

CITY OF OZAWKIE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
June 14, 1999

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Schuenight at 7:04 P.M.
Members present: Chris Caldwell, Gene Nicely and Mark Larson.

Citizens Comments:

Jay Harrison stated that he objected to the decision to fly the flag only on Holidays noting that today was Flag Day and the flag was not flown. Harrison mentioned what he thought was the background and original intention of placing the pole in the park. He suggested fixing the light if it is in need of repair or replacing it and tying the rope high enough that it cannot be untied without a ladder.

Eric Buckman arrived at 7:10 P.M.

Agenda Item #2 - Approval of 6/14/99 Meeting Agenda
Motion by Larson, seconded by Nicely, to approve the Meeting Agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

Agenda Item #3 - Approval of Consent Items

Mark Larson inquired as to the status of the ditch work on Kansa and asked if the residents initiating the Service request had been informed. Smith advised that weather and ground conditions have prevented the work but that a letter had been sent to the residents. He also asked if the grass in the street cracks and seams would need to be sprayed again this year. Smith advised that Gary Branson would spray again most likely in mid July. Roger Bostwick arrived at 7:18 P.M. Motion by Larson, seconded by Nicely, to approve the Consent Items consisting of the Minutes of the 5/10/99 Regular Meeting, 5/31/99 Treasurer's Report and the June Warrant Register totaling \$9,976.77. Motion Carried.

Agenda Item #4 - Reports

Utilities - Mayor Schuenight reported that the City is operating on well #3 only, noting that the problem with wells 1 & 2 has not been resolved. G. Smith stated he replaced the gas chlorinator, warrant register item #29. The old chlorinator was over 10 years old and deteriorated to the point that it was getting too brittle to disassemble for service. He noted that the chlorinator purchase would be charged and paid from the Water Utility Depreciation Reserve Fund.

Park Commissioner Bostwick reported the trees in the park will be mulched again noting that Gordon has a volunteer who will apply the material. He mentioned that he has selected the hardware necessary to raise the rope cleat on the flag pole and that when installed, the flag will again fly daily.

Law Enforcement Commissioner Larson noted from his assessment of the Nightwatchman report that the position has proven beneficial.

Mayor Schuenight asked Governmental Affairs Commissioner Caldwell to establish a committee which would report to the Council regarding possible violations of the Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance.

Caldwell reported that the meeting of The Cooperative Cities of Jefferson County was canceled in May and because of scheduling problems he was unable to attend the Economic Impacts meeting in Valley Falls on May 19. Regarding enforcement of the Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance, he stated the importance of following the ordinance provisions and carefully accessing each possible violation to insure that it is fairly and uniformly enforced. Bostwick suggested mailing postcards to residences advising of violation criteria.

City Clerk Smith reported that the annual inspection of the lease property by the Corp is scheduled for June 16. Frank Funk advised that our lease renewal request has been forwarded to Washington and that he expects to be able to discuss a new proposed lease with us next week. He reported that the area around the Tennis Court was mowed Saturday and that he expected to get the area North of the court mowed prior to the inspection. All the Corp ground has been mowed except a portion on the South end which was burned off earlier this year. Smith will be contacting the City Attorney to discuss details necessary to complete the Lease/Purchase of the property in Block S (Business District) as the last payment will be in December.

Agenda Item #5 - Commission Appointments

Mayor Schuenight recommended that Mark Larson retain his position as Law Enforcement Commissioner and that Gene Nicely assume the responsibilities as Street Commissioner. Both Larson and Nicely consented. The Mayor noted his willingness to rotate Commission appointments next year.

Agenda Item #6 - Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance #17

Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Nicely, to recess to Executive Session for 30 minutes to advise new Council Representatives of the consultation with City Attorney Steve Montgomery held in Executive Session during the January 11, 1999 Regular Meeting regarding Ordinance 17. Motion Carried. Council recessed to Executive Session at 8:00 P.M. The Regular Meeting resumed at 8:30 P.M. Mayor Schuenight reported that no action was taken.

Agenda Item #7 - '92 Crown Victoria Police Car

G. Smith advised that the '83 Ford LTD formerly used as the Police vehicle and since used as a utility vehicle since 1994, may be developing transmission problems. He noted that the exhaust system is leaking and that the idler arm on the steering needs to be replaced. It was the consensus to dispose of the vehicle rather than make substantial costly repairs. Smith expressed the need for a utility vehicle for business and errands. Motion by Buckman, seconded by Caldwell, to retain the '92 Ford Crown Victoria. Motion Carried. It was the consensus to remove the POLICE decals and emergency lights. Smith will advise the insurance company of the use change of the vehicle and delete the old car from the policy when it is retired.

Agenda Item #8 - 2000 Budget Discussion

Smith advised that as with most all other small cities, revenues are shrinking and expenses constantly increasing. He noted that as in the prior four years it was his intention to channel as many dollars possible to the General Streets and Special Street Funds, unless there were objections or other higher priority considerations.

Agenda Item #9 - Thank You Letters

Council signed thank you letters to the Ozawkie IOOF, Sheriff, Roy Dunnaway, and Bob Abel, Jefferson County Solid Waste Department.

There being no further business before Council, Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Larson, to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 P.M.

F. Y. I.

Found in the park playground area: Two house keys on a small ring.

Found near the burn site: 14" spare tire--most likely off a small pickup truck.

Yard light reminders will be mailed later this month.

Highlights of Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance #17 have been included on several F.Y.I's in an attempt to promote voluntary compliance, however to date this method has failed to produce satisfactory results. Should legal action be required, the resident will bear all costs incurred by the City in the removal including the legal fees. Ordinance 17 relates to abandoned, wrecked, junked, inoperable, and dismantled motor vehicles. It prohibits the storage, repair, or dismantling of the vehicle on public or private property. Any of the following conditions shall raise the presumption that the vehicle is inoperable: (a) absence of current registration plates upon the vehicle; (b) placement of the vehicle or parts thereof upon jacks, blocks, or other supports; (c) absence of one or more of the vehicle necessary for the lawful operation of the vehicle upon a public street or highway. The ordinance further provides that it shall be unlawful for any person, or owner to park an inoperable vehicle unless the vehicle is enclosed in a garage or other building.

FIREWORKS

Currently fireworks are not prohibited in the City limits, however, last year incidents were reported of aerial works landing of the roofs of neighbor's houses fortunately without major damage. Each year there seems to be more and more elaborate fireworks available. For the safety of our children and our community, please consider limiting your fireworks to small yard works and leave the aerial works to the professionals at the public displays.