CITY OF OSKALOOSA, KS

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

212 W WASHINGTON STREET

JULY 19, 2023 \* 7:00PM

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GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT

John Norman, Mayor

Ken Newell, Council President

Mike Smith, Council

John Metzger, Council

Aron Boyce, Council

Chauncey Young, Council

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Patty Hamm, City Clerk

Paul Bolinger, Chief of Police

Nathaniel Copp, City Superintendent

PUBLIC PRESENT

Julie Smith, 808 Delaware Street

Silvano Gonzalez & Kathy Batesel, 305 E. Warren Street

CALL TO ORDER

John Norman, Mayor, called the regular meeting of the Oskaloosa City Council to order at 7:00pm.

PUBLIC

Kathy Batesel presented the City with photos of the fence installation at 305 E. Warren Street, noting the water meter is outside of the fence and the fence is no longer on the City’s right-of-way. Nathaniel Copp verified the location of the fence. Ken Newell made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 23-13-219 Vacating the Herkimer Street road right-of-way between Walnut Street (U.S. Hwy 59) and Pine Street, the Pine Street road right-of-way between Warren Street and Herkimer Street and the Cedar Street road right-of-way between Warren Street and Herkimer Street, all platted within the corporate limits of the City of Oskaloosa, Kansas. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

Julie Smith informed the Council that she attempted to get verification from the Jefferson County Dispatch Center showing that they tried to contact the City maintenance staff after hours when her leak occurred, however, they claim they have no records available. Ms. Smith requested the City make an adjustment of $314 to cover the cost of the water from the leak. Council continued any action until they can obtain a recommendation from legal counsel so as not to set precedence on such a situation.

POLICE / CODE ENFORCEMENT / ANIMAL CONTROL

Paul Bolinger reported that Katlynn Patterson has been hired as the new Animal Control Officer and will soon begin training.

Paul Bolinger reported on the Old Settler’s Reunion activities advising no issues of concern.

Council reviewed Ordinance No. 23-12-301 Curfew guidelines. Paul Bolinger noted that he has had to send some kids home but has not had any problems arise to date from the curfew. Council discussed possible penalties for curfew violations and decided to table any action until legal counsel can be present to assist in the discussion.

UTILITIES

Nathaniel Copp reported that over the last three weeks there have been approximately 250 loads of limbs hauled off the City streets and he has had to make some equipment repairs as well. Nathaniel noted that KNA underestimated how much they could get done in one full day of work. John Metzger made a motion to hire KNA Digging for two more days of cleanup assistance not to exceed $7000 out of the special highway funds. Aron Boyce seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

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Nathaniel Copp reported that he will be obtaining Lead and Copper samples and submitting them to the state for compliance.

Ken Newell made a motion to hire Bettis Asphalt for the 2023 Street Project excluding line items #4 (Park Watertower E/W 4”), #5 (Park Watertower N/S 2”) and #6 (Westview Drive) at $33,800, for a total amended project cost of $92,220. John Metzger seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

John Metzger made a motion to approve the Complete Pavement Maintenance Inc. crack sealing estimate of $17,250. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

Ken Newell asked what the policy is on trees hanging over the City streets and alleys. Nathaniel Copp replied that past practice has been the homeowner’s responsibility unless they are actually down touching the street then the City will trim them. Nathaniel noted there are a few trees that are located in the City’s right-of-way that do need removed. Council recommended notice be provided to the homeowners prior to actual removal of the trees.

PARK & POOL

John Norman reported the pool will close for the season on Sunday, August 13th. Patty Hamm advised she has received a request for a pool party following the school’s Bearstock event on Friday, August 18th. Council agreed to allow the pool party as long as the City still has a supply of chemicals. Council suggested the pool manager ask for the cost to cover the staff during the event from the school.

Council would like bid proposals for a camera system that is installed and monitored by a security company. Patty Hamm will gather the information for future review.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike Smith made a motion to accept the premium increase by $2341 for $750,000 coverage for the swimming pool through EMC Insurance. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

MEETING MINUTES

John Metzger made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2023 regular Council meeting as written. Ken Newell seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

Ken Newell made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023 special Council meeting as written. Aron Boyce seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=3, No=0; Abstain=2 (Mike Smith & John Metzger) Motion Carried.

FINANCE

Ken Newell made a motion to approve the June Financial Report and vouchers as presented. John Metzger seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

John Metzger made a motion to notify the County Clerk of the City’s intention to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate. Ken Newell seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

John Norman recommended a letter be sent by legal counsel to the owner of 609 Walnut Street stating the code violations in preparation of the meeting with the owner next month.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Lee Hendricks present via telephone 8:20pm to 8:30pm)

Mike Smith made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session for Attorney-Client privilege at 8:20pm for ten minutes to discuss legal authority. Ken Newell seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried. Public Session resumed at 8:30pm. John Norman announced no binding action taken.

Ken Newell made a motion to empower legal counsel to accept or deny settlement offers at mediation on behalf of the City of Oskaloosa, KS. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

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BUDGET WORK SESSION

Council reviewed the 2024 draft budget. Council discussed the purchase of a generator for City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, John Metzger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. Ken Newell seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0 Motion Carried.

John Norman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patty A. Hamm, City Clerk

Minutes Approved: AUGUST 16, 2023