City of The Highlands, Kansas

COUNCIL MEETING Minutes

June 27th, 2019, 6:00 PM Held at Nickerson City Offices, Nickerson, Ks.

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Penny called the meeting to order on June 27thth at 6:00 P.M.

1. **ROLL CALL:** Ken Nuss, Bonnie Teel, Mark Kerschen, Butch Neel, Dwight Gehring
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG:** Led by Mo Penny
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**: Minutes from the 06/13/2019 meeting. Ken Nuss motion to approve. Butch Neel second. Passed 5-0.
4. **REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS**
	* 1. **Prior to the guests, the latest permit for 2019-AS-03 was presented by Mayor Penny to the city clerk for review of completeness and in preparation of consolidation replat completion, as agreed to at previous council meeting.**
		2. **Robert Bowman and Peggy Williford requested clarification of their duties and responsibilities. The also expressed concerns that they would be liable for exercising the provisions of KSA 12-759 on behalf of the city. They were told that the council is responsible for the city's legal actions and that by virtue of being appointed and approved by the governing body, they fall under the coverage of the city insurance policy. A time was set up to give orientation and answer any additional questions. The meeting will not determine policy but rather explain it.**
5. **REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS AND INVOICES:**
	* 1. Invoice from Martindell Swearer, et al Attorneys; Sign source; Nationwide Insurance co. for surety bonding.
		2. Reimbursement to Mayor Penny for printing of Town Hall 2019 materials.

Bonnie Teel motion to pay each invoice and the request for reimbursement. Dwight Gehring second. Passed 5-0.

1. **BUSINESS:**
	* 1. Mayor Penny report a delay in Powered By Me starting on the road repair but should be within a week. No action.
		2. Butch Neel reported that the order for a mower is still in process. No action.
		3. Report on Town Hall: All went well and positive reviews from the community. The slide presentation will be on the city website for a limited time to allow everyone to review. Concerns need to be answered if possible. That discussion will be tabled until next regular meeting. No further action.
		4. Discussion of 2020 city Budget plan. The straw vote at the Town Hall resulted in 49 favoring an increased budget for 2020 and 15 were opposed. However, close to a third did not vote for either.

Motion by Butch Neel to propose a levy for a $90,000 budget by vote in special election and providing the budget would remain same as 2019 if proposed budget referendum should not pass. Ken Nuss second. Passed 5-0

An emergency meeting needs to be set to approve resolutions to give to County Clerk by July 1st 2019. Letter of intent will also be provided and signed by Mayor Penny.

* + 1. Board of Zoning Appeals training was discussed. The question of harassment and pressuring of board members will be taken up with the city attorney. A training workshop will be held on July 10, Crazy Horse grill, 9:00 AM. Hearing can be tentatively held at Nickerson. Guidelines and misc concerns would be addressed at the workshop. A council consensus was that $150 fee was appropriate. No further actions taken.

* + 1. Resolution No. 2019-0022 replaces resolution No. 2018-0015 to remove reference to a specific zoning ordinance and allow for zoning ordinance repeals and replacements. No fee amounts were changed. Ken Nuss motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-0022. Butch Neel second. Pass 5-0.
		2. City Directory – concerns of privacy have been expressed by residents. No action taken since only residents will get paper copy of directory.
		3. Updates on ONE CALL NOW – Need administrative "notifiers" that will determine a message and how urgent it is. Volunteers to be The Mayor, Council President, Bonnie Teel and Mark Kerschen. Protocol and types of messages considered urgent or emergency need to be determined. No further action

Option of Reno County call center tabled

* + 1. Information update on code enforcement options – Trent Maxwell (Hutchinson) will take into consideration the possibility of doing a random code investigation that would involve the writing of a citation. No action taken.

Mo Penny will act in that capacity for now and Butch Neel volunteered to assist as needed.

* + 1. Mayor Penny reported that the county attorney said that Reno County fireworks regulations will not be applicable or enforced because the city is incorporated. This is contrary to information provided by the Reno County Sheriff's Office in the 2019 Town Hall meeting where Sheriff Henderson and Deputy Hendricks stated the fireworks laws applied.
		2. Mosquito concerns persist and the thought of buying dunks was brought up. At $1 plus per "dunk" it would be extremely costly to cover The Highlands - and virtually impossible to treat all of the small ponds of standing water.

County will not provide dunks nor spraying. No action taken.

* 1. **ADJOURNMENT**:

Mark Kerschen motion to adjourn. Butch Neel second. Passed 5-0