

CITY OF HUMBOLDT
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 9, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.

The Council met in regular session on Monday, July 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall. Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Aikins, Crawford, Julich, Roether, Shreeve, Slater, Smith and Walburn. Also present were City Administrator Larry Tucker, City Clerk Jean Flores and Officer Wayne Carson.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Crawford gave the invocation.

(7:03 p.m. - City Attorney Fred Works entered the meeting)

Motion by Aikins, second by Crawford to amend the agenda by adding Item 10a- Consider building inspector. Motion carried unanimously.

Under Public Comments, Cliff Ralstin, The Humboldt Union, urged the Mayor and Councilmembers to attend training sessions on the Kansas Open Meetings Act and Kansas Open Records Act that are being offered by the Kansas Attorney General's office during the month of July. A session is scheduled for July 19 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Allen County Community College in Iola at no charge. Also under Public Comments, Judy Brigham introduced herself running for the 9th District House of Representatives and was looking for input from the Humboldt community if they have any concerns and invited the Mayor and Councilmembers to a fundraiser to meet the former Speaker of the United States House of Representatives at the New Chicago Room in Chanute from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. Thursday. Also under Public Comments Barbara Anderson, Kansas Department of Commerce Business and Community Development, presented Ron and Rhenda Whitworth, Humboldt Speedway, an award for Business Appreciation Month. They were among 119 applicants for the 2012 Merit Award. Also under Public Comments Councilmember Slater acknowledged the Humboldt Swimming Pool Managers and lifeguards for the fundraising event this weekend to raise money for umbrellas at the pool. He said the event was enjoyed by all, there were games and contests with donated prizes and Managers Sheri Modlin and Tricia Greve and the lifeguards donated their time.

A short discussion was held on Item E of the Consent Agenda, Disposal of City utility truck and police vehicle. Councilmember Slater asked if the vehicles could be auctioned off on Purple Wave, an internet auction service and Councilmember Walburn suggested a minimum bid be set. It was the consensus that Councilmembers Slater and Julich inspect the vehicles to determine their value, with the minimum bid to be \$500.

Motion by Aikins, second by Walburn that Items A, B, C and D of the Consent Agenda be approved as presented and that Item E-Disposal of City utility truck and police vehicle be pulled for further discussion. Motion carried unanimously. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- a. Approval of minutes of Regular Council Meeting June 11, 2012

- b. Warrant Ordinance No. 1751 dated June 27, 2012 in the amount of \$58,844.99 and Warrant Ordinance No. 1752 dated July 9, 2012 in the amount of \$110,948.32
- c. Amend Personnel Policies and Procedures for Telecommunications
- d. Approve job description for Part Time Utility Clerk

Motion by Julich, second by Slater to accept Item E of the consent agenda and put the vehicles on Purple Wave with a base bid to be determined this week (1980 3/4 ton Chevrolet pickup and 2005 Crown Victoria). Motion carried unanimously.

Neil Phillips of Jarred, Gilmore and Phillips, presented the 2011 audit. He told the Mayor and Councilmembers that the City's cash balances are dangerously low and he would suggest at least a two to six month carryover. He suggested the utility fund balances be built up. Secondly he said there was a violation in the Consolidated Street and Highway Fund where the City spent more than what it had budgeted which could have been avoided by a budget amendment. He said this is a minor violation, but still important to watch. And lastly, Neil Phillips cautioned the Mayor and Councilmembers on the Fire Department donation accounts as he has in the past, and strongly urged them to run these accounts and certificates of deposit through the City's records, to make sure they are accounted for and looked over by someone else, with Council approval on any bank accounts that are opened and Council approval on anyone authorized to sign each account, etc, stating that, even though these are Fire Department accounts, they are still City funds.

Motion by Aikins, second by Julich to adopt Ordinance No. 1470, an ordinance vacating the unopened alley running east and west in Block 85, Original Plat to the City of Humboldt, Kansas. Motion carried unanimously. The alley lies between Pecan and Sycamore Street between 13th and 14th Street and the request was filed by Clint and Alisha Hillmon.

City Attorney Fred Works suggested that further information be gathered before adopting the Child Safety Zone Act, stating that he had reservations as to whether or not the City could do this. Motion by Julich, second by Slater to table Agenda Item 6-Consider ordinance to implement Child Safety Zone Act. Motion carried unanimously.

Street Committee members Dan Julich and Mark Slater gave an update on the street improvement project, recommending that the City reclaim or grind down residential streets where needed and contract to have an asphalt overlay as part of the project. In meeting with County officials, they offered to assist the City in whatever capacity is needed and, since they already have the reclamation equipment, the Street Committee recommends that the County be asked to do the necessary preparation work. A special mail ballot election to raise the City sales tax one-half percent will be held in September with proceeds to be used for street and drainage improvements. The Street Committee said it would be more feasible to use this method of street improvement rather than chip and seal. Public meetings will be held to inform residents of the street plan and to explain the special election.

A discussion was held as to whether or not the City should apply to have the City Square Park and Bandstand placed on the National Register of Historic Places. City Attorney Works explained to the Mayor and Councilmembers that adjoining property owners within 500 feet of the City park could be affected if the application was accepted and they would need permission to make changes or renovations. This would also include

anything within 500 feet, including the City's water tower. Motion by Julich, second by Slater to table Agenda Item 8-Consider application to place City Square Park and Bandstand on the National Historic Register. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Aikins to use local vendors for goods and services whenever possible with a ten percent allowance for local vendors over those that are out of the area. She later rescinded her motion. It was the consensus that more discussion is needed on the details of the practice and City Attorney Works was asked to prepare something for the next council meeting. Motion by Slater, second by Crawford to table Agenda Item 9-Consider local purchase policy. Motion carried unanimously.

Bids received to demolish the nuisance property at 218 Charles (Nellie Ketcherside) are as follows:

Kent Barfoot - \$2,875.00 (Includes filling in the cistern/well)
John O'Mara - \$3,350.00

City Attorney Works said the proper procedure will need to be followed with the State before anything can be done at 218 Charles as Mrs. Ketcherside is in the nursing home. Motion by Julich, second by Walburn to accept the bid of \$2,875 from Kent Barfoot pending completion of the notification and due process to the State, and allow Barfoot 30 days after the City notifies him for completion of the project, including filling in the cistern/well. Seven voted aye (Aikins, Crawford, Julich, Roether, Shreeve, Smith and Walburn), one abstained (Slater). Motion carried.

(8:54 p.m. - Councilmember Roether left the meeting)

(8:55 p.m. - Councilmember Roether returned to the meeting)

Motion by Aikins, second by Julich to send notifications by certified mail to the owners of nuisance properties at 403 Bridge (James Parker), 203 Neosho (Guy and Mitzi Ellsworth), and 617 North 6th (Mike Dillon). Motion carried unanimously.

(9:00 p.m. - City Attorney Works left the meeting)

(9:02 p.m. - City Attorney Works returned to the meeting)

Motion by Aikins, second by Julich to hire Roy Moorehouse as Building Inspector for the time being but continue to search for other building inspectors, that he would be hired temporarily for 90 days and the City would take applications for a second position. Motion carried unanimously.

City Administrator Larry Tucker reported on the following: The City directional signs have been turned over to the graphics company and are almost ready to place around town; the Neosho River Park and Camp Hunter Park projects continue; budget meetings are being held with the Department Heads and Finance Committee with the final budget to be presented to the Council soon. City Administrator Larry Tucker asked the Council to be prepared to adopt a request for a public hearing for the 2013 budget and bring up any final questions or concerns at a Special Council Meeting with is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 30.

Motion by Slater, second by Julich to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

/s/ Nobby Davis
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Jean M. Flores
City Clerk