

## **Council Meeting 03/18/2024**

Minutes taken by Emily Bessette, City Treasurer

**Meeting:** Time: 7:00 PM

Presiding Officer: Mayor Anthony DaPrato

Council Present: Ball, Seals, Lister, Moore

Council Absent: Shreve

Attorney Vignery: Present

Employees: Shannon Seals, Emily Bessette, Joshua Shreve

Visitors: Per Registry

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Anthony DaPrato.

### **Reading of Minutes**

The minutes for the council meeting on March 4, 2024 were read for council input and approval. Motion to approve corrected and completed minutes by Lister, second by Moore, Seals abstained. Motion carried.

### **Tyler Beckman**

Tyler was here for his bid on the fish feeders. Tyler is asking for \$20 a hour for maintenance of the feeder and \$200 a week for filling the feeders. Tyler typically feeds from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Tyler will be paid out of the General Operating account. Seals motioned to raise Tyler's pay from \$125 to \$200 a week and hourly rate from \$15 to \$20 for maintenance and repair, second by Moore. Motion carried.

### **Chelsea Dehart**

Chelsea requested to attend the meeting to talk about her utility bill. Chelsea did not attend the meeting. Council reviewed her account and circumstances. They agreed that she needed to be paid in full by noon on March 21, 2024 or water would be disconnected. Policy is to be followed including but not limited to late fees, disconnection and disconnect fees.

### **Timothy Johnston**

Timothy submitted a letter to council requesting the use of city property next to Casey's General Store and behind Flea Market and More. After discussion nothing was decided.

### **Executive Session**

Seals motioned for an executive session at 19:55 for 15 minutes. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ball. Motion carried. Council requested more time a couple times. Resumed at 8:40 with no decisions made. Seals motioned to hire Brian Kyp, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Moore, Motion carried.

### **Police Department**

S. Seals spoke about hiring another officer. Officer Luce has caught 5 or 6 DUIs. She would like to send him to an ARIDE two-day class June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. He will need a hotel for two nights for a total of \$139.98 in Parsons, KS. The class is free by KHP. He will drive a city vehicle. Motion to send Luce to ARIDE training by Lister, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Seals. Motion carried.

Questions about Downhome Auto. Police department did not have a chance to meet with them and will follow up. Delivery trucks are blocking streets and gravel has not been poured for parking.

## **Maintenance**

Josh presented computer bids for the shop and water plant. He had bids for Dell and Lenvovo. K Seals is able to get a better price from Dell. The computer in the shop has a fan down and could stop working at any time. Lister motioned to approve new computers and equipment from Dell account up to \$2,300, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shreve, motion carried.

## **Other**

Emily will stay back from the KRWA conference to work in the office.

Mayor discussed COLA increases that are believed to be incorrect. Lister noted that COLA increases are for current employees and should not have ever affected starting pay rates. The COLA was adjusted on pay scale the last two years and stated they should not have due to COLA. Policy was read and it was unclear. Attorney reviewing. There will be a special meeting reviewing employee handbook and pay will be looked at and updated at that time.

Mayor discussed surrounding cities paying council members and asked opinions on pay. Council was in agreement that they are a volunteer position and volunteer the time for the right reasons and expect no pay in return.

## **Executive Session**

Seals motioned for an executive session, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ball, motion carried at 9:25. Council asked for an additional five minutes. Returned at 9:35 with no decisions made.

## **Extension Request**

Seals motioned to approve extension request, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lister, motion carried.

## **Bills**

Motion by Seals that bills were looked at, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ball, Moore abstained, motion carried.

## **Other**

Ball spoke about the roads by the school on Wells. They talked about putting a metal plate over the holes.

Jones drive has some type of ditch that is not draining, will have maintenance check on it.

## **Adjourn**

Seals motioned to adjourn. Second by Lister. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:31pm