

## **INFORMATION**

City Office – (785) 876-2550

Located at 524 Kiowa

### **Office Hours**

Mon: 9am – 6pm

Tuesday-Friday: 8am – 2pm

City Maintenance – Ron (785) 608-3547

Certified Operator - Bob (785) 640-8750

Next Meeting – February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008

[www.ozawkie.org](http://www.ozawkie.org)

## **Regular Council Meeting January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Mayor Scott Gibson. Commissioners Jason Klenklen, Marlin Youngquist, Steve Stanton and Mark Roberts. Members absent: Elke Lassiter.

Citizens in attendance were Sandi Goetz, Bob Holliday, Tom Stechman, Ken Bieker, Bob Schuenight, Dale Barnum, Jim Cox, Jim McGrath and Kevin Klenklen.

### **OATH OF OFFICE**

Steve Stanton was appointed to Council at the December 2007 Council Meeting. Clerk Zimmerman administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Steve Stanton. The Oath of Office was signed and returned to Clerk Zimmerman to be sealed and filed with the City records.

### **OPENING COMMENTS:**

Sandi Goetz requested that the City look into implementing a tree/limb debris removal plan for future ice/snow storms. Councilman Youngquist suggested contacting the county to request assistance, because they are currently aiding Winchester, Valley Falls, Oskaloosa, and possibly McLouth, with tree limb removal. If the County would be able to help, the tree limbs are to be stacked parallel to the street, and a bobcat-length away from the street.

## **II. COUNCIL COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS**

The Mayor and Council reviewed a letter of resignation submitted by Elke Lassiter. Motion by Klenklen to accept the resignation, second by Youngquist. The motion passed 4-0. Everyone would like to thank Elke for her efforts and accomplishments during her time on the City Council.

The burn pile has been temporarily relocated to the back part of the maintenance building area, due to poor ground conditions around the normal location.

Thank you to all citizens who helped ease the intensity of the ice/snow storm aftermath by being patient with the City and utility companies, and helping each other out when needed. A special thanks goes out to Mayor Gibson, Councilman Klenklen, Certified Operator, Bob Schuenight and Ron Thomas for dedicating many hours to assist in restoring the City to a fully-functioning operation during the power outages.

## **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Klenklen to approve the agenda, second by Youngquist. The motion passed 4-0.

## **IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**

### **a) MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2007 MEETING**

Motion by Klenklen to approve the Minutes of the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, second by Stanton. The motion passed 4-0.

### **b) DECEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Bieker furnished the Mayor and Council with a monthly financial report for December. The report reflected credits/debits of \$2,248.57/\$17,344.68 for General, \$1,093.30/\$3,981.94 for Water, \$510.90/\$1,595.10 for Sewer, \$0/\$13.30 for Parks, \$0/\$6,911.45 for Special Highway, \$0/\$222.86 for Equipment Reserve and \$664.90/\$216.61 for Trash. The total receipts/expenditures for December were \$4,517.67/\$30,285.94.

Motion by Klenklen to approve the December Treasurer's Report, second by Stanton. The motion passed 4-0.

### **c) DECEMBER WARRANT REGISTER**

The December Warrant Register reflected an expenditure amount of \$6,995.74 for General, \$2,896.60 for Water, \$1,032.21 for Sewer, \$4,147.20 for Trash \$222.86 for Equipment Reserve, \$1,406.78 for Special Highway and \$13.03 for Park. Total expenditures for December were \$16,714.42.

The Council questioned the gas bill, which was larger than usual for this time of year and requested that the maintenance department turn the thermostat down when the building is not being occupied.

Motion by Klenklen to approve the Warrant Register, second by Roberts. The motion passed 4-0.

## **V. REPORTS:**

### ***Planning & Zoning:***

Committee Chairperson, Sandi Goetz informed the Council that the Planning & Zoning Committee met on January 7<sup>th</sup>, with no plans to review. All members were present. The committee corrected the November minutes and discussed the erosion and sediment control standards. Members Deb Gaskill and Grace Jolly are working on this and hope to have it ready by the next meeting.

The committee reviewed the building permit application and made a few technical changes, including the meeting information and adding the website information. Motion by Klenklen to approve the changes, second by Youngquist. The motion passed 4-0.

***Streets:***

Street Commissioner Youngquist reported that the City's snow removal was above average, comparatively, to other areas.

Councilman Youngquist requested the Council's input on street improvements for 2008. More discussion will take place regarding 2008 street improvements at the February 11<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

***Utilities:***

Utility Commissioner Klenklen reported that he is beginning to look into clearing all of the utility lines on Sioux from Grandview to Central and on Delaware from Valley View to Central.

Councilman Klenklen informed the Council that he will be working on a utility newsletter, to be sent out quarterly, to keep all citizens informed of the utility issues.

***Parks:***

Elke Lassiter earned \$535.00 from the quilt fundraiser and she will research teeter-totter's, purchase one with the fundraising money, and donate it to the City. The winner of the Townhouse Quilt was Linda Loving from Ozawkie. The winner of the Patriotic Quilt was Alan Sharp from Topeka. Elke wishes to thank Larry & Sandi Goetz and Gary & Janice Nafziger for purchasing several tickets.

Elke Lassiter will still be the Park Committee Chairperson and is need of more volunteers for the Park Committee. Any who may be interested is asked to contact Elke at 876-2513.

Please contact Mayor Gibson at 876-2419 if you are interested in being the new Park Commissioner.

***Law Enforcement:***

Law Enforcement Commissioner Stanton reported that he will begin obtaining Calls for Service reports from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department to read at the Council Meetings.

Councilman Stanton has plans to coordinate an agreement with the Sheriff's Department to obtain low-key enforcement in the City. He will also be attending a School Board Meeting to discuss posting school zone signs near the school, specifically at Delaware and Sunflower. He will also be requesting that the Sheriff's Department monitor the speed in the school zone.

***Governmental Affairs:***

Governmental Affairs Commissioner Roberts reported that the 2008 Legislative Session opened on January 14<sup>th</sup>. If anyone would like information or help tracking a bill, he will make himself available to help anyone in need. He will also be available to facilitate contact with a legislator, if anyone is interested.

Jim McGrath, Jefferson County Economic Development Commissioner, informed the Council that the Meriden/Ozawkie Area Chamber of Commerce will be holding a meeting at Ernest-Spencer Metals in Meriden on January 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Anyone may attend. Mr. McGrath also informed the Council that Ernest-Spencer has added a \$1.5 million dollar addition to the west side of the building, and tours will be given during the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Jim McGrath informed the Council of a 7-county coalition for a rural business revolving loan program funded through business tax credits. There is currently \$840,000 available to lend. Some of the requirements include being turned down by a bank for a loan and attending a fast track program, which will provide basic education for small business owners.

The Meriden/Ozawkie Area Chamber of Commerce will host a pancake feed on March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Jefferson West Elementary School.

***Tree Board:***

Sandi Goetz questioned as to whether the City has a list of preferred trees for the City. Mayor Gibson reported that the City does have a list of preferred trees for the City, and that the Tree Board would probably have that information.

Anyone who is interested in sitting on the Ozawkie Tree Board is asked to contact the City Office at 876-2550.

***Certified Operator:***

Certified Operator Schuenight reported that he sent out a 40/30 certification letter that will bring the City into compliance with EPA, and prevent the City from having to send samples into a private lab, which could be very costly to the City. The Mayor and Council thanked Bob for his hard work and all his research on the issue.

***City Clerk:***

The Council discussed purchasing a book for \$50 that includes over 325 frequently-used proclamations. The Council decided not to purchase the book at this time.

Clerk Zimmerman informed the Council that the office will be closed on Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup> due to her attendance at a state workshop regarding the City's tax responsibility to the State of Kansas.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**VI. Utility Service Company Agreement**

The Council continued discussion on entering into an agreement with Utility Service Company for full renovation and water tower maintenance. Representative of the company, Tom Stechman, was in attendance to answer any questions and explain the program in greater detail. Utility Service holds \$10 million worth of insurance; the City would be named additional insured. The City would have a hold harmless agreement, which takes all liability off of the City. Utility Service Company will make all needed repairs this year, whenever the City is ready, and then spread the cost out over a three-year period. After the first year of the agreement, on top of the renovation costs, the City will pay an annual maintenance fee, which will include any and all future inspections/repairs/renovations, etc.

Each member of the Council feels that clean and safe drinking water is a priority. Councilman Roberts and Councilman Stanton both stated that they are not against the program, but feel that the citizens should be notified that a surcharge will be added to the water bills. Councilman Klenklen informed everyone that since the City's water tower is not in compliance, and this issue has been on the agenda for several months, as the Utility Commissioner, he feels that it is important to make a decision and stop putting it off. Adding a surcharge is unfortunate, and not favorable, but necessary in order to keep the City water tower in good standing. Councilman Klenklen urged the importance of keeping reserve funds in case of an emergency. Tom Stechman informed the Council that a water tower that is properly maintained has an indefinite lifespan. The cost to enter into the agreement and renovate the water tower will cost less for the City in the long run.

Motion by Klenklen to enter into the 3-year plan agreement and fund it by adding a surcharge to utility bills, second by Youngquist. Roberts and Stanton vote nay. Under KSA 15-301, the Mayor is able to break a tie vote on non-ordinance-related matters. Mayor Gibson voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed 3-2

Please see the attachment for more details.

**VII. Jefferson County Humane Society**

The Jefferson County Humane Society provided the City with two options for use of the Humane Shelter. The first option is that the City pays an annual fee of \$1,891.14 for 24 hour access to the shelter and cooperation in enforcing procedures for animal intake. The second option is for the City to only pay the intake fee, which is \$40 per animal. Under the second option, the City would not have 24 hour access, and would only be able to bring animals in during open hour or when staff is available. The shelter is not currently taking any new animals, except in emergency cases. Motion by Youngquist to accept the second proposal, second by Klenklen. The motion passed 4-0.

### **VIII. Block S Discussion – Sandi Goetz**

Jason Klenklen recused himself from the council table and abstained from all discussion, due to a conflict of interest.

Sandi Goetz reiterated Planning & Zoning's recommendation for the property on Main Street. The recommendation included a greenway on the north side of the property that extended 655' wide by 175' deep. The south side of the property, between Casey's and the Post Office, would be commercial property 408' wide by 177' deep.

Citizen, Kevin Klenklen, reiterated his interest in purchasing a small portion of the property on the south side of his house, which he considers to be landlocked if the City decides to plat the north end of the property.

Motion by Youngquist to move forward with selling all or a portion of the available Main Street property. Motion died for a lack of a second. The Council will drop the issue.

### **IX. Corps Property Discussion**

Councilman Klenklen informed all in attendance that there will be a meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Township Hall at 7pm to discuss the Corps Property around the City. Officials from the NRCS, Corps of Engineers, and hopefully the Kansas State Forester's Office will be in attendance. **The City is hoping for more citizen-involvement by recruiting volunteers to set on a Corps Ground Management Committee.** Anyone who is interested is asked to contact the City Office.

Mayor Gibson reported that Matt Beckman, from the Corps of Engineers, will be speaking at the Jefferson County Fire Fighters Association monthly meeting at the Fairview Fire Station on February 14<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the burn plan for 2008 for all corps property.

### **X. Proposed Commercial Zoning Area**

After some discussion, the Council agreed with the potential commercial and industrial area presented by the Jefferson County Planning & Zoning Department.

### **V. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Youngquist to adjourn at 10:15pm, second by Klenklen. The motion passed 4-0.

---

Melissa A. Zimmerman  
City Clerk

*If you need assistance with tree limb removal caused by the recent ice/snow storm, please contact the Ozawkie City Office.*