CITY OF OSKALOOSA, KS

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

212 W WASHINGTON STREET

JUNE 1, 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

Lee Hendricks, City Attorney

Patty Hamm, City Clerk

Paul Bolinger, Chief of Police

Nathaniel Copp, City Superintendent

PUBLIC PRESENT

Silvano Gonzalez & Kathy Batesel –Street Vacation

Kent King –Street Vacation

Cheryl Sylvester & Douglas Bond –Oskaloosa Public Library

HEARING

John Norman called the hearing of the Herkimer Street Vacation to order at 7:00pm. Kathy Batesel advised that Mr. Gonzalez has purchased property along Warren Street that encompasses Herkimer Street, Pine Street and Cedar Street. Nathaniel Copp reported there are various utilities in the area and Lee Hendricks replied that the City would retain all utility easement rights. Kent King stated he would like to include the north/south section of Sycamore Street. Lee replied the closure of Sycamore Street would take place in a separate hearing. John Norman closed the hearing at 7:15pm.

John Norman advised that the fence needs to be moved off of the City’s right-of-way. Council agreed to continue any decision to the next regular Council meeting once compliance of the fence has been met.

CALL TO ORDER

John Norman, Mayor, called the regular meeting of the Oskaloosa City Council to order at 7:20pm.

PUBLIC

Douglas Bond presented the City Council with the library’s 2024 budget by first mentioning the library’s mission statement, strategic plan and statistics of public members served. Ken Newell asked if the library is applying for any additional grants. Cheryl Sylvester advised the library has received a grant in the amount of $5000 for the building’s HVAC system. Mr. Bond advised that the City’s portion of the budget is set at $42,507, which is an increase of $2667 over 2023. Ken asked why the increase and Ms. Sylvester replied it is due to maintenance such as the roof, carpet and paint. John Norman advised the Council would take the library’s budget into consideration when preparing the City’s budget for 2024.

POLICE / CODE ENFORCEMENT / ANIMAL CONTROL

Paul Bolinger reported that the body cams and radios have been ordered. Paul reported there have been problems with kids being out on City streets, school, park, etc. during late night/early morning hours.

Paul Bolinger reported that Christopher Petesch has turned in his resignation for animal control. A hiring ad will be put out to the public next week.

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John Norman reported that a complaint has been received about 609 Walnut Street being left in its abandoned state. Council agreed to invite the owners to the next regular Council meeting for an update on plans with the property.

Mike Smith made a motion to approve the annual contract with Advantage Computer in the amount of $750 for court software support. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

UTILITIES

John Norman noted that the maintenance staff has had to put in a lot of extra hours this year to get the pool up and running; things that the contractor should have completed. John stated he would like to reward the staff. Ken Newell made a motion to give Nathaniel Copp and Brian Zachary each a $100 gift card. John Metzger seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

Nathaniel Copp stated the bids on the street project are still pending.

Lee Hendricks reported on Code Enforcement cases, most of which are being brought through municipal court.

PARK & POOL

Nathaniel Copp reported that some of the ball field lights need replaced. He will work on this when summer ball season is over.

John Norman reported that the swimming pool open house was a success and a nice start to the new season.

ZONING

Council reviewed Jefferson County Case #PE 2023-07 and had no objection to the permit application.

LEGAL COUNSEL

Ken Newell made a motion to accept the rate increase of $25 per hour by Stumbo Hanson LLP for legal services for the City of Oskaloosa making the new hourly rate $200. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Patty Hamm reported that EMC Insurance has submitted a dividend reimbursement to the City in the amount of $4355.83 for the City’s general liability policy.

OLD BUSINESS

John Metzger made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-03 OSR Street Closings. Aron Boyce seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

Mike Smith made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-04 OSR Beer Garden. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

MEETING MINUTES

Ken Newell made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2023 regular Council meeting as written. John Metzger seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

FINANCE

John Metzger made a motion to approve the June financial report and vouchers as presented. Ken Newell seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried. Patty Hamm reported that the 2022 Financial Audit has been conducted.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken Newell made a motion to authorize the Mayor’s signature on the ordinance to change the City Council monthly meeting to the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

Patty Hamm directed the Council’s attention to the Rural Water District No. 7 rate increase from $5.60 per 1000 gallons to $6.00 per 1000 gallons. Due to the accuracy of the new remote read meters, Council agreed to evaluate the City’s usage for 6 months before increasing any cost to the citizens.

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Mike Smith made a motion to approve the fireworks stand application by Steve Trieb to be located at the Oskaloosa Lumber Yard June 27th through July 5th. Aron Boyce seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0; Motion Carried.

Council requested rates of $750,000 vs. $1,000,000 coverage for the Oskaloosa Swimming Pool. Patty Hamm will provide this at a later Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Ken Newell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm. Chauncey Young seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=5, No=0 Motion Carried.

John Norman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patty A. Hamm, City Clerk

Minutes Approved: JULY 19, 2023