

INFORMATION

City Office – (785) 876-2550
Located at 524 Kiowa

Office Hours

Mon: 9am – 6pm
Tuesday-Friday: 8am – 2pm

City Maintenance – Travis (785) 608-3547
Certified Operator – Bob (785) 640-1194

Next Meeting – September 8th, 2008

www.ozawkie.org

Regular Council Meeting August 11th, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Commissioners Marlin Youngquist, Jason Klenklen, Mark Roberts, Steve Stanton and Dale Barnum. No members absent.

Citizens in attendance were Ken Bieker, Gary Branson, Sharon Branson, Sandi Goetz, Lynn Drown, Frank Cooper, Elke Lassiter, Don Lassiter, Mark Larson, Marlene Jolly, Gordon Smith, Marilyn Blevins, Scott Davids, Shirley Nicely, Deb Gaskill and Don Schaeffer.

City employees in attendance were Travis Adams and Melissa Zimmerman.

OPENING COMMENTS:

In opening comments, Lynn Drown, 102 Valley View Ct., reported that the maintenance department recently fixed a water leak and has yet to clean up the mess. She requested that the area be cleaned up and the possible erosion problem be contained.

Sharon Branson, 726 Delaware, informed the Council that she is welcoming donations for an MS bike race that she is participating in on September 20th & 21st in Topeka. The money will go towards research and treatment for MS. To learn more, visit www.MSmidamerica.org.

II. COUNCIL COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

No comments.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Councilman Youngquist requested that item #6, 2009 Budget be discussed before item #5, council reports. Motion by Klenklen to approve the agenda, second by Roberts. The motion passed 5-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

a) MINUTES OF THE JULY 14TH AND JULY 22ND MEETINGS

The Council requested that an article elaborating on the ATV issue be placed in the next City newsletter. Motion by Klenklen to approve the Minutes of the July 14th & July 22nd meetings, second by Youngquist. The motion passed 5-0.

b) JULY TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Bieker furnished the Mayor and Council with a monthly financial report for July. The report reflected credits/debits of \$3,892.84/\$12,715.07 for General, \$7,813.64/\$13,262.25 for Water, \$2,611.10/\$2,663.62 for Sewer, \$200.00/\$13.35 for Parks, \$0.00/\$222.86 for Equipment Reserve \$5,323.59/\$0.00 for Special Highway and \$4,479.11/\$4,393.50 for Trash. The total receipts/expenditures for July were \$24,320.28/\$33,270.65.

Motion by Klenklen to approve the July Treasurer's Report, second by Youngquist. The motion passed 5-0.

c) JULY WARRANT REGISTER

Councilman Stanton reported that the City spent \$3200 in 2007 and \$3628 so far in 2008 for the water leak repair services provided by Millers Excavating and questioned as to whether the City maintenance employees were capable of handling the work without the aid of Millers, to save the City money. Councilman Klenklen reported that the City does not have the equipment to excavate in order to get to the leaks; therefore Millers Excavating does the excavation work and assists the City employees in repairing the leaks.

Councilman Roberts questioned as to whether the Strader Drilling bill had been paid or contested. Mayor Gibson reported that \$6732.25 was paid in June for parts and labor and \$6923.26 is on the July warrant register to pay for the pitless for the well that is currently down.

The July Warrant Register reflected an expenditure amount of \$11,278.23 for General, \$10,743.35 for Water, \$628.54 for Sewer, \$222.86 for Equipment Reserve, and \$13.38 for Park. Total expenditures for July were \$22,886.36.

Motion by Barnum to approve the Warrant Register, second by Youngquist. The motion passed 4-1 with Stanton opposing.

V. REPORTS:

Planning & Zoning:

Chairperson, Sandi Goetz informed the Council that the committee did not meet in August.

On July 31, 2008, Chairperson Goetz attended the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning meeting. They discussed their updated Comprehensive Plan. Under the updates the former "Brammel" Farm and the "Metzger" farm have been re-designated as possible commercial/industrial sites by the county. Since both properties fall within the three mile reference area, this is of interest to the City of Ozawkie.

There will be three classes of commercial and two classes of industrial zones. Chairperson Goetz believes that once a business comes in as, for instance, a "CP-2", it stays a "CP-2". For instance a catering establishment could later

become a meat market, including processing facilities and that could later become tire sales and service but it could not “vulcanize, manufacture or waste tire collection or processing”. Ms. Goetz pointed out that with a tire sales and service store that the used tires stay on the property until the business collected a “full load” to take the tires to recycle and they do not take them in to recycling every day. This could create a potential problem. Chairperson Goetz pointed out to council that it would take all of council and Planning and Zoning being well informed so that a proper, well planned decision could be made under the three mile reference area. Chairperson Goetz mentioned part of the Valley Falls Vindicator article “Zoning board recommends changes on a narrow 4-3 vote.” The vote was split because some board members wanted to keep the “conditional use” permits as the way of allowing businesses to come to the county. Brett Frakes broke the tie vote. The County also discussed expanding the prohibition on using van boxes or shipping containers for storage.

The next Planning and Zoning meeting will be September 3, 2008 at 7:00p.m.

Streets:

Street Commissioner Youngquist invited all citizens to give feedback regarding the streets by contacting himself or the City Office or submitting an electronic feedback form online at http://www.ozawkie.org/Street_Survey.htm.

Councilman Youngquist asked citizens who spray their yards with weed killer to help the City out by spraying the green strip of weeds on the street right in front of their homes.

Utilities:

Utility Commissioner Klenklen reported that the water tower project has been completed and normal water consumption may be continued.

Councilman Klenklen is looking into options for House Bill 2637 which pertains to mandatory utility locate compliance effective July 1, 2009.

Mayor Gibson commended Councilman Klenklen on the 3rd quarter utility newsletter that he put together and also thanked Ron Thomas, Travis Adams and Bob Schuenight for their extra effort during the water tower project.

To contact DIGSAFE, you can now dial 811.

Governmental Affairs:

Governmental Affairs Commissioner Roberts requested that the City look into electronically reproducing the Ozawkie History Book, as suggested by Councilman Klenklen. Deb Gaskill, former website manager, suggested adding the information on the website’s history page at <http://www.ozawkie.org/history.htm>.

The next meeting of the Ozawkie Area Chamber of Commerce is August 21st at noon at Golden Pizza in Meriden.

Parks:

Park Commissioner Barnum reported that the park committee will meet with City Attorney, John Kurth, at the beginning of September, to work on the 501(c)(3). Councilman Roberts offered his assistance to the Park Committee in obtaining grants for the park.

Law Enforcement:

Law Enforcement Commissioner Stanton reiterated the importance of contacting the Sheriff’s Department if anyone is having issues with the ATV’s in the City.

Leased Property Management Committee:

Councilman Klenklen reported that the committee met on July 21st and August 4th.

After reviewing the cost to have the tennis courts demolished by various companies, the committee felt it best to rent the equipment and utilize volunteers to remove the tennis court. Scott Davids, 508 Sioux, offered to re-paint the lines and replace the net on the tennis court and requested that the City hold off on the demolition. Councilman Klenklen reported that the decision to demolish the tennis court has been under review for several months with the Corps of Engineers. Due to the courts being located on Corps leased property and not being in an acceptable

location, the committee felt this to be the best solution. On August 18th at 2pm, the NRCS will be meeting with representatives from the City to finalize plans for the demolition.

Volunteers will meet on August 23rd to remove the tennis courts. If you would like to help, please contact Jason Klenklen or the City Office.

Councilman Klenklen presented a proposed 2008-2009 Annual Management Plan for the leased Corps property and requested that all councilmember's review it and submit any changes within a week, so that the committee may submit the plan to the Corps of Engineer's.

Tree Board:

Councilman Barnum reported that the tree board will be working with the park committee to complete the 501(c) (3).

City Maintenance:

Public Works Supervisor, Travis Adams, reported that the garage door on the north side recently broke. The Council previously approved the purchase of a new panel for the door, but the panel is on back order. Councilman Klenklen has been researching the cost to install new doors on the maintenance building for the 2009 budget year, as requested by Council. So far, the most appealing bid is for a door with an R factor of 15 for just under \$1200. Motion by Roberts to have Clerk Zimmerman cancel the panel order and have Councilman Klenklen purchase a new door to be installed with an R factor of at least 15 for a cost not to exceed \$1200, second by Barnum. The motion passed 5-0.

Councilman Youngquist reported that he has been researching the cost of radiant heat for the maintenance building and preliminary costs are approximately \$1200-\$1600.

Certified Operator:

Nothing to report.

City Clerk:

Clerk Zimmerman requested that the Council continue to update their ordinance books with the provided copies of changes and additions to the ordinances.

Clerk Zimmerman reported on upcoming conferences that would be beneficial for a City representative to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

VI. 2009 Budget

The Council reviewed the proposed budget, which includes a mill levy increase of 7.719 mills. The Council asked for citizen comments.

Citizen comments:

- Gordon Smith, 108 Coyote, doesn't see justification for a 7 mill increase.
- Mark Larson, 305 Delaware, would like to know what the citizens are getting for the tax increase.
- Gary Branson, 726 Delaware, pointed out that, although he does not like the fact that the mill levy is increasing, the City offers great streets, a good running sewer, safe water, a nice park and shelter house, a city office that's open almost full time, maintenance employees who keep the city looking nice, good equipment and a responsive city government. Mr. Branson requested that the City be prudent with the tax money and spend it carefully. Mr. Branson also mentioned that streets have always been a priority to past Council's and requested that the current and future Council's maintain that standard.
- Don Lassiter, 624 Kansa, doesn't support the increase and questioned as to why there are 3 maintenance employees when there used to only be 1. Mr. Lassiter also questioned the \$4700 budgeted for the Corps Property.
- Deb Gaskill, 528 Delaware, asked the Council to take into consideration that many citizens are on a fixed income and the increase could really hurt them financially
- Marilyn Blevins, 544 Delaware, asked how much money the increase would cost citizens

- Marlene Jolly, 106 W. Coyote, would like better snow removal on Coyote.

The Council explained that three major items were the basis for the mill levy increase. The first item is a new storm siren system, which accounted for \$22,000 in the budget. The second is an increase in the street budget, due to many necessary projects. The third is basic increases across the board for cost of living, fuel, utilities, asphalt, etc. The maintenance department positions were also restructured, capping salaries for each employee. This restructuring actually caused a decrease in the budget for salaries and wages. \$4700 was budgeted for maintenance of the leased Corps Property, which includes seeding, and weed control, cleanup and signage/markings.

Councilman Youngquist reported that he will be implementing a “curb-to-curb” snow removal procedure and will be enforcing “no parking” on the snow route when the City has received at least 2” of snow.

On a \$100,000 home in Ozawkie, the 7.719 mill increase would cost \$88.77 more per year (\$7.40 per month). To learn more about how to figure your city taxes, visit the website at http://www.ozawkie.org/Tax_Information.htm.

Many projects were cut in order to keep the mill levy increase as low as possible. Some of the projects include Tree City USA park signage, a restroom facility in the park and drainage control and security fencing for the Corps Property.

Motion by Barnum to approve the 2009 budget, second by Klenklen. The motion passed 5-0 with Stanton abstaining due to employee concerns.

VII. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Discussion

Councilman Klenklen voiced his concerns regarding the recently adopted Erosion & Sediment Control Plan. One main concern deals with the decision of the Council to change the word “director” to “mayor”, which puts 100% of the authority in the Mayor’s hands. Councilman Klenklen would like some of the plan review stages to involve Planning and Zoning, as opposed to going straight to the Mayor.

Councilman Roberts stated that his study of the ordinance prior to its passage indicated that its scope and depth provide a comprehensive set of guidelines for anyone involved with building regardless of whether it was a single family dwelling or a large scale development. The point of contact should in fact remain with the Office of the Mayor as the Planning and Zoning Commission is composed of appointed volunteers who in fact lack the authority vested in the Mayor. Having the Mayor serve as the point of contact also makes it easier for the builders to know who to contact. And finally, the administrative sections of the ordinance provide for the City Council to retain final authority in the execution of its provisions.

Councilman Klenklen will attend the next Planning and Zoning meeting to discuss his issues with the committee.

VIII. Executive Session – Employee Reviews

Motion by Stanton to go into executive session under K.S.A. 75-4319(b) (1) – personnel matters of non-elected personnel, at 9:30pm for 30 minutes, second by Roberts. The motion passed 5-0.

The Council reconvened at 9:59pm.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Youngquist to adjourn at 10:00pm, second by Klenklen. The motion passed 5-0.

Melissa A. Zimmerman
City Clerk