CITY OF OSKALOOSA, KS

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

212 W WASHINGTON STREET

SEPTEMBER 20, 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

GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS ABSENT:

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Lee Hendricks, City Attorney

Patty Hamm, City Clerk

Paul Bolinger, Chief of Police

Nathaniel Copp, City Superintendent

PUBLIC PRESENT

Julie Bailey; Pawsivitely Jefferson County

Amy Knipp, 912 Liberty Street

William Yoder, Walnut Street Coffee & Deli

RNR HEARING

John Norman called the hearing of the Revenue Neutral Rate to order at 7:00pm. John Metzger made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-05 to levy a property tax rate that exceeds the Revenue Neutral Rate of 36.291. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Ken Newell=yes, Mike Smith=yes, John Metzger=Yes, Aron Boyce=Yes, Chauncey Young=Yes. Motion Carried. John Norman closed the Revenue Neutral Rate hearing.

John Norman called the hearing of the 2024 Budget to order at 7:02pm. Ken Newell made a motion to approve the 2024 Budget as presented with mill levy of 44.523. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried. John Norman closed the 2024 Budget hearing.

CALL TO ORDER

John Norman, Mayor, called the regular meeting of the Oskaloosa City Council to order at 7:03pm.

PUBLIC

Pawsitively Jefferson County

Judy Bailey with Pawsitively Jefferson County provided the City Council with a report on the activity of trapping cats over the past year. Ms. Bailey advised that there have been 235 cats through Oskaloosa Township that have received their services. Ken Newell expressed a concern with trapping cats outside the City limits in Jefferson County. Council agreed the priority is for the City and the funds provided from the City is for services within the City limits. Ms. Bailey understood the concern and stated she would provide the number of cats that were treated within the City limits. Ms. Bailey requested the assistance of volunteers if anyone is interested.

Street Ditches

Amy Knipp requested the City maintenance crew fill in the ditches around the City that are located at intersections, particularly the intersection of Lawrence Street and Liberty Street in front of her house. Ms. Knipp stated that the ditches are very steep and she has concern for children walking in the area. Nathaniel Copp noted that the City is very limited on the area to work in without tearing up someone’s yard. Nathaniel also noted that some of those areas are from the flow of the water. John Norman advised the City will look at the particular areas of concern to see if anything can be done.

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Taxes

William Yoder was present to inquire about the property taxes on his business located at 409 Walnut Street. John Norman advised Mr. Yoder that the taxes come from the County and are outside the City’s jurisdiction. John noted that the City’s mill levy will stay the same and has not increased from last year. Council directed Mr. Yoder to the County Commissions for his concerns.

POLICE / CODE ENFORCEMENT / ANIMAL CONTROL

Paul Bolinger advised the radios have come in and are in the process of being programmed. Paul advised that he will seek grant funds for reimbursement of the radios.

Paul Bolinger reported that he has someone interested in possible part-time officer employment. Paul also reported that Robert Poppa is planning his retirement in June 2024.

Council discussed the implementation of fines for violation of the City curfew. Council tabled any decision until a later date; no action taken.

Lee Hendricks reported on Code Enforcement cases pending in municipal court. Council noted a few lots that need to be mowed. Patty Hamm will send the weed/grass letters.

UTILITIES

Nathaniel Copp advised the Council that the crack sealing is almost complete and Bettis Asphalt in planning on paving mid-October.

Nathaniel Copp reported the waterline along Lawrence Street and Cherokee Street has been installed and all residents that were affected have new taps into the new line.

Nathaniel Copp reported the remote read meters are 99% installed with only big meters remaining.

PARK & POOL

Nathaniel Copp reported the pool has been painted and is ready to be winterized.

LEGAL COUNSEL: No additional report

OLD BUSINESS

Nathaniel Copp explained the cost estimates provided by Giant Communications for internet services at the park and pool; by Reuschhoff Security for cameras in the amount of $15,363 and by Wirenuts, LLC for cameras in the amount of $17,148.75. Ken Newell made a motion to approve the proposal from Giant Communications for installation of internet as presented. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried. Ken Newell made a motion to approve the proposal from Wirenuts, LLC as presented to include the additional lockbox. John Metzger seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ken Newell made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:20pm for fifteen minutes for attorney-client privilege exception to discuss litigation. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried. Public Session resumed at 8:35pm. John Norman announced no binding action taken.

MEETING MINUTES

Ken Newell made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2023 regular Council meeting as written. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

FINANCE

John Metzger made a motion to approve the financial report and vouchers as presented to include check #22471 to EMC Insurance for $500 deductible. Ken Newell seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

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NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mike Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. Aron Boyce seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0 Motion Carried.

John Norman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patty A. Hamm, City Clerk

Minutes Approved: OCTOBER 18, 2023