

INFORMATION

City Office – (785) 876-2550
Located at 515 Kiowa

Office Hours

Mon: 9am – 6pm

Tuesday-Friday: 8am – 2pm

City Engineer – Bob (785) 640-1194
Ron (785) 640-8750

Next Meeting – October 10th, 2005

Regular Council Meeting September 12th, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Members present: Mayor Scott Gibson. Commissioners Terry Marsh, Ed Carmona, Brad Ayres and Kirk Vernon. Members absent: Commissioner Elke Lassiter.

OPENING COMMENTS:

No Opening Comments.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Minutes of 8-8-05 Meeting and 8-15-05 Meeting):

Councilman Marsh requested that all of the consent items be separated out into individual agenda items. In doing this, the Council would like to see a more detailed report of the Warrant Register and Treasurer's Report in the minutes. From now on, the approval of the minutes will be shown as item #3 and the approval of the warrant register and treasurer's report will be shown as items #4 on the agenda. Councilman Marsh requested a copy of the unofficial warrant register to go out in the councilmember's packets.

After reviewing the minutes, motion by Marsh to approve the minutes of the August 8th and 15th meetings, second by Vernon. The motion passed 4-0.

IV.

V. APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER AND TREASURER'S REPORT:

The August Warrant Register reflected an expenditure amount of \$6,126.49 for the general account, \$4,235.37 for the water account, \$853.74 for the sewer account, \$3,852.80 for the trash account, \$472.66 for the special highway account and \$19.71 for the special park account. Total expenditures for August were \$15,560.77. The August Treasurer's Report reflected credits of \$5,078.91 for the general account, \$3,664.83 for the water account, \$1,452.48 for the sewer account, \$1,686.92 for the trash account, \$3,240.92 for the special highway account and \$25.00 for the special park account. Total receipts for August were \$15,149.06. Motion by Carmona to approve the August Warrant Register and Treasurer's Report, second by Vernon. The motion passed 4-0.

VI. REPORTS:

Planning & Zoning:

Planning & Zoning Committee President, Sandi Goetz reported that the committee held a meeting on September 6th, instead of the 5th, due to Labor Day. Members present were President Goetz, Arnold Leek, and Deb Gaskill. The Committee discussed better ways to advertise the Planning & Zoning Committee in Ozawkie. Committee member, Deb Gaskill is going to contact Jim McGrath, the economic development commissioner for Jefferson County about updating the City brochures.

President Goetz reported that the committee elected Deb Gaskill as vice-chairman for the Planning & Zoning Committee.

The Planning & Zoning Committee is going to begin looking at the Building Permit Fees once the codification process of the ordinances is complete.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 7th, 2005 at 7:00 pm in the Township Hall.

Streets:

Street Commissioner Marsh reported that he sent out a letter in reference to the construction bids on the new salt/sand storage building. Further discussion will take place at next months meeting, once the bids are received.

Councilman Marsh reported that some curb guttering damage has occurred at 612 Delaware, when a driveway was being repaired. The curb will be repaired or replaced by the person (s) who damaged it.

Councilman Marsh informed the Council that there is an Intersection Meeting on October 4th in Wichita and one on November 8th in Lawrence, for anyone who is interested in attending. Councilman Marsh does not feel a strong need for someone on Council to attend, due to the long deliberations of stop/yield sign placement at previous meetings. Also, there is a Kansas Snow/Ice Control Workshop on October 6th which Councilman Marsh recommends Ron to attend.

In regards to Kiowa Street, George Pogey, from the County, is planning on reviewing the erosion problem along the ditches. Councilman Ayres suggested that when it snows, Kiowa Street would be an un-safe road for citizens to drive on, due to the steep ditches.

Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Parks:

Councilwoman Lassiter was not able to attend, but did leave the Council with a brief letter, explaining the status of obtaining the park equipment. After doing some research, Councilwoman Lassiter found out that if park equipment is purchased later on in the year, when it is considered the "off-season", the City might be able to save quite a bit of money. If the City does not have the funds for the equipment, Councilwoman Lassiter reported that some cities have taken a lease from a bank, other cities have gotten grants. Councilwoman Lassiter emailed Parks & Wildlife requesting a grant for the equipment. Further discussion will take place at next months meeting.

Law Enforcement:

Citizen, Jim Cox, informed the Council that Main Street Café has had a few break-ins, during the most recent one, a deep freeze was taken. Mayor Gibson asked that all councilmembers and citizens keep an eye out for any suspicious

activity. Councilman Vernon requested that all citizens who witness any suspicious activity contact the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department immediately.

Governmental Affairs:

Nothing to report.

Tree Board:

Nothing to report.

City Maintenance:

Engineer Thomas furnished the Mayor and Council with an Engineer's Report for August. The report showed 1 water line break and stated that Engineer Thomas has been checking all manholes on the south line of Delaware. Engineer Thomas did purchase a few small maintenance items. Engineer Thomas also reported that he attended the water/wastewater school held at the University of Kansas. He took both tests and passed them. The Mayor and Council congratulated Engineer Thomas on his achievements.

Engineer Thomas reported that inspecting the manholes is taking longer than expected, so the large sewer project will have to wait until next year, around the first of May.

City Clerk:

City Clerk Zimmerman relayed a citizen comment to the Mayor and Council. The comment was from a citizen located in the 700 block of Delaware, whose son owns a pocket rocket and does abide by all the rules. The citizen explained that it should be the parents' job to regulate their children on scooters, and everyone should not be punished because one or two children decide not to act appropriately on the scooters. The Mayor and Council will take this into account.

City Clerk Zimmerman reminded the Council that in order to adopt an ordinance, at least 3 councilmembers must approve the ordinance. At the August 8th council meeting, ordinance 3-213 was not passed, by a 2-1 vote. Clerk Zimmerman informed the Council that if the Council would like to adopt the ordinance, a new motion must be made. Motion by Carmona to approve ordinance 3-213, authorizing Sunday sales of alcoholic liquor and cereal malt beverage in Ozawkie, motion by Ayres. The motion passed 3-1, with Marsh opposing.

Clerk Zimmerman informed the Council that the City is in need of a small-limit credit card, for employees to make necessary purchases during out-of-town conferences. The City Council decided that only 1 card is necessary, even though all employees will be able to sign for it, it will remain in the City Office, and can only be used when signed out properly. The Council agreed that the limit on the card should be \$1,500.00. Motion by Marsh to approve the credit card, second by Carmona. The motion passed 4-0.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

1) **Water/Sewer/Trash Rates**

Mayor Gibson reported that in order to fund the upcoming large sewer project, the Council might consider adding a small "improvement surcharge" onto the water/sewer/trash bills. Clerk Zimmerman suggested a \$7.00 "Water Improvement Surcharge" and a \$7.00 "Sewer Improvement Surcharge" to be added to each bill. By adding the \$14.00 per billing period, the City will receive approximately an extra \$20,000.00 per year. Councilman Marsh stated that he would like either a 3 or 5 year limit set on the surcharge fee. It was also brought up to review the surcharge and make any necessary changes before approving the budget each year. Mayor Gibson requested that all Councilmembers do some research and think about an amount for the surcharge and a yearly limit. Discussion tabled until next month.

2) **Mowing Policy**

Clerk Zimmerman reported that the City of Ozawkie has a current mowing policy, beginning in March, when the mowing bills are sent out, in the amount of \$350.00, per lot, for the entire mowing season. Whoever pays the \$350.00 will be mowed for the entire summer. Anyone who doesn't pay is in charge of maintaining their own lot. The first time that the lot is deemed not maintained, the lot owner will receive a warning letter and the City will mow the lot, free of charge. Each occurrence after the warning, the City Clerk sends a letter with an attached invoice that explains that they have a certain number of days to mow their lot, or the City Engineer will enter the premises and

mow the lot for them, and in that case, they will need to pay a mowing fee, which is \$25.00 per lot, per mow. Mayor Gibson explained that people are taking advantage of the mowing rates, and raising the fees could be an option. The Council will review the new codified ordinances and come to the next meeting with any suggestions.

3) Leased Corp Property

Mayor Gibson informed the Council that, in his opinion, the easiest way to maintain the leased corps property is to burn the grass every spring. Further research will be done when it gets closer to spring.

Mayor Gibson explained to the Council that there has been heavy traffic onto corps property through the dead-end road between 700 Delaware and 660 Delaware. The traffic is causing a problem with the homeowners of the two residences. Motion by Marsh to have the City of Ozawkie abandon the road, second by Carmona. The motion passed 4-0.

4) Dog Catching Service

Clerk Zimmerman informed the Council that two gentlemen have already shown interest in aiding in the Dog Catching Service. One is Shawn Owen, who will sell the City any necessary supplies. The other is Chris Starr, who would be willing to be retained as the animal control officer.

5) Ordinance Codification

Clerk Zimmerman furnished each councilmember with a preliminary copy of the codified ordinances for the City of Ozawkie. Each councilmember is asked to read through the books and note any comments/changes they would like to make. Any comments will be discussed at next months meeting.

6) Fire Department Building Discussion

Mayor Gibson informed the Council that the Ozawkie Township/Fire Department is regrouping their Board by adding 4 more members. Ultimately, the board will consist of the Mayor of Ozawkie, a member of the Township Board, the local School Superintendent, 1 Ozawkie City Resident, 1 Ozawkie Township Resident, the Fire Chief, and the Jefferson County Economic Development Commissioner. The Township board has created a time-frame of 8 months to get the new board together. Mayor Gibson explained that this sets the construction of the new building back, and maybe the City should look into using some land on Main Street to build a new City Office building. Councilman Marsh informed the Council that he believes that the City should look into pulling out of the contract with the Township for the land on Main Street and the use of the Township Hall Building until the Township knows what they are doing. Councilman Carmona expressed his desire to meet with the Township/Fire Department representatives.

Clerk Zimmerman provided the Mayor and Council with a data sheet, which shows the amounts that the City has been paying to the Ozawkie Township for use of the building. The agreement between the City and the Township is that the City can hold monthly meetings in the building, as well as use 2/3 of the office as a City Office, and the City will pay 2/3 of the utilities for the building. In 2003, the City paid approximately \$2,500.00, in 2004 the City paid approximately \$2,400.00, and so far in 2005, the City has paid approximately \$2,000.00.

Clerk Zimmerman will refer to City Attorney, Steve Montgomery, as to whether the City will legally be able to pull out of the contract. Further discussion will take place at next month's meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Marsh to adjourn the meeting, second by Carmona. The motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Melissa A. Zimmerman
City Clerk