

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF OZAWKIE, KANSAS

June 10th, 2024

A meeting of the City Council of Ozawkie, Kansas was held on June 10th, 2024 at the City Hall of Ozawkie, Kansas. The following Council members were present:

Loren Lutes, Mayor

Kevin Klenklen

Malcolm Griffin

Chris Feuerborn

Rob Fisher

Laci Heller

Also present were the following persons:

City Clerk- Mazi Barnes

Public Works- Mark Tenpenny

Residents: Ellis Moses, Sharon Branson

The Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Loren Lutes led those present in the flag salute.

Consent Agenda: Mayor Lutes put forth the Consent Agenda with no changes. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Malcolm Griffin and was seconded by Kevin Klenklen. The motion passed unanimously.

Regular Agenda:

Citizen Comments: NA

Council Comments: Rob Fisher asked for the councils thoughts on using Facebook live to stream the council meetings to provide more transparency and offer more residents the chance to be updated on city matters in a more timely fashion. The Mayor will look into this as a possibility.

Old Business

a) Water Tower Painting

A motion for a 20-minute executive session to discuss contracts with the mayor and council was made by Chris Feuerborn and was seconded by Rob Fisher.

Executive Session began at 7:27

A motion for an additional 5 minutes was made by Chris Feuerborn and was seconded by Rob Fisher. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive session ended at 7:50.

After reviewing the contracts, a motion to move forward with the contract from Tank Spec subject to legal review and reference checks was made by Kevin Klenklen and was seconded by Malcolm Griffin. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Lead & Copper Inventory

City Clerk Mazi Barnes informed the council that there were only 27 locations left to collect data from and we would be making our final collection efforts this week and any remaining data needed would be filled in with context data surrounding those areas. Public Works Supervisor Mark Tenpenny will also be having Michael check the meter pits on them to see if any of them provide the information needed.

New Business

a) Ehrhart Contract

Ehrhart Excavating presented their contract to maintain the city's water lines in the event of breaks or repairs needed. The contract includes a retainer fee of \$500 a month in addition to equipment rates. A motion to approve the contract was made by Kevin Klenklen and was seconded by Chris Feuerborn. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Consider Changes to Parking Ordinances

The Mayor reviewed the current ordinances surrounding parking including no parking on either side of main street and no parking on the west side of Kiowa or the east side of Sioux. The Mayor talked about parking along courts and cul-de-sacs as the streets are more narrow and parking on either side is enough to block the street and prevent emergency vehicles or proper snow removal. The Mayor recommends putting together an ordinance properly naming all the streets with no street parking allowed. Other issues regarding lack of enforcement on main street parking and parking near Keystone were discussed. Rob Fisher shared that he felt it was worth reviewing and writing up an ordinance for council review.

c) Discuss 2025 Budget Goals

The Mayor presented a chart reviewing the 2024 mill rates, evaluations and increases for the cities of Jefferson County. If we maintain 25 mills, then property taxes would increase by 12%. Rob Fisher stated that as we don't have steady sales tax income then we have to rely on the property taxes. The Mayor stated that the income options come to property tax increases or water rate increases and recommended a mix of both so as to not increase either by too much. Kevin Klenklen would like to hold off on water rate increases for now as we are still often dealing with breaks and boil orders. The council will consider a budget that has a mill levy consistent with $\frac{1}{2}$ the RNR or drop the levy 1.5mills.

REPORTS

a) Mayors Report

The fence along Sunflower and Kansa is in need of with repair or removal. The council agreed that the most broken portion along sunflower should be removed and the intact portion along Kansa should be left.

b) Planning & Zoning

Jeff Raburn had to resubmit his planning and zoning application for a new house to be built at 720 Kansa as the previous application has expired. Planning and Zoning reviewed the permit once more and still saw it all to be in order and approved it. A motion to approve this application was made by Rob Fisher and was seconded by Laci Heller. The motion passed unanimously. Laci Heller submitted an application for a shop to be built at 115 Cottonwood. Planning and Zoning reviewed the application and recommended it for approval with a 1ft variance for the height. A motion to approve this application was made by Chris Feuerborn and was seconded by Malcolm Griffin. The motion passed unanimously.

c) Governmental Affairs

Nothing to report.

d) Law Enforcement

Rob Fisher read the police report as follows. 5 safety enforcements including 3 stop sign, 1 speed and 1 moped issue. 5 general reports including 1 domestic disturbance, 2 disturbances, 1 warrant for arrest and 1 theft. Special reports include an arrest of Dakota Robert on May 12th 2024 at 312 Kiowa. Following the arrest, a search warrant for the property was issued and methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia was located and Chester Pottorf was arrested. Charges have been presented to the county and is pending prosecution. In addition, credit card skimmers were located on gas pumps at Casey's on June 6th. The skimmers were located by staff and were turned over to law enforcement.

e) Parks

Nothing to report.

f) Streets

Paint striping needs to be finished along Main street before the bill is paid.

g) Utilities

Nothing to report.

The Mayor adds that tree trimming is needed and asks the council if they would like to contact Mitch Frye? Sharon adds that there is a dying tree next to the gravel parking lot of the park. Mark Tenpenny would also like to get a quote on a grapple for the front of the tractor. Drainage ditch needs cleaned up in front of the vacant house at the end of Kiowa.

A motion to adjourn was made by Rob Fisher and was seconded by Laci Heller. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm

