

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – September 5, 2017, Tuesday - 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 – Jim Marchello, Josh Williby, Brandon Oien, Deb Lohofener, and Rusty Addleman. Majority of the Body Present.

Others Present: City Attorney Steve Hirsch, City Administrator Halley Roberson, City Foreman David Sporn, City Treasurer Steve Zodrow, Water Supervisor Willard Perrin, Assistant Police Chief Brad Burmaster and Brenda, Faith Meitl with the Oberlin Herald, Karen Larson, Stan McEvoy, Ruth Miesner, Brice Meitl, Marilyn Black, Heather McDougal, and City Clerk Sandy Rush.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of minutes – for August 17, 2017 regular Council meeting.

Appropriation Ordinance - Payment of Bills.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

#1 Mayor Wendelin called for a 15-minute Executive Session to discuss the pay increases pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b) (1). To include mayor, administrator, city attorney and council starting at 5:05 p.m. Oien moved, second by Williby. **Motion carried.** Resumed at 5:20 p.m. Williby moved, second by Addleman to approve the increase in pay scale for City Foreman David Sporn and Journeyman Lineman Logan Fortin. **Motion carried.**

#2 Mayor called for a 10-minute Executive Session for discussion of a contract deal, pursuant to the attorney-client relationship exception. K.S.A. 75-4319(b) (2). To include mayor, administrator, city attorney and council starting at 5:25 p.m. Councilman Williby excused himself from the session. Marchello moved, second Addleman. **Motion carried.** Resumed at 5:35 p.m. Marchello moved, second by Addleman to accept the sale of 1-acre east of town and north of Highway 36 for \$1000. It was explained that there would be no closing costs or fees to the city. Councilman Williby abstained from voting. **Motion carried.**

New Business

1. Police Chief Position – Administrator Roberson presented a letter of recommendation from past Administrator/Police Chief Haas that encouraged the council to consider Assistant Chief Brad Burmaster as his replacement for Police Chief. Williby moved, second by Oien to approve as recommended. **Motion carried.**
2. Kansas Department of Transportation’s (KDOT) City Connecting Link Improvement Program (CCLIP) – Past Administrator Haas has sent in an application for and been approved for a Surface Preservation project on US-83 from US-36 to 1100’ S. The state’s participation will be 100 percent of the actual total participating project costs up to a maximum amount of \$300,000. The project is scheduled for KDOT’s 2020 fiscal year.

Reports

- Mayors Report
 - Mayor Wendelin opened a discussion on the necessity of having an airport advisory board. He would like the council to consider suspending and/or disbanding the board as he believes they have violated the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) by holding meetings without notifying the public. Councilman Marchello questioned the actual interest from the board members and if it was for personal reasons as opposed to what was best for the city and tax payers. It was noted that one of the airport board members had requested a job description for

the airport manager. It was the consensus of the Council that all of the City's Boards & Committee members were volunteers and it was felt that it is hard to get people to do volunteer work. Karen Larson, past administrator, reminded the council that in the past, a councilmember usually attended the board meetings and reported back to council. After a long discussion, Mayor Wendelin asked for a motion to be made to suspend the airport advisory board until further notice. Marchello so moved, and due to a lack of a second, the **motion died**. It was decided that a handbook was needed for all committees and boards to be used as a reference for those who volunteer to serve.

- Mayor reported that he appreciated the work and effort that Administrator Roberson did towards finding a solution for the Fraker sign.
- Administrators Report
 - Next Council Meeting Sep 21, 2017
 - Thanked the council for their confidence in her.
 - Thanked the crew for their work on the Fraker sign.
 - Presented two bids for storm work repair and maintenance that is needed to be done following the blizzard at 12 locations along Highway 36. She said FEMA requested three bids but the city had only received two. FEMA approved accepting only the two since the work was needed to start immediately. The bids were:
 1. Kilian Power, LLC, Wichita KS for \$52,500
 2. IES Commercial, Inc., Holdrege, NE for \$19,630Williby moved, second by Oien to accept the bid from IES for \$19,630. **Motion carried.**
 - Donations had been received from a family that stayed at the Sappa Park and from Lund Covenant Church for the use of the pool.
 - Passed on a Thank You to the Police and Firefighters from Pastor Shelly Holle.
 - Will be attending a legislative regulatory meeting regarding fairs with Councilman Rusty Addleman in Topeka.
 - Viewing Party for the total eclipse went well, especially pleased with the EDC, CVB and Chamber working together.
 - Requested permission from council to use a page on the website for community strategic planning for updates. The council all agreed.
 - Requested permission from council to hire freelance workers and/or interns to do research and photography work for marketing the Gateway and City. Karen Larson reminded the council of the hard work Treasurer Steve Zodrow did for the Low-Moderate Income (LMI) survey he had done for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). The survey results are good until 2023.
- Public Works Department
 - Electric Pole Replacement Presentation - David Sporn presented a slide show to show the location and condition of the city's electric poles overall, even after replacing 83 poles from the April blizzard. He recommends continuing the city's annual electric improvement project in 2018.
- Treasurers Report
 - Sales Tax Report attached for discussion.
 - Rotary is looking for grants for the centennial park to purchase picnic tables. If the project gets picked, they will present more detail and ask for approval from the council.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:00 p.m. Marchello moved, second by Williby to adjourn. **Motion carried.**

Sandy Rush, City Clerk

Ladd Wendelin, Mayor