

The Moran City Council met in regular session on Monday, December 7, 2020. 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

Council member Lynes was present by virtual access.

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

Visitors Present: Lee Roberts and Jonathon Goering.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Council member Bigelow moved to approve the December 2020 consent agenda as follows:

- November 2020 Minutes
- November 2020 Petty Cash Report
- December 2020 Pay Ordinance totaling \$59,987.93 plus \$91,700.00 in transfers.
- November 2020 Utility Audit Trail Report

Mueller seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

### **VISITORS**

Jonathon Goering introduced himself as Economic Development Manager for Allen County Thrive. Mr. Goering spoke with the Council about Thrive's services and goals to help growing businesses.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Solar Energy Incentives – Attorney Heim advised he was working on the legal issues and following up with the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency regarding their solar policy. Topic was tabled until the January meeting.

Moran Museum – Council member Bigelow moved the Museum open as of January 4, 2021. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Water Project – The Council discussed possible exclusions to the project with hopes to reduce the projected annual loan payments. Stodgell suggested the water tower repairs could be removed to help reduce costs. Clerk Evans was asked to prepare a rate chart showing possible combinations of rate and use charges to meet the projected loan payments. Topic was tabled until the January meeting.

Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Lineman Services – KMEA has asked the City of Moran to pledge up to \$15,000 a year for two years to help support a two man line-man crew to be stationed in southeast Kansas. Superintendent Stodgell suggested the City could use KMEA’s assistance in replacing electric poles and tree trimming throughout the City. The Council agreed to ask Gerry Bieker to attend the February meeting to discuss the matter and requirements of the fiscal support.

Year End Review – Council member Mueller moved the Council meet in executive session for 10 minutes at 7:45 PM to discuss matters relating to employer-employee negotiations. Bigelow seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving. Virtual access with Council member Lynes was lost due to technical difficulties and was not regained following the executive session. The Council returned to open meeting at 7:55 PM. Council member Bigelow moved that all employees receive a raise of .50¢ per hour or the equivalent and monthly insurance stipends increase from \$410.00 per month to \$460.00. Based on the motion, employee pay for 2021 will increase as follows:

Mike Stodgell	\$ 21.75 to \$ 22.25 per hour
Craig Miller	\$ 18.50 to \$ 19.00 per hour
Lori Evans	\$ 18.20 to \$ 18.70 per hour
Taeler Carr	\$ 11.25 to \$ 11.75 per hour
Shane Smith	\$ 854.60 to \$876.60 per week

Kale seconded the motion, motion passed with Bigelow, Kale, Mueller, and Smith approving.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

2021 Cereal Malt Beverage Applications – Council member Bigelow moved to approve issuing licenses to Pete’s of Erie, Inc. and The Marmaton Market. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with Bigelow, Kale, Mueller, and Smith approving.

304 W First St – Attorney Heim informed the Council of Kevin Johnston’s complaint claiming the City improperly demolished the house on property he owns at 304 W First Street. Attorney Heim noted he had informed all parties representing the City has denied the claim. Discussion followed with no action taken.

USPS Mail Delivery of Utility Bill Payments – Clerk Evans spoke with the Council about problems arising from delays in receiving utility payments sent through the US mail system. In light of these issues the Council agreed the Clerk’s office should reach out to customers with unpaid bills before the disconnect date to ensure they have not sent their payments by USPS.

City Operations with Regard to Covid 19 – The Council agreed to continue limiting customer access to City Hall. Clerk Evans discussed payroll issues set by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Evans asked how the Council would like to handle employee use of leave time to supplement paid time off due to Covid 19. Council member Bigelow moved that employees use sick leave to

supplement pay after the initial two weeks of paid sick leave. Employees will not be required to use Vacation leave to supplement sick leave should they use all available sick leave. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Equipment Purchased by Spark Funds – Clerk Evans informed the Council that the City has received the equipment purchased by Thrive using County money received from the Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) fund.

Annual Review of Moran Municipal Court Costs – The Council reviewed the topic and no action was taken. Attorney Heim said he would follow up with Judge Miklos to see if she has any thoughts or concerns with the current fine schedule.

## **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Police Chief – Chief Smith asked the Council to approve purchase of a taser for the Moran Department. Smith said he would like to purchase a unit from Axon as they offer a 5 year payment plan that provides for replacement cartridges for those used in the line of duty and for recertification. The five year plan is \$3600.00 and can be paid up front or in annual installments. Council member Mueller moved to sign up for the 5 year plan with payment to be made in full in 2020. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with Bigelow, Kale, Mueller, and Smith approving.

Superintendent – Superintendent Stodgell submitted the following activity report for the month of November :

- 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
- Moved mosquito sprayer to old Library
- Moved ditch witch to back shop
- Repaired dump truck lights
- Called V.L.P to set up Backhoe repairs- had 2 sensors replaced
- Tested & hung Christmas lights down Cedar
- Dumped trash cans and picked up limbs at Troxel Park
- Fixed gate at the tennis courts and picked up limbs
- Cleared off sidewalks from sleet
- Dug mud out around clean out at City Shop and hauled off
- Dug up and found clean out, by alley at City Shop, the sewer was plugged
- Replaced hour meter at Lift Station #2
- Went to Lola to pick up Library toilets and sewer parts for the shop
- Put toilet back in shop and flushed the service
- Dug up and fixed water leak at City Park
- Dug out dirt around Fire hydrant north of Fire Station and put rock down
- Locates at 127 E Randolph
- Dug up water pit and replaced shut off valve, put 4' poly line on customers side of the meter and re-set at 207 N Linn
- Replaced meter valve at 313 S Elm
- Dug up 4" water main and took out old service at First & Sycamore
- Pumped out water pit due to possible leak at 644 N Spruce

**City Clerk – Clerk Evans reported income for the month of November 2020:**

<b>General Fund</b>		<b>Water Fund</b>	
Charges For Services	36.25	Sales To Customers	11,258.08
Refuse	1,673.83	Water Protection Fee	29.64
Court Fines	1,316.00	Connect Fee	75.00
Reimbursed Expense	5.00	Bulk Water Sales	81.72
CMB License	50.00	Penalties	183.02
Miscellaneous Receipts	60.00	Water Tower Fee	50.00
54 Fitness Fee/Fobs/Ovpd	630.00	Reimbursed Expense	260.52
Interest Earned Checking/CDL	49.12	<b>Sewer Fund</b>	
Dog Tag	2.00	Sales To Customers	6,775.65
<b>Electric Fund</b>		<b>Sales Tax</b>	
Sales To Customers	36,678.01	Sales Tax Receipts	1,009.65
Overpaid	358.68	<b>Gross Sales</b>	<b>61,217.69</b>
Light Rent	168.00	<i>Add: Interest to CD 44526614</i>	<i>11.01</i>
Reimbursed Expense	467.52	<b>Gross Receipts</b>	<b>61,228.70</b>
		<i>Less: LIEAP Credit</i>	<i>206.77</i>
		<i>Utility Credits</i>	<i>421.12</i>
		<i>Recreation Fee Credit</i>	<i>100.00</i>
		<b>Net Receipts</b>	<b>60,500.81</b>

Clerk Evans shared an invoice received from the League of Kansas Municipalities for the City’s 2021 membership dues. The Council declined membership for 2021 as they have done in years past.

There being no further business to discuss, Council member Smith moved, seconded by Mueller, to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:03 PM. Motion passed with unanimous approval.