

**City of The Highlands**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Monday, 6:00 p.m., February 28, 2022**  
**Nickerson Office Building, 13 N. Nickerson St., Nickerson, KS 67561**  
**Social Distancing and hand sanitizing are required, masks are strongly encouraged.**  
**This meeting is being recorded.**

**I. Meeting Called to Order**

- A. Welcome by Mayor Carol Moore
- B. Pledge of Alliance
- C. Roll Call by the City Clerk:
  - Council Members Present: Butch Neel, Jeff Jackson, Mark Kerschen, and Kenny Nuss. McElgunn not present
  - City Clerk: Cindy Dale
  - AZC: Mo Penny
  - Guests: Richard Woolley, Jim Humiston, Brad Easter, Alex Macleod, Gary Graber, and Sharon Graber.

**II. Approval of the Agenda as presented.**

- **Kenny Nuss motioned to approve Agenda as presented, seconded by Butch Neel. Motion passed.**

**III. Public Comments (State your name and address. Please limit remarks to less than five minutes.)**

- A. Richard Woolley wanted to let council know he is cleaning up his lots.

**IV. Approval of Minutes of February 14, 2022, Regular Meeting**

- **Jeff Jackson made a motion to approve Minutes of February 14, 2022, Regular Meeting, seconded by Butch Neel. Motion passed.**

**V. Reports**

- A. Mayor:
  - 1. Mayor Moore talked with John Goodyear of The League of Kansas Municipalities about recording meetings and retaining the tapes. After minutes of meeting are approved, the tape can be erased. "There is no duty to retain tapes of a meeting." Written minutes are the official record. However, if someone requests to review the tape before approval of the minutes, the tape is subject to KORA.
  - 2. Mayor Moore attended the Reno Co. Commission meeting last Tuesday and heard Chief Beer talk about the fires east of Hutchinson. Mayor wanted to thank Jeff Jackson, Gary Graber, and Sharon Graber for all their work in cleaning lots.
  - 3. It cost \$1,500 per hour for the tanker from the state. The State of Kansas paid for that because the state was under emergency declaration. There is a piece of equipment that costs \$5,000 per hour that is a mulcher, quickly mulches tree debris that can then be spread over pastures.
  - 4. Notice added to the home page of our website to encourage people to come to our meetings and to let the council know in advance so we can be better prepared to address any issues.
- B. Treasurer – Brian McElgunn not present.
  - 1. Mitch Cramer not present.

C. AZC Report

1. Steve Swartz and Dan McFadden have both responded to the right-of-way no parking.
2. Poppelreiter is in violation of no parking in right-of-way. Mo has written a warning ticket.
3. Do we need to write an ordinance for the width of a driveway to amend the ordinance?
4. Jeff Jackson is removing trees and putting trees back out of the right of way.
5. Need to have a survey taken of Paganica Place for drainage.
6. Ed Byer asked if he would need one or two permits to install a window and repair his deck.  
The council thought that two permits and one fee would be enough.

- **Jeff Jackson made a motion to allow Ed Byer you have two permits for installation of window and deck and pay one \$50 fee, seconded by Kenny Nuss. Motion passed.**

**VI. New Business**

- A. Council meeting place: Crazy Horse has a new manager, and she is more agreeable about holding meetings upstairs at the clubhouse. What would be the charge for using the clubhouse? Mark will ask Jess at Crazy Horse what the charge would be for each meeting and report back to the council at our next meeting.
- B. A referendum to place on election ballot: To place a Referendum on election ballot a petition needs to be written and distributed for signatures of residences. A Chartered ordinance would need to be written.
- C. City website: Does our website do what we need; is it easy to navigate, it also depends upon the ability of person looking at website. An email blast will notify the recipient that a proposed ordinance is on the website for review for 4 weeks.
- D. Highlands Facebook page: It should be noted that the city council is not an administrator of this Facebook page. Some misinformation has been posted and has been deleted it by one of the administrators.
- E. Goals for 2022:
  1. Make long-term plans for roads
  2. Identify what needs to be done for the roads
  3. Get an estimate from civil engineer for what the costs and what needs to be done.
  4. Brad Easter recommended that the council just meet once a month.
  5. Park and Recreation Committee volunteers: Brad Easter, Zane Jackson, Dee Swafford, Vickie Nuss, Peggy Williford, Dave Thomas, and Cheryl Wiggins.
  6. Drainage concerns.
  7. Butch Neel will be putting a no exit sign at Country Club Dr.

**VII. Unfinished Business**

- A. Progress report on Phase 1 of lot cleanup. City clerk will mail letters to those in violation with assessment of fines.
  - Work Force got most of the work done on his three lots on North Link
  - Jim McCormick has not done anything on lot in North Links.
  - Terry Wall still has three lots to be cleaned up.
- B. In agenda for the next meeting we will start on Phase 2
- C. Right of Way clean up: Maps will be marked up to have more copies of right of way.
- D. Tabled items of last meeting of public comments—to be on the agenda for March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- E. Start Phase II of cleaning lots.
- F. Kenny Nuss will talk to Greig Simms about contacting an engineer about roads.

**VIII. As may arise**

- A. 2022 goals (2021 goals: Road repairs vacant lot cleanup, signage (completed), future drainage concerns

**IX. Motion to adjourn**

- **Motion made by Jeff Jackson, seconded by Kenny Nuss. Motion passed. Adjourned at 7:25 p.m.**