City of The Highlands, Kansas

COUNCIL MEETING Minutes

April 25th, 2019, 6:00 PM Held at Nickerson City Hall, Nickerson, Ks

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Penny called the meeting to order on April 25, 2019 at 6:03 P.M.

1. **ROLL CALL:** Ken Nuss (absent) , 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 04/11/2019 – Butch Neel motion to approve. Bonnie Teel second. Passed 4-0.
4. **REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS** 
   * 1. Scott Anderson was present to ask about permit status. Both lots are non-compliant to city ordinance. Options have been investigated. Garber survey mention a possible "simplified" joining of lots into one. That action would take care of all zoning issues of the build plan. Clerk will look into vacating the platted 40 feet setback from Hendricks St. to provide more usable lot area.
5. **REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS AND INVOICES:**
   * 1. Invoice from Sterling Bulletin of $465.00, Butch Neel reimbursements of $179.55, $17.74. Dwight Gehring motion to approve and pay all submissions. Mark Kerschen second. Passed 4-0.
6. **BUSINESS:**
   * 1. AZRC member appointment by Mayor Penny. Primary Brad Easter, Loren Frees and Kim Swafford. Alternates Randy Miller and Jeff Jackson. Will be sworn in at a workshop ( time to be determined ). Butch Neel motion to approve all. Dwight Gehring second. Passed 4-0
     2. Review quote for road repairs and prioritize. Plan to ask "Powered by Me" to repair as much as possible of the most urgently needed spots, in addition to 150 feet of Crazy Horse from Dull Knife intersect toward clubhouse, within a maximum budget of $25000. Butch Neel motion to pursue a contract for the proposed work. Dwight Gehring second. Passed 4-0.
     3. Review mowing equipment plan. Butch Neel presented quotes on 4 models of mowers. Concerns expressed that with road repair, a major purchase would not leave adequate funding in general fund. Suggestion made to look at a lease or financing option but maintain a reserve large enough to cover the debt. No further action.
     4. Clerk described a proposed letter to residents describing conditional special assessments when the city is required to mow their right of way brush and grasses in order to help mitigate fire threat. Letter was not presented and still in work.
     5. A quote for the surety bond for city clerk was presented. The premium would be $100 per year. No action taken until treasurer receives a quote. Mo Penny to check on liability insurance for volunteers using mowing equipment, snow removal, AZRC investigation. etc. No action taken for now.
     6. State Tax revenue notifications received for a total of $603.32 No action required.
     7. Provisions for notification of zoning and municipal law violation and subsequent citation process is still in work. Deferred to later meeting. No action taken.
     8. Request to allow AZRC to return to building permitting process with the conditions that they follow city ordinance to the letter. They will help prepare the permit application and do due diligence in making sure the applicant will adhere to city law. The City Council shall take all information from the AZRC and approve or deny each application per City law. No action required for now.
     9. Added to agenda: prospective resident asking about hobby breeding of cats. Considerations to be made are that animal control and nuisance laws are not issues that are "grandfathered" and may be enforced later upon enactment. No action taken.
     10. Added to agenda: Visual theme proposals presented to Council and floor for input of preference. No action taken
     11. Added to agenda: Mike Alger indicated they are continuing to get signatures on the petition as presented at the April 11 2019 meeting. No action taken.
   1. **ADJOURNMENT**:

Bonnie Teel motion to adjourn. Butch Neel second. Passed 4-0