

The Moran City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 1, 2021. 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

James A. Mueller

Kris R. Smith

Council Members Absent

Corliss E. Lynes

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

Visitors Present: Gerry Bieker, Lisse Regehr, Jonathan Goering, Becky Voorhies, Lee Roberts, Rick Trester, and Hannah Trester.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Mueller moved to approve the February 2021 consent agenda as follows:

- January 2021 Minutes
- January 2021 Petty Cash Report
- February 2021 Pay Ordinance totaling \$90,224.50
- January 2021 Utility Audit Trail Report

Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

VISITORS

Trester's were present per their agreement with the Council. No other business was brought to the Council.

OLD BUSINESS

Kansas Municipal Energy Agency (KMEA) Lineman Service – Gerry Bieker discussed KMEA's plans to provide lineman services to southeast Kansas. Gerry noted the crew would be based at Altamont as Altamont will use the crew as full service for their City. KMEA has obligated to support the crew for two years and KMEA would like Moran to pledge \$15,000.00 per year for the two year period to help support the lineman crew. If Moran does not use all of the obligated funds during the year, the funds will be returned to Moran. Gerry said June 1st may be a realistic date to have the crew in place. Gerry also approached the Council with a thought that the City could consider building its own electric substation rather than drawing power from the Evergy substation south of town. The Council discussed projected costs and potential funding. Council member Mueller moved to move forward with a survey to review projected costs and possible locations to build a substation. Bigelow seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Water Project – Lisse Regehr from Thrive Allen County spoke with the Council about Community Development Block Grant funding for the upcoming water project.

Lisse suggested the Council consider applying for the current year's grant opportunity. Becky Voorhies would be assisting the City in conducting a Low to Moderate Income (LMI) Survey as required for the grant application. Lisse said there would be no charge to prepare the application for the grant however Thrive would charge between \$15,000 to \$20,000 for administration of the grant should the City be awarded a grant. Council Bigelow moved to move forward with the LMI Survey as needed to apply for a grant. Mueller seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Ordinance 2026 – Council member Kale moved the City adopt Ordinance 2026 increasing water rates over a three year period with meter rates increasing \$2.50 and use rates increasing .50 cents per 1000 gallons for three consecutive. The first increase will become effective on March 1, 2021 with increases occurring again on March 1, 2022 and March 1, 2023. After the third year of increase the monthly meter rate for a 5/8" water meter will increase from \$13.00 to \$20.50 and use rates will increase from \$6.50 to \$8.00 per 1000 gallons of use. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Solar Energy Incentives – Topic was tabled indefinitely due to lack of interest.

Moran Museum – Clerk Evans reported new open flags have been ordered. Clerk Evans noted the Kansas Board of Taxation is currently reviewing the City's request for tax abatement for the property and will make a decision at a hearing yet to be scheduled. Topic was tabled until the March meeting.

304 W First St – Attorney Heim reported the City had received notice that Kevin Johnston, owner of the property at 304 W First St, had passed away unexpectedly in early December 2020. Discussion followed with no action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

KMEA Board Appointment – Corky Lynes appointment as an Alternate to the KMEA board expires April 30, 2021. KMEA has asked the Council to address the upcoming appointment as soon as possible. Council member Mueller moved to reappoint Council member Lynes to the position for another year. Kale seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

2020 Fiscal Audit – Clerk Evans reminded the Council that staff from Jarred, Gilmore, and Phillips will conduct an audit of the City's fiscal records on Thursday, February 4th. Evans invited the Council to stop by any time after 8:30 AM if they would like to visit with the auditors.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Police Chief – Chief Smith asked for Council approval to replace the stop sign at Spruce and Church Streets with yield signs. Smith said visibility at this intersection has been improved as the house at 403 N Spruce Street has been torn down. In lieu of installing yield signs the Council discussed removing all signage from the corner. Council

member Mueller moved the stop signs be taken down. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Chief Smith advised he needed to purchase additional ammo for the department. It was agreed to reach out to Kaleb Stroud to see if he would be able to supply ammo for the department. Smith also noted he had begun speaking to various residents about properties needing cleaned up.

Superintendent – Stodgell reported the following work reported for January 2021:

- Took down Christmas lights and stored them
- Replaced a fuse at 634 N Spruce
- Pulled meter and checked new box and installed meter at 103 S Pine, they are running space heaters and burned the disconnect.
- Cleaned out bucket truck and restocked
- Replaced fuse at #2 Lift Station
- Replaced security light at Park & Birch, 208 E Second
- Broken pole on the primary between Cedar & Pine. Shut down Lift Station #2, replaced pole, and secured three phase primary line
- Replaced rotating lightbulb on back hoe
- Looked for seal leak on #2 bucket truck
- Generator rep came down and worked on the generator...couldn't fix
- Put up new flag at 54 Fitness
- Picked up limbs at the Library and City Shop
- Cleaned up trees and brush from lagoon fence line
- Worked on dump truck–mud flaps
- Worked on Lift Station #1 pumps clogged up, took apart and cleaned
- Cut brush and trees around outlet pipe at lagoons
- Took down fence at lagoons to get to burn pile
- Cleaned up water room and restocked trucks
- Knocked ice off PWWD#5 antenna
- Repaired water service at Kumalae's after the contractors hit the line
- Locates at 54/59 and Birch/54
- Shut off service at 423 N. Park and helped with a leak

City Clerk – Clerk Evans reported income for the month of January 2021:

General Fund		Water Fund	
Charges For Services	14.60	Sales To Customers	14,088.23
Refuse	1,790.00	Water Protection Fee	35.37
Court Fines	1,220.00	Reimburse Expense	97.89
ATV Permit	90.00	Bulk Water Sales	411.01
Building Permit	5.00	Penalties	454.76
KS Sales Tax	4,583.99	Water Tower Fee	50.00
Tax Disbursement	31,724.76	Connection Fee	50.00
54 Fitness Fee/Fobs/Ovpd	1,090.00	Employee Benefit Fund	
Interest Earned Checking/CDL	50.63	Tax Disbursement	5,106.20
Dog Tag/Kennel Fees	100.00	Sewer Fund	
Fire Mutual Aid	5,000.00	Sales To Customers	7,740.16
Library Fund		Special Highway Fund	
Tax Disbursement	1,985.32	State Gasoline Tax	3,350.41
Electric Fund		Sales Tax	
Sales To Customers	52,261.58	Sales Tax Receipts	1,370.98
Reimb Exp	15.63	Gross Sales	133,982.42
New Lieap	308.50	<i>Add: Interest to CD 44526614</i>	<i>11.02</i>
Overpaid	738.76	Gross Receipts	133,993.44
Connect Fee	49.14	<i>Less: LIEAP Credit</i>	<i>27.07</i>
Light Rent	199.50	<i>Utility Credits</i>	<i>969.45</i>

Approval Date:
March 1, 2021

<i>Recreation Fee Credit</i>	<u>60.00</u>
Net Receipts	132,936.92

There being no further business to discuss, Council member Smith moved, seconded by Bigelow, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:40 PM. Motion passed with unanimous approval.