**City Council Meeting**

**Minutes**

**6/2/2020**

The June 2nd, 2020 Council Meeting was held in person and remotely via online Zoom meeting. The meeting was opened by Mayor Schoonover at 7:11PM.

Pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Schoonover.

The first guest speaker was Sheriff Jacobs. The Sheriff said that they were working on the barking dogs and dogs roaming the neighborhoods.

Nancy Marihugh, Director of Jewell County Health Department updated the Council on Covid-19. She said that the Senior Center will open the 8th of June and Abby Elkins has a good plan for social distancing. Although the Buffalo Roam is not opening until July Nancy said they can do a buffet. The County Courthouse will also open the 8th of June. Nancy also said the Health Department does have Restaurant Guidelines and to contact their office for information.

Matthew Badger updated the council regarding the water system. Rural Water performed a leak study for the city and found several leaks that need attention. City staff repaired the largest leak at City Park and reduced our water loss by about 18%. Matthew said that there were two additional leaks they will repair in the near future. In addition, the inspection of the reservoir has been delayed to COVID-19. Divers are expected to do the inspection in mid-July. Matthew said that Layne completed repairs on well#19. Council suggested we get all the wells on a maintenance schedule.

Tammy Finnell updated the council on cancellation of the Mammoth Festival. She said she did pay deposits for next summer. The Library Board decided not to approve the concert series on July 18th.

Barbara Railsback updated council on the County Fair. She said the dates for the Fair is July 9th through July 12th. There will be judging, a Parade, Sewing, and Quilting. There will be a beef show Saturday. A Chuck Wagon will be available Friday night with meals etc. Social distancing will be followed for the event. Saturday night will be a parade with vintage automobiles etc. Council approved the parade route. City will assist with putting up barricades.

Josh Lippold was recognized by the council as the Tree Board president. Josh informed the council we need to take care of the sick trees with pine bark beetles and suggest that the City plants native trees such as Oak and Hickory. Council asked the Administrator to check into any Tree Board monies left from grants several years ago. Josh asked for any donations to help the Tree Board would be appreciated. Councilman Tyler motioned to approve the Tree Board with Josh Lippold as President. Councilman Becker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Garden Club was discussed and Council said the garden club’s best venue is the Chamber of Commerce.

Jenny Russell introduced her new intern Kathy Harbert. Kathy really likes Mankato and very passionate about the area.

Councilman Tyler motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and Councilman Becker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Tyler motioned to approve CMB License for Bobs of Mankato and Councilman Klos seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Klos discussed replacing the sign at the Library and upgrading the landscaping at the Community Center. In addition, Councilman Klos suggested a Blessing Box and security camera be installed on the south side of the Community Center and install two AED’s for the Community Center/Library and City Hall. A suggestion was to add two security cameras at City Park. Councilman Klos suggested a grant for all. Councilwoman Abel motioned to approve moving forward with a grant and Council President Dauner seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Abel updated the council on the Landbank. Working on seed money for the Landbank and the disposition of The Pawnee Mental Health Building and the Bowling Alley.

Council asked the Administrator to ensure insurance is available for the lot next to the Park.

Councilman Dauner asked about the camper in the yard west of his house. Administrator will check with zoning to find out if we can make them move it.

Ron Handcock asked to ride four wheelers on City Property next to the Airport. Mr. Miller suggested we pull the lease for Phillip regarding all the property being leased. Councilwoman Abel said she believes that Jerry Grout is farming and Gordon Murray is haying in those areas and subleasing from Phillip.

Mr. Miller gave the Council an update on the water history for our wells and said that the City should start looking at other water sources. Mr. Miller said the current wells are being charged by the canals in the areas because they are leaking. The district is thinking about lining the canals to prevent leaks. According to Mr. Miller this may dry up our wells.

Entered an Executive Session at 9:22 PM to discuss RLF loans. Executive session ended at 9:27 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM

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Justin Schoonover Barry K. Parsons

Mayor City Administrator