

## 1 | Hope City Council Meeting August 11th, 2021

Mayor Ryff called the August 11th, 2021 regular council meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Ryff said due to the conflict with meetings and what have you, he said he was going to re-a-range the schedule a little bit. First of all, Pat Coup is here for the festival committee and because she has to get to the fall festival committee meeting, we are going to have her go ahead and jump in the middle of it so she can get going. Pat thanked the Mayor. She said on the first page are the streets that they would like closed or blocked off and the map. She explained it was just like it had been in the past, the parade will line up on Broadway, on second avenue, from Main going West to the alley is where the information tent will be and from Main going East is where the cars will line up for the car show. She said they had added a bounce house and was putting it down by the American Legion, there will be two bounce houses this year. They are planning on putting cones up to block parking on Main Street, but not in front of the businesses. A brief conversation between Pat and the Council took place. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to approve the H.C.P.C. requests, Fred French seconded the motion, the motion passed 4-0. The Mayor said he would try and find her some volunteers to help out. Pat said she would turn no one down and reminded everyone that the schedule was tentative. Mayor Ryff said that I would need to contact Evergy, about the electric meter to get it activated for the food trucks for the festival. Pat thanked the Council and Mayor and left. Mayor Ryff said while we are on visitors, Cody did you have anything you want to express tonight? Cody said yes, first off, he wanted to apologize for not making it to the meeting last month. He said he would keep it as short and sweet as he can. Cody said, part of what his concern was the notice that he got, he knew his yard was a mess and it needed to be cleaned up. He said he was sorry to the town that his yard was in the condition it was in. He said roughly a year ago he had some people in the community come to him with some concerns they had. He said his stance was it would take care of itself in time, because he feels the city does a great job. Cody, Mayor Ryff and the Council had a lengthy conversation. No action was taken. The Mayor said he would like to move on with the meeting.

The Mayor asked me to do roll call, it showed the following present: David Wendt, Fred French, Gordon Hunnicutt were all present and Robin Moniz called in. Ginger Stewart was absent.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor Ryff said the first item of business is the minutes from the previous meeting. David Wendt made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting from July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and approve them as written. Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: Mayor Ryff said next is appropriation ordinance #1121. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to accept appropriation ordinance #1121, Fred French seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Treasurer Report: The mayor said the next item of business is the treasurers report, he said we have a missing Treasurer tonight, so we will try and work around that. He said we would take a look at it and see if anyone has any questions. He said if we couldn't answer the questions, we would try to get you some results. Mayor Ryff said that he knows that it looks like we are flush with money, but we really are not that flush. He said some of the bills for the black stuff you are seeing around on the streets are coming in now, and keep in mind that the county is planning on being here on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, to start the chip and seal. He said that we are looking at around ninety thousand on street expense this year. He said so when you take that off the total, we are not that flush. The Mayor asked if anyone had any other questions on the financial report. Fred French made a motion to accept financial statement for July 1<sup>st</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>, David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Mayor Ryff said moving on to new business.

New Business: The Mayor said in the notebooks you will find contracts from Maguire Iron for maintenance. He said there will be a contract for the water tower and also one for the clear well out at the pump house. He said it will be a ten-year contract starting in 2024. There will be five clean outs for the water tower and the clear well at \$1850.00 each time. The Council, Mayor and I had a discussion. Fred French made a motion to accept the maintenance contracts for both the water tower and clear well from Maguire Iron. Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Old Business: Mayor Ryff said that he was going to jump right into old business and that is the maintenance position. He said after advertising for the last one month that there was not any more applications then we had at the previous meeting. A long conversation among the Council and Mayor took place. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to hire John Moniz as the fulltime city maintenance employee, Fred French seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. The Mayor said he will be on probation for 90 days from the time he took over for Pat, then they would evaluate him and start any other benefits. Mayor Ryff said moving on he had a couple of items not on the agenda. He said number one is, he didn't know if anyone looked at the bell out front, he said I don't know what your opinion is, but I think it looks pretty good. He said that Nancy Cowan is planning on painting it before the festival. The Mayor said that there were several volunteers that helped to fix the bell and he thought that we should show them some appreciation for their time and effort. Fred French made a motion to approve Hope bucks and thank you cards for helpers that fixed the bell, David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0. Mayor Ryff said the next item was back to clean-up. He said that we had sent the invoice to the property owner for the mowing, admin, and the demo of the property. The Mayor and Council discussed the options of the vacant lot. Gordon Hunnicutt asked what house was next, Mayor Ryff said maybe we should do two houses and another lengthy conversation took place. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to start condemnation procedures for the properties at 106 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave and 310 S Poplar Street by hiring James Holland Municipal Services. Fred French seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0. Another conversation about junk vehicles took place with the Council, Clerk and Mayor. No action was taken. Mayor Ryff said he has one other piece of

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business, he said it is time to pay the piper. He said our first payment on the water loan is coming due, the total is \$46,802.00 and it should be in the mail the first of September. He said it is actually due 9/28/2021. He explained that the payment will come out of the Special Water Account. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to make the first payment of our forty-year loan in the amount of \$46,802.00 on September 1<sup>st</sup> and Fred French seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. The Mayor said he wanted to move on. He said that J & K Contracting is supposed to be in town on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> to start on the Agri-Trails waterline expansion. With that expansion there will be a water meter barrel set for Jeff Hostetter. Gordon Hunnicutt asked what the cost of that project was. Mayor Ryff said that it had come in around \$19,800.00. He said he would go over some things since Gordon had not been here. Mayor Ryff explained that I had applied for the ARPA monies and we had received the money in July. He said it could only be used for water, sewer and broadband. The Mayor and Council had a lengthy conversation. No action was taken. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to adjourn, David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

\_\_\_\_\_ Larry Ryff, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Joni Rikard,