**City Council Meeting**

**Minutes**

**12/8/2020**

Pledge of allegiance was led by Councilman Becker.

Councilman Becker opened the meeting at 706PM. (Zoom)

Mayor Schoonover Absent and Council President Dauner having problems with his microphone on ZOOM. Council President Dauner informed Councilman Becker to start the meeting.

Sheriff Jacobs absent.

Nancy Marihugh briefed the council on COVID. To date there is 114. Antigen Rapid Testing is available. About 3/4ths of the cases are positive. Recommending shorter quarantine times if you are A-Symptomatic by day 6. The problem is it can take 2-14 days for the incubation period. Must be A-Symptomatic to leave quarantine. The state is making plans to receive vaccines by the end of December. Healthcare Workers and Long-Term Care will receive vaccines first. Those that are 65 and over will receive the next round of vaccines and then 18-and up will be the last group to get the vaccine.

Councilwoman Abel asked those tested outside the County that live in Jewell County are counted for the county? Nancy Marihugh said yes. In addition, Nebraska does not report their numbers to Kansas.

Councilman Tyler motioned to approve the consent agenda and Councilman Klos seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0. Council asked that Councilwoman Abel will visit City Hall periodically to discuss bills with the Administrator.

Administrator presented SCADA update informing council that Teel is currently installing SCADA at the Water Tower, Water Pumping Station, Wells, and Lift stations. Teel will be installing all security camera’s the week of the 14th of December. System should be up and running by the 18th of December.

Administrator gave the council a pool update with Jessie Williams currently removing the concrete deck and Mike Eaton to start bath house refurbishment in the spring. City Staff will be replacing the gutter and drain piping when Jessie Williams removes the concrete. Administrator will be interviewing pool managers in January.

Mr. Miller discussed the Rural Water Contract and councilman suggested it be a minimum of 10 years. Council asked Mr. Miller if there are any limitations on water and Mr. Miller said no. Council asked about a rate increase in the new contract and Mr. Miller said Rural Water understands there will be a rate increase.

Mr. Miller said there are customers waiting to be added to rural water and Rural Water just spent $300,000 on new badger water meters. There was a consent to move forward with a new contract for rural water. Mr. Miller will draft a contract and present at next council meeting.

Councilwoman Abel asked if we have heard anything from Trevor regarding the updates to the insurance changes. She informed council and administrator we should be getting updates from EMC.

Administrator has not heard from Trevor but will check. Mr. Miller said he would talk to Trevor.

Mr. Miller informed council they he and the Administrator met with Kevin Thompson the owner of the Jewell Grocery Store. Mr. Miller, Keven Thompson, Jewell Mayor, and Administrator walked through the store. The Jewell Mayor said he would ask council if they wanted it in their next Council Meeting. Mr. Miller said there are lots of items in the store that can be sold. Mr. Miller informed council that Kevin Thompson owes about $28,000 on the store. Mr. Miller suggested we wait on warmer weather to inspect the contents of the store and talk to Kevin Thompson about hiring an Auctioneer to sake the items. Mr. Miller suggested council pick the Auctioneer of their choice. Mr. Miller suggested April or May to schedule the auction. Mr. Miller informed council that Kevin Thompson has been very cooperative.

Councilwoman Abel asked the status of all RLF’s for the city. The KP Truck Wash is half paid and Mr. Miller is working to get the other half paid. Administrator informed council he would stay on top of the RLF’s.

Councilwoman Abel gave update on Landbank and asked about the lot near the park. Mr. Miller suggested the lot be deeded to the Landbank. Council President Dauner motioned to deed lot to Landbank and Councilman Klos seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Tyler updated council on the City Park and asked to proceed with getting a grant for rubber border and rubber mulch for the playground. Councilwoman Abel motioned to approve, and Councilman Tyler seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Council discussed COVID relief funding and Councilwoman Abel said they had scored the businesses. Regional Planning sent a suggested award after scoring to the Administrator. Administrator presented to Council. Council President motion to proceed with COVID funding and Councilman Tyler seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Tyler motioned to accept Regional Planning suggested award of funding and Councilwoman Abel seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Administrator presented an approval from the Library Board for Don Koester to be on the Library Board. Councilman Klos motioned to approve, and Councilwoman Abel seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

The library board suggested that board members be allowed to live outside city limits and one suggestion was to allow 20 minutes driving as allowed for city staff. Mr. Miller will have a charter ordinance at the next meeting.

Chief Disposal agreed to modify their contract for the Community Center to allow all proceeds go towards their RLF loan. Mr. Miller looked over the contract and said it looked good. Council agree but make sure they know they still must make normal payments. Council President Dauner motioned to approve, and Councilman Tyler seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

City Administrator asked consent of council to move the red shed from the park to City Hall and use for a dog kennel. Council agreed.

Councilwoman Abel mentioned past due utility bills. City Administrator informed council we had been having problems with G-Works and the city has been down for 4 days. Council informed Administrator this has not been the first time this happened. Council suggested to the Administrator to look at other accounting software and present at the next council meeting.

City Administrator asked consent to proceed with the First Annual Christmas tree Lighting at City Park on the 19th of December. Council agreed.

City Administrator presented some housing information and asked council to look at it. Council agreed to look at it and gave Administrator consent to look at options.

Council suggested City Employees receive a $100 Christmas bonus after taxes. Councilman Becker motioned to approve, and Councilwoman Abel seconded the motion. Motion approve 5-0.

Councilman Becker adjourned the meeting at 9:45PP.

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 Lyle Dauner Barry K. Parsons

Council President City Administrator