the following work reported for January 2022:

- Worked on City Hall Generator
- Moved electric from house to pole at 543 N Cedar
- Hung new electric service for new house on N Pine
- Replaced fuse link at 320 E Second & 203 S Pine
- Replaced security light at Randolph & Birch, behind the Museum and Randolph & Cedar
- Transformer tap arching in alley behind 119 S Birch
- Electric outage south west side of S Cedar
- Repaired security lights at Church & Chestnut, 227 N Cedar in the alley
- Restocked and check all hardware on bucket trucks
- Put blade on 5083 JD Loader and attached the box blade to the 3033 JD
- Took #1 07GMC to Barry’s for heater core connectors leaking
- Worked on #2 bucket trucking flashing yellow lights
- Talk with Jack McFadden on removing trees on west side of City Park
- Worked on heater at the Fire Station, replaced thermostat
- Cleaned front shop area
- Replaced shingles on the Museum
- Worked on siren at Cedar & Randolph
- Cut broken limbs at Library
- Picked up limbs from City Park
- Worked on #2 lift station pump #1
- Marked sewer lateral from MH 63 & MH 61 replaced sewer service line
- Worked on #2 life pump #1
- Cut off sewer riser below grade and put metal disk over cap to locate in the future
- Shut water off at 421 & 422 N High due to frozen broken water line
- Repaired 4” water leak at Cedar south of Randolph
- Dug up ring and lid at 208 E Second for water service
- Looking at water project

Superintendent Stodgell informed the Council that he had received a new employment application for the City crew. Stodgell asked the Council if they would consider hiring a third person for the City crew so they could begin training them to take over when he and Craig are ready to retire. No action was taken.

City Clerk – Clerk Evans reported income for the month of January 2022:

General Fund		Water Fund	
Charges For Services	1.20	Sales To Customers	12,791.21
Refuse	1,903.00	Water Protection Fee	29.10
Court Fines	2,496.01	Connect Fee	275.00
Kennel Fee	20.00	Bulk Water Sales	28.12
ATV Permit	120.00	Penalties	610.23
Reimbursed Expense	10.00	Water Tower Fee	50.00
County Tax Disbursement	33,370.47	Reimbursed Expense	167.73
54 Fitness Fee/Fobs/Ovpd	1,050.00	Electric Fund	
Interest Earned Checking/CDL	61.08	Sales To Customers	41,229.48
Dog Pickup Fee	20.00	Connect/Reconnect Fee	270.27
Dog Tag	46.00	Overpaid	1,032.43
Debt Collection Fee	12.84	Fuel Adjustment	6,019.05
Mutual Aid Fire Contribution	5,000.00	Lieap Receipts	4,604.15
Misc. Receipts	5.65	Light Rent	210.00
KS Sales Tax	5,823.87	Reimbursed Expense	63.21
NSF Check	27.88	Sales Tax	
Special Hwy		Sales Tax Receipts	1,278.90
State Receipts	3,480.81	Gross Sales	<u>137,109.36</u>
Sewer Fund		<i>Add: Interest to CD 44526614</i>	<i>11.02</i>
Sales To Customers	7,279.54	Gross Receipts	<u>137,120.38</u>
Reimbursed Expense	83.55	<i>Less:LIEAP Credit</i>	<i>1,092.00</i>
Library		<i>Utility Credits</i>	<i>699.17</i>
County Tax Disbursement	2,134.99	<i>Recreation Fee Credit</i>	<i>100.00</i>
Employee Benefits		<i>Setoff Fee</i>	<i>15.84</i>
County Tax Disbursement	5,503.59	Net Receipts	<u>135,229.21</u>

Clerk Evans informed the Council that all of the payment arrangements approved by the Council have been paid off.

There being no further business to discuss, Council member Smith moved, seconded by Bigelow, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:45 PM. Motion passed with unanimous approval.