**City Council Meeting**

**Minutes**

**4/7/2020**

The April 7th, 2020 Council Meeting was held remotely via online Zoom meeting. The meeting was opened by Mayor Schoonover at 7:05PM.

Pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Schoonover.

The first guest speaker was Rex Oliver with Midland COOP to discuss the possibility to install two concrete grain silos’ up near the Sale Barn and submit a building permit to the city. The council thought that was a good idea. Mr. Oliver asked about the alley next to the Fairgrounds and said it is not being used and requested weather the city would allow his company to use it for future trucks for the future silo’s. Mr. Miller was not sure if the Alley was vacated. Mr. Miller said Mr. Oliver needs an easement form the city and possibly a survey. Mr. Oliver submitted to the city a recent survey by Midland and drawings of the purposed silos. The Council asked Mr. Oliver how soon does he need a response from the city. He said the sooner the better. Council said since May 5th is a few weeks out they would hold a special meeting if necessary, to get this moving faster. The council asked Mr. Oliver about the current surface of the alley and he said it was in very good shape. The Council asked the City Administrator to ensure the applications etc. are moving as scheduled and hand over to our future Zoning Board ASAP.

Our second guest speaker Daniel Higer was present to discuss and receive approval from the Council to install a Frisbee Golf Course at the City Park. The Council suggested a rubber mat instead of concrete and the posts are able to be pulled from the ground when necessary. The price for the golf baskets is about $2000 and the remaining work about $3000. The total cost for the Frisbee Golf Course is about $5000. Council said that Daniel must go through the city for a grant. The City Administrator said he would help with the grant for the golf course. Councilman Becker motioned to apply for the grant and Councilman Klos seconded. Motioned carried 5-0.

Our third guest speaker Jenny Russell updated the council on the need for an Assisted Living facility in Mankato. The council asked what happened several years ago and she explained that the Hanson Foundation did not approve of the developer at the time. Since then the developer has made some significant improvements and built some very good facilities since then. The council will follow future updates on the Assisted Living facility and hope it is positive.

Our fourth guest speaker was Brian Shulda. Mr. Shulda informed the council that the City set up a disaster relief fund for the COVID-19 victims. He strongly suggests the City get involved. It’s up to the City how they want to run it. He suggested we develop our own plan. Mr. Dauner asked “what if the business already has a loan in place?” Mr. Shulda was not sure how to answer that question. Councilwoman Abel informed everyone that our revolving funds are not under state regulation. Jenny Russell said that if we are to receive Federal Funds for businesses it is imperative, we have a business meeting to discuss. A business such as Keir’s would be a good candidate for federal funding. The parameters are much stricter than state or local. Councilman Becker asked if Mr. Shulda’s bank are assisting in the loans. Mr. Shulda said yes, they are now registered. Councilman Klos said we are $100,000 delinquent on our RLF loans. He asked how do we practically monitor these loans? Council President Dauner asked who administers these loans. According to Brian it will be he and the City Administrator that administers the loans. Mr. Miller said we need a form for applying for a loan and a way to keep track of the loan. Councilman Klos and Councilwoman Abel wants to know how much is currently in our RLA Account? The City Administrator will get that number for the council. The Council said that any loan must be approved by the council and it will be on a case by case basis.

Consent Agenda approved – 5-0

The council discussed the new CMB Application from George Hennion (Bob’s). The council asked Mr. Hennion why he cannot get his car registered in Kansas. He said it had to do with his job and main headquarters being in California. Councilwoman Abel asked why there are two applications with two separate requests for the same place? Mr. Hennion said that he keeps getting denied, and if he gets denied again then the second application is his backup. Sonya Garner is Mr. Hennion Manager for Bob’s Diner. Mr. Miller said the Manager needs to meet the same qualifications as the owner. Mr. Miller said this is solely the council’s decision to approve or disapprove. Councilman Klos asked Mr. Hennion when did he first apply? Mr. Hennion Applied in August of 2019 and moved to Burr Oak in 2018. Mr. Hennion also paid taxes to Kansas in 2018. The council looked at Mr. Hennion utility bills for 2018 and 2019. Mr. Miller said if Ms. Gardner meets all qualifications in good faith and the council approves then it is ok. Mr. Hennion asked why it cannot be in his name. Mr. Miller and Council said if Mr. Hennion provides the city with his 2019 and 2020 tax forms, he should be fine. Mr. Hennion needs to provide these forms prior to the May, 5th, 2020 Council Meeting for final approval.

There was a discussion about Nobi’s building and possibly using the Landbank to take it down. Mr. Miller said that he will need to ensure his back taxes are paid and deed it over to the city. Jenny Russell said that the Hanson foundation may help with funding to take the building down if Nobi agrees.

The city is scheduled to trim trees at the City Park sometime in April and erect the Trail Head sign for the walking trail.

The City Zoning and Planning Board was appointed and approved by the council. The Zoning Board members approved is Don Koester, Nadine Smith, and Sharon Brinkworth.

The Mayor appointed the City Administrator to set on the library board and report to the Mayor and Council of any changes or needs of the library. Councilman Klos said the board meets at 5PM the third Monday of each month. The council approved.

Mr. Steven Porter updated the council regarding the Community Center lighting and suggested to go with batteries and LEDS. Councilman Becker motioned to approve and Council President Dauner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Council President Dauner asked about the insurance for the Ute Theatre and the Fire Department. The City Administrator Informed Council that Trevor is still working on it and will have an answer soon.

The City Administrator asked the Council if we can keep the swimming pool closed for the summer due to much needed maintenance and safety issues that need attending. The Administrator said this will ensure children are safe. The Administrator asked Council for authorization to pursue grant money for these much need repairs. Council President Dauner motioned to approve and Councilman Becker Seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Administrator asked council for approval to replace the City Park sign. Council approved.

Administrator requested approval to hire Mr. Chris Ellis as our new Street Worker. Councilman Becker motioned to approve and Council President Dauner seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

Administrator requested approval to hire a seasonal worker for the city to help with mowing etc. Councilman Becker motioned to approve and Councilman Klos seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

The council asked if the Murray’s are still mowing the Community Center and the Park. The Administrator said yes and heir contract does not expire until 2021.

The Administrator updated the Council on the City Park drainage issue and suggested to install a drop inlet and a headwall with a French drain. The cost to the city would only be about $2000. Councilman Becker motioned to approve and Council President Dauner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Abel updated the Mayor and Council on the Landbank. The top ones on the list are the bowling alley and Nobi’s building. The Council asked the Administrator to get quotes for Nobi’s building. Councilwoman Abel said the next Landbank meeting will be April 15th.

Mr. Miller suggested the City hold a Special Meeting to ratify the current work schedules the City Administrator has implemented. Council President Dauner agreed there needs to be something in writing. Councilman Becker said that the city employees are not to have second jobs while furloughed. Mr. Miller agreed. The Council asked Mr. Miller to have something drafted as soon as possible.

**Meeting Adjourned.**

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Mayor Justin Schoonover, Barry K. Parsons

Council President City Administrator