

INFORMATION

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

Office Hours

Mon: 9am – 6pm

Tuesday-Friday: 8am – 2pm

Maintenance Bob (785) 640-1194
 Ron (785) 640-8750
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Next Meeting – March 13th, 2006

Regular Council Meeting February 13th, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Mayor Scott Gibson. Commissioners Terry Marsh, Ed Carmona, Brad Ayres, Kirk Vernon and Elke Lassiter.

OPENING COMMENTS:

In opening comments, Mayor Gibson addressed a letter that was sent to all of the Councilmember's by Deb Gaskill concerning water quality issues in the City of Ozawkie. Certified Operator Schuenight informed the Council that after increasing the polyphosphate, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) sent correspondence indicating that the City lead and copper levels are satisfactory and that semi-annual monitoring of the system will be adequate.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Carmona to approve the agenda, second by Marsh. The motion passed 4-0.

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

a) MINUTES OF JANUARY 9TH, 2006 MEETING

Motion by Carmona to approve the Minutes of the January 9th, 2006 meeting, second by Lassiter. The motion passed 4-0.

b) JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Bieker furnished the Mayor and Council with a monthly financial report for January. The report reflected credits of \$35,705.00 for General, \$6,239.38 for Water, \$2,478.19 for Sewer and \$3,035.82 for Trash. The total receipts for January were \$47,458.39.

Motion by Marsh to approve the January Treasurer's Report, second by Carmona. The motion passed 5-0.

c) JANUARY WARRANT REGISTER

Clerk Zimmerman noted that warrant number 7346, Reddi Root'r, is to be removed. The bill was not intended for the City of Ozawkie to pay. The January Warrant Register reflected an expenditure amount of \$10,479.22 for General, \$4,369.70 for Water, \$3,410.93 for Sewer, \$1,285.11 for Special Highway and \$17.49 for Park. Total expenditures for January were \$19,562.45.

Motion by Marsh to approve the Warrant Register, second by Carmona. The motion passed 5-0.

IV. REPORTS:

Planning & Zoning:

The committee did not meeting in February, but does plan to meet on March 6th, 2006 at 7:00 pm at the Township Hall.

Streets:

Street Commissioner Marsh reported that the salt/sand shed has been completed, and discussion is still taking place regarding enclosing the shed. Councilman Marsh informed the Council that he will be reviewing needed street repairs for 2006 and hopes to have a recommendation for the City Council at the next meeting.

Utilities:

Utilities Commissioner Ayres furnished the Council with a "Utilities Summary" report. The report recapitulated the water and sewer systems for Ozawkie. The report recommended a \$5.00 bi-monthly surcharge to be added to each residential water/sewer bill. By adding the \$5.00 surcharge, the annual projected revenue would be approximately \$7500.00. Further discussion will take place during new business, item #7, Sewer Survey Financing.

Parks:

Park Commissioner Lassiter thanked the Maintenance Department for disassembling the park equipment, and also requested that the swing set be removed as well because it has been deemed unsafe. Councilwoman Lassiter presented the Council with 3 park equipment bids. Each bid reflects basically the same type of equipment for approximately \$20,000.00. Councilwoman Lassiter explained that one of the bids includes delivery, wood chips, and a representative to supervise the erection of the equipment by city-recruited volunteers. Councilwoman Lassiter explained that the bidded equipment will be a great starting point and that all of the equipment can be added onto. Councilman Marsh noted that with approximately \$10,000 currently in the Park Fund, only an extra \$8,000 - \$9,000 would need to be funded. Citizen, Forrest Jolly, rationalized that the extra money being saved once the lease purchase on the tractor is paid off can be saved for the park equipment. Citizen, Gary Branson, informed the Council that the old equipment was approximately 15 years old and that it was very difficult for the volunteers to erect, but that he is definitely in favor of the City purchasing new park equipment.

Councilman Marsh recommended that Councilwoman Lassiter have a bid approval recommendation at the March Council meeting, as well as the price of wood chips versus rubber in the playground area.

Councilwoman Lassiter questioned as to whether the City would be willing to look into changing the old tennis courts into a skate park for kids. Councilman Carmona voiced his concerns regarding the City's liability for the skate park. It was also mentioned that the tennis courts are on Corps of Engineer Property, which could cause issues if the Corps happened to not want the skate park on the property. No further discussion will take place regarding this matter.

Law Enforcement:

Nothing to report.

Governmental Affairs:

Nothing to report.

Tree Board:

Nothing to report.

City Maintenance:

Public Works Supervisor Thomas was unable to attend due to a water leak.

Mayor Gibson commended Public Works Supervisor Thomas on his water certification accomplishment.

Public Works Supervisor Thomas furnished the Mayor and Council with a report for January. Councilman Carmona questioned as to whether certain expenses that the City is incurring for water/sewer repairs should be charged to the homeowner of the house the repair was made. Further discussion will take place at the March meeting, when Thomas is in attendance.

City Clerk:

City Clerk Zimmerman reported that the federal portion of the FEMA disaster relief check has been deposited, and it is around \$22,000.00. Clerk Zimmerman informed the Council that a Notice of Lot Vacation has been published in the Vindicator and that discussion and action will take place at the March meeting.

Mayor Gibson questioned as to whether the Council would be interested in looking into a recycling center for the City of Ozawkie. S.M. Ball Waste Disposal would supply a 30-yard roll-off with sections for plastic, glass, newspaper, and tin cans and charge each citizen of Ozawkie \$1.00 per month, making the total around \$2,880 per year. Discussion took place as to whether it would be more of a nuisance than a help, if people started throwing regular trash in the roll-off. Clerk Zimmerman will research a possibly free recycling center and have more information at the March meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

V. Ozawkie City-Wide Garage Sales

Citizens, Gary and Sharon Branson, approached the Council questioning whether the City would want to host the Ozawkie City-Wide garage sales again this year. The Council unanimously agreed. The Branson's informed the Council that the registration cost would remain the same at \$7.50 and the sales would still be the first Saturday in May (May 6th). The Branson's requested the City rent 2 portable toilets and move their locations closer to Delaware. Motion by Carmona for the City to rent 2 portable toilet and allow the Branson's to choose the locations of the toilets, second by Marsh. The motion passed 5-0.

VI. Animal Control Officer

Mayor Gibson informed the Council that one of the three interested parties for being the animal control officer (A.C.O.) attending the meeting. Mr. Ed Haptemer, from Oskaloosa, proposed to the Council that he would be willing to be the Animal Control Officer for \$250.00 per month, with the understanding that he would work 25 hour per month, and anytime over that, he would be paid \$10.00 per hour, plus paid mileage. Mr. Haptemer will patrol the City for stray animals, set live traps and is certified to tranquilize animals. He recommends that the City purchase their own equipment. Mr. Haptemer is currently the A.C.O. for Oskaloosa and Winchester City Council will be discussing whether to hire him or not at the end of February, but he will not work for both Winchester and Ozawkie, so he will only work for whoever hires him first. Councilman Marsh requested that the item be put on the March agenda, to give all of the Councilmembers 30 days to research the situation.

VII. Sewer Survey Financing

Motion by Marsh to utilize the City's existing funds to pay for the Sewer Survey, second by Lassiter. 2 Aye votes, Councilman Carmona and Councilman Ayres vote nay, Councilman Vernon abstained. Clerk Zimmerman informed the Council that the abstention would normally be considered a vote with the majority of votes, but since it's a tie, the Mayor has the tie-breaking vote. Mayor Gibson voted nay. Motion failed. Councilman Ayres informed the council that at the January meeting it was decided that new bids would be retrieved so that an actual dollar amount can be worked with when trying to obtain the funding. Councilman Carmona explained that he felt that a surcharge needs to be added instead of using all of the reserve funds. Motion by Marsh to table the discussion until after agenda item #11, second by Carmona. The motion passed 5-0.

VIII. Audit Information

Clerk Zimmerman informed the Council that she has received 4 bids from CPA's. The first one is Groff and Berry who will charge \$3500 to do a 2005 audit, the second is Diehl, Banwart, Bolton, Jarred, and Bledsoe who will charge \$2,950 to do a 2005 audit, The third is Adams, Brown, Beran, and Ball who will charge \$5,450 to do a 2005 audit, and the fourth is Lowenthal, Singleton, Webb, and Wilson who will charge \$4,500 to do a 2005 audit. No further discussion took place.

IX. City Annexation

Councilman Marsh requested that the City discuss considering annexing some land west of the City for if Ozawkie Fire District #7 approves to develop a new building on the property. Stan Metzger owns the property and has mentioned donating the land to the Fire Department. Mr. Metzger explained that in the future, he is planning on possibly creating a subdivision with the possibility of 100 homes, and the Fire Department would share access to K-92 highway. Citizen, Jim Cox, voiced his opposition to the annexation, stating that he felt it would cost the City extra money to annex and then attach the possible subdivision to the City's water and sewer systems. Mayor Gibson informed Mr. Metzger that once he gets more information, he could bring that to the Council and further discussion can take place.

X. Codified Ordinance Committee Report

Councilman Marsh reported that the committee will be having 2 more meetings before the next City Council Meeting and that there is a possibility that the Committee will have all recommended changes ready for review.

XI. Personnel Policy

Councilman Marsh reported that he has reviewed the Personnel Policies and Guidelines provided by the League of Kansas Municipalities and recommends some changes. The first recommended change is on page 4, section D-5 (a) a note shall be added stating that if all compensation time is not used by the following pay period, it will be paid out as overtime. The second recommended change is on page 6, section E-3 (a) President's Day shall be added to the Holidays. The third recommended change is on page 7, section E-5 (b) where the accumulation of sick time shall be 360 instead of 720. The fourth recommended change is on page 7, section E-5 (c) where the increments of sick leave shall be taken in 4 hours instead of 1 hour. The fifth recommended change is on page 12, section F-9 (a) where the second sentence "A Part-time employee shall be eligible for group health care insurance as of the date of change in employment status" be removed. The sixth recommended change is on page 12, section F-10 (a) in the first sentence where the City "may" pay one-half of the continuing education as opposed to "will" pay. The final recommended change begins on page 6 and carries over to page 7, section E-4 (a) where the amount of vacation shall be 2 weeks for employees working from 0-5 years, 3 weeks for employees working from 5-10 years, and 4 weeks for employees working over 10 years.

Motion by Marsh to approve the personnel policy with all recommended changes, second by Carmona. The motion passed 5-0.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Marsh to adjourn the meeting until February 20th, 2006 at 7:00pm, second by Vernon. The motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm.

Melissa A. Zimmerman
City Clerk