

## **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING –November 30, 2016 - GATEWAY- 5:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Ladd Wendelin called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**Roll Call of the Members of the City Council** - Josh Williby, Brandon Oien and Rusty Addleman. Majority of the Body Present.

Absent: Jim Marchello

**Others Present:** City Attorney Steve Hirsch, City Administrator Troy Haas, City Foreman David Sporn, Water Supervisor Willard Perrin, City Treasurer Steve Zodrow, Marilyn Black, Heather McDougal, Deb Lohofener, Jacque Boultinghouse, Brice Meitl, Lavern Rippe, Abby Hissong and City Clerk Sandy Rush. Jamie Peterson with the Oberlin Herald and Caleb Peterson arrived at 5:30.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Jacque Boultinghouse, Emergency Manager for Decatur County, said the mitigation plan the Council received previously would be presented by her at the next council meeting. She asked them to review and bring questions for discussion and she would be asking them for approval and adoption of the plan.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of minutes – for November 2, 2016 regular Council meeting.

Appropriation Ordinance - Payment of Bills.

Williby moved, second by Oien, to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion carried.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Appointment of Councilmember** – Williby moved, second by Addleman to approve Mayor Wendelin’s recommendation of appointing Deb Lohofener as Councilmember. This is replacing the vacancy left by Marilyn Horn. **Motion carried.** The oath was administered by Mayor Wendelin to the new councilwoman, Deb Lohofener, term to end January 2018.

**Opening Bids for City Mowing Contract** – Administrator Haas presented the two sealed bids received for city mowing to Mayor Wendelin. Wendelin opened the bids and read them out loud. The bids were both from Larry Fought. One for the city parks properties and one for the airport. After the readings, Administrator Haas commented that there was a very small increase in the bid amounts on city parks properties and the same bid on the airport property. After a short discussion, it was decided to table the decision until it was made clear, how many contract years Mr. Fought was considering before a contract would be written up.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Review Utility Rates** – City Treasurer Steve Zodrow discussed results of the annual water and electric rate analysis from the past year. He presented different scenarios showing the effects of no rate changes versus the minimum increases versus what it would take to start rebuilding the reserves. Mr. Zodrow explained he wanted the Council to understand and consider what it would take to achieve the desired revenue needed for the operation and maintaining of the city’s facilities, make capital improvements and service outstanding debt. It was suggested that Mr. Zodrow determine the number of customers using the first 500 cubic feet of water and up to 1000 cubic feet of water. He stated the waste water rates would not be evaluated until April. He reported that so far 38% of the electric and water meters had been switched over to radio read meters. Lavern Rippe expressed his concerns of the current citizens being responsible of paying for the lack of long-term planning by past administrators. No decision was needed tonight, Mr. Zodrow said, but he did want them to have the information so in the near future the Council could decide what needed to be done.

**Grow Decatur County & Community Clean-up Grant Information** – Abby Hissong from the Grow Decatur County foundation played a promotional video for the council and discussed a \$50,000 matching offer from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. The matching offer is for December 2016 only. The video was produced by a High School class and the Foundation committee intends to donate back to the school. Mrs. Hissong discussed the Community Clean-Up Grant that the Dane G. Hansen Foundation will help to aid in cleaning up Oberlin, and the other communities in Decatur County.

**#1 Executive Session** -At 6:05 pm Williby moved, second by Addleman to have a five minute executive session for attorney-client privilege to include the City Administrator, Mayor, City Attorney and Council. **Motion carried.** Back in session at 6:10 with no action taken.

**#2 Executive Session** – At 6:10 pm Williby moved, second by Oien to have another executive session for fifteen minutes for an attorney-client privilege to include the City Administrator, Mayor, City Attorney and Council. **Motion carried.** Back in session at 6:25 pm. Oien moved, second by Williby to extend the executive session for five minutes. **Motion carried.** Back in session at 6:30 pm with no action taken.

## REPORTS

**Airport Report** – Manager Brice Meitl reported on the meeting the airport advisory board had with Olsson’s engineer, Diane Hofer. He said Ms. Hofer was working on the five-year airport capital improvement plan and in 2018, they were wanting to increase the apron size. This would be funded using the annual Federal Aviation Administration Grant funds of \$150,000. Also discussed, was the Grass Runway that Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) had approved a grant for land acquisition. He said the board had inquired whether or not they could use the KDOT grant for the purchase of a new Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) for the airport. This was to be asked of KDOT.

**Mayor Report** – Wendelin reported

- Thanked Ms. Lohoefer for volunteering for the position of council member.

**Administrators Report** – Haas reported

- Read Thank-You’s from the families of Marilyn Horn and Ron McDougal.
- Reported that Shayla Williby would be presenting a presentation on the Sappa Park Trails in the future.
- Next meeting is Wednesday, December 15th.

**Public Works Report**

- City Foreman report attached.

**Treasurers Report**

- Sales Tax report attached.

**Councilman Oien**

- Thanked the city crew for entering a float in the Light Parade.

## ADJOURNMENT

At 6:45 pm Williby moved, second by Addleman to adjourn. **Motion carried.**

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**Sandy Rush, City Clerk**

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**Ladd Wendelin, Mayor**