CITY OF OSKALOOSA, KS

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

212 W WASHINGTON STREET

FEBRUARY 21, 2024 \* 7:00PM

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GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT

John Norman, Mayor

John Metzger, Council

Aron Boyce, Council

Chauncey Young, Council

GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS ABSENT

Ken Newell, Council President

Mike Smith, Council

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Lee Hendricks, City Attorney

Patty Hamm, City Clerk

Nathaniel Copp, City Superintendent

Paul Bolinger, Chief of Police

PUBLIC PRESENT

Leslie Scoby, Greater Manhattan Community Foundation

Matt Miller, Old Settlers Reunion Event

Jerry Cozadd, Old Settlers Reunion Wine/Beer Garden

Caitlin Hayles, Old Setters Reunion RC Races (via zoom)

Paula Ellis, 609 Walnut Street

Boy Scouts

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC

Greater Manhattan Community Foundation

Leslie Scoby presented information to the Council regarding the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation. Ms. Scoby advised that the Manhattan Foundation serves as the umbrella committee for various foundations. Ms. Scoby noted that both non-profit and for-profit groups can participate, however, they are handled differently in the distribution of funds. Ms. Scoby stated that the purpose of the foundation is to build relationships between donors and community needs. Ms. Scoby provided details regarding the Patterson Family Foundation Grants. Council agreed this would benefit the community and would like to proceed in learning more about an Oskaloosa Foundation.

Old Settler’s Reunion

Matt Miller reported the Old Settler’s Reunion will take place on June 20th through June 22nd. Mr. Miller requested the same street closings as last year’s event along with additional permission for the wine/beer garden which will be run by Jerry Cozadd of The 1890 Ice House. Patty Hamm will prepare the resolutions.

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609 Walnut Street

Paula Ellis was present to give an updated status of the vacant home at 609 Walnut Street. Ms. Ellis stated that she and her family have come to the conclusion that the best option is to demolish the home. Ms. Ellis advised that she is contracting with Bald Eagle Barn Wood to take the building down as they will salvage some of the wood. Ms. Ellis noted that, unfortunately, the demo would take place June through October 2025. Council agreed that does not fit the timeline they were hoping for, however, they are willing to allow the time as needed as long the plan is followed. Council requested a copy of the signed contract. John Metzger asked what would happen with the basement and Ms. Ellis replied it would be filled in as it sits. Ms. Ellis asked if she should proceed

with boarding up the windows as previously discussed and Lee Hendricks replied she must make a good faith effort to keep the property safe so that the general public cannot enter the building.

POLICE / CODE ENFORCEMENT / ANIMAL CONTROL

Paul Bolinger reported that the animal control pickup is having some issues which he plans to get it looked at by a mechanic.

Paul Bolinger reported that 512 Atchison Street has put up a fence, without a permit, to hide some of the yard items that were ordered by the City to be removed. John Metzger made a motion to proceed with clean-up of the property by an independent contractor. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=3, No=0; Motion Carried.

Paul Bolinger reported that Ms. Lyon at 707 Liberty has removed the tree from the sidewalk, however, it remains in pieces in the City’s right-of-way. John Metzger made a motion for City maintenance to remove the tree from the property. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=3, No=0; Motion Carried.

John Norman reported that 310 Herkimer Street has a new owner that is rehabilitating the home. John advised the owner that the City still has possession of some of the rock at the City Shop from the wall that fell down.

MAINTENANCE

Nathaniel Copp reported that the snow plow has been received, the school zone signs have been installed and an electrician is providing a cost estimate for the ball field lights. Council agreed to go ahead and pursue changing the lights over to LED bulbs.

Nathaniel Copp reported having a few water leaks. He advised the Council that the line around the courthouse square is cast iron and needs to be replaced. Nathaniel’s recommendation is to have the project engineered so that a new line is installed and the old line is abandoned as this would save tearing up the brick streets.

PARK & POOL

Nathaniel Copp reported the vacuum robot estimate is still pending and he has plans to replace the diving board. Patty Hamm will contact Giant Communications to see what the status is on the installation of the internet.

LEGAL COUNSEL

Lee Hendricks reported that next month’s agenda will include properties at 1003 Street Walnut (CUP) and 415 Washington Street for code enforcement issues.

MEETING MINUTES

Aron Boyce made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2024 regular Council meeting as written. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=2, Abstain=1 (John Metzger) No=0; Motion Carried.

FINANCE

John Metzger made a motion to approve the Financial Statement and vouchers as presented. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=3, No=0; Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Paul Bolinger reported that officer Carey Monaghan will be absent for about six weeks starting in March due to a surgical procedure.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Aron Boyce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm. John Metzger seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=3, No=0 Motion Carried.

John Norman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patty A. Hamm, City Clerk

Minutes Approved: MARCH 20, 2024