CITY OF OSKALOOSA, KS

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

212 W WASHINGTON STREET

MARCH 4, 2021 \* 7:00PM

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT

John Norman, Council President

Ken Newell. Council

Mike Smith, Council

Larry Fowler, Council

GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS ABSENT

Eric Hull, Mayor

John Metzger, Council

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Patty Hamm, City Clerk

Paul Bolinger, Chief of Police

PUBLIC PRESENT

Caleb & Kari Kearney, Oskaloosa Ball Association

Pete Richie, Orion Waste Solutions

Fred Surville, Sunset Trailer Park (via Zoom)

Rick Nichols: Oskaloosa Independent

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC

Orion Waste Solutions

Pete Ritchie visited with the Council regarding the request from Orion Waste for a price increase of 3.8% equal to $.54. Mr. Ritchie explained that the trash weight is increasing and fuel costs are increasing. Ken Newell noted that the Council was previously told that fuel cost was not included. Mr. Ritchie replied that is incorrect. Ken informed Mr. Ritchie that the Council had requested from Mr. Gardner a regional cost, which is yet to be received by the Council. Mr. Ritchie replied he will gather that information and get it to the Council for review. John Norman asked if there could be a price break for elderly residents. Mr. Ritchie replied that is a possibility. Council tabled any action pending receipt of the regional information.

Oskaloosa Ball Association

Kari Kearney introduced herself as the new President of the Oskaloosa Ball Association (OBA). Ms. Kearney informed the Council that there are many new checks and balances put in place with new officers, new Board members, and new bylaws for the Association and there are currently 193 kids enrolled for the summer 2021 season. Ms. Kearney advised the Council that the OBA would like to utilize the park field this year for practices and games. John Norman replied that it was the choice of the OBA to stop using the field and the Council would prefer the field be used. Ms. Kearney and the Council discussed job responsibilities for bathroom and trash pickup. Paul Bolinger reminded Ms. Kearney to pass along to all teams that parking along Park Street and Columbia Street is strictly prohibited and vehicles will be issued parking tickets for violations.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

PAGE 2 OF 3 03/04/2021

Sunset Trailer Park

Mr. Surville requested the City Council consider the option to allow the installation of trailers that are more than ten (10) years old. Mr. Surville stated that his desire for older trailers make it affordable housing for lower income residents; stating the current housing code of no more than ten (10) years old makes it an economic hardship for many residents. Mr. Surville stated that he, as park owner, will make sure all trailers pass inspection and meet City Codes. John Norman asked how old of trailers are being proposed? Mr. Surville replied that he wants no set age; just a flexibility for case-by-case basis. John asked Mr. Surville how he can ensure the safety and security of the residents in the park. Mr. Surville replied he performs background checks on all residents and has strict bylaws for which they must follow. Mr. Surville also stated he has a manager on site that are his eyes and ears locally. John asked what the process is for removing less desirable tenants. Mr. Surville answered that the manager has the power to call law enforcement when needed and he, himself, is also available at all times. Mike Smith asked what happens when a trailer goes into disrepair and is not in compliance with City Code. Mr. Surville stated that each tenant must sign a lease that has rules in place for eviction when necessary. Council thanked Mr. Surville for his discussion and advised that they would review and consider his request.

Lee Hendricks noted that the City Council can instruct the City’s building inspector to do inspections on each trailer as they are installed and/or the City can put a Conditional Use Permit process in place. Caleb Kearney recommended the Council follow a bond process per unit per year. Council agreed they would like to see more documentation on how Mr. Surville’s company conducts business to include a review of their lease agreement, their background checks and their bylaws. Patty Hamm will request such documents for review.

POLICE / CODE ENFORCEMENT / ANIMAL CONTROL

Paul Bolinger reported that he has submitted grant requests for the purchase of two vests for law enforcement officers.

Paul Bolinger reported that he has been advised that the company, Taser, will not back their products in a court situation if the equipment is older than five years. Paul noted that the City’s current Taser equipment is considered outdated and the cost estimate for two new ones is $3360. Lee Hendricks replied that the City’s insurance policy should protect the City as long as the City is not negligent in any way. Lee will do some more research on the issue.

Lee Hendricks reported that there has been a law change to the process in which the City can tow vehicles for code violations. Lee stated that the tow company must now have the title to the vehicle and if that is not available then the City must provide a police report to the tow company. Lee noted the owner of the property still has the authority to have the vehicles removed from their property at their own expense.

John Norman reported that the demolition permit has been issued for 611 Cherokee Street. John asked for an update on the status of 711 Hamilton Street, 310 Hamilton Street and 310 Liberty Street. Lee Hendricks and Paul Bolinger will review the properties prior to the next Council meeting.

UTILITIES

The 2021 Street Improvement Project is pending.

Ken Newell reported that he has been advised by Joe McAfee, City Engineer, that KDOT has new management and there is a possibility of funds being available to replace the brick in the 300 block of Jefferson Street with a painted and stamped concrete. Council requested Mr. McAfee bring more information to the Council about the project.

PARK & POOL

John Norman reported that staff is currently being hired for the 2021 season. Patty Hamm reported that Paul Crawford can prepare the specifications for the bath house project. Council requested Mr. Crawford proceed so the project can begin at the close of the 2021 summer season.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

PAGE 3 OF 3 03/04/2021

CORRESPONDENCE

Ken Newell made a motion to approve Resolution No. 21-01; Kansas Homeland Security Mitigation Plan. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=4, No=0; Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken Newell asked if there is a way to make the pedestrian crossing signs on Jefferson Street any brighter. Patty Hamm stated she would ask Bill Heard.

MEETING MINUTES

Ken Newell made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021 regular Council meeting as written. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=4, No=0; Motion Carried.

FINANCE

Ken Newell made a motion to approve the February financial statements and vouchers as presented. Larry Fowler seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=4, No=0; Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Smith made a motion to approve the EMC General Liability Insurance Policy Renewal in the amount of $29,676. Larry Fowler seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=4, No=0; Motion Carried.

Ken Newell made a motion to donate $200 to the Oskaloosa High School After Prom Event. Larry Fowler seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=4, No=0; Motion Carried.

Patty Hamm reported that she has received a cost estimate of $650 to strip and re-wax the floors in City Hall. Council instructed Patty to proceed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mike Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. Ken Newell seconded the motion. Vote: Yes=4, No=0 Motion Carried.

Eric Hull, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patty A. Hamm, City Clerk

Minutes Approved: APRIL 1, 2021