

## 1 | Hope City Council Meeting August 14th, 2024

Mayor Fred French started the July 14th, 2024, regular council meeting at 6:00pm and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor asked me to do roll call, it showed the following present: Daniel Schwindt, Larry Ryff, Ginger Stewart and Randy Walker. Robin Moniz called in.

Mayor French said that he would like to have Marsha Cook to go ahead with her fall festival information and requests. She had passed out the tentative fall festival schedule. Marsha said the festival is coming up real soon, September 7<sup>th</sup>. She said the first page is the street closings that they are requesting. Randy Walker asked about the street closing on Park Street, Marsha explained that it was in front of Anne Whites house where the zipline was planning to be set up. Marsha said that they talked to the Mayor about getting ahold of the sheriff's department about coming down to help direct traffic during the car show registration. He said that they did, and he would take care of it. Marsha said they would need them to help with traffic during the parade too. She said that the information tent would be set up early this year so hopefully we don't have a windstorm. She said she was in charge of the porta potties this year; she said that they should be here Friday. She said she would let us know when they get here. Marsha said that they are trying to use the whole town this year and that Chad Lorson is planning to have the fire trucks out in front of the fire station and have a watermelon feed down there too. She said the library is planning to have all the kid's games there at the new library location too, so they are trying to use the whole town. Marsha said there is no football game and no k-state game so hopefully everyone will be coming to the festival. Larry Ryff asked if 2<sup>nd</sup> avenue was going to be closed Friday evening, Marsha said that it said Friday morning and that she would check with Danielle. She said she knew that the co-op would be bringing the bleachers and tables up on Friday. She said that they would try to make sure that they don't block any residence driveways. Marsha went back over where all the porta potties were going to be put around town. There was a conversation between Marsha and the Council. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve to close the streets per the fall festivals requests, Ginger Stewart seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0. Marsha thanked the Council, and she left the meeting.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor French said the next item of business is the minutes from the previous meeting. Daniel Schwindt made a motion to approve the minutes for July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Ginger Stewart seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: The Mayor said next is appropriation ordinance #1155. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve appropriation ordinance #1155, Randy Walker seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Treasurers Report: Mayor French said next is the financial report. I said that Heather had texted me to let me know she would not be able to make the meeting tonight. I explained that there was a CD that matured today that needed to be looked at. I had picked up some new rate sheets to see what the best option would be. Larry Ryff made a motion to get a new CD to replace 15577-to a 7-month 5.10% CD. Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0. There was a discussion between the council, Mayor and me about the 60-month CD. Larry Ryff made a motion to cash in CD 15248, pay the penalty and take the balance of it and get a new 60-month bump-up CD. Ginger Stewart seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

New Business: The Mayor said next under new business is a building permit from Adam Sobba. He said that Adam is putting up a privacy fence. There was a conversation between the Mayor and Council. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve the building permit for Adam Sobba and Randy Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0. Mayor French said that we have some information from Bobcat and KanEquip on a skid steer. Larry Ryff said Fred, I would like to make a motion to throw-out KanEquip's quote. There was a conversation between the Council and Mayor. Mayor French asked if there was a second, Ginger Stewart seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0. Larry Ryff made a motion to give the Mayor some leeway to negotiate the price for the purchase of a new Bobcat skid steer. Randy Walker seconded the motion, and it carried 5-0. There was another conversation about whether to write a check for it or to finance it. The Council decided that if the interest was over 2.5% to just write a check. The Mayor said while we are sitting here we need a motion to purchase a grappling hook for taking down houses. Ginger Stewart made a motion to let Fred negotiate for a grapple hook, Randy walker seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0. Mayor French said this is my annual evaluation and asked if I had an idea of what I would like for a raise. My reply was as much as I can get. Larry Ryff made a motion to go into executive session for 15 minutes. Randy Walker seconded the motion, and it carried 5-0. Larry made a motion to come out of executive session, Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion, it carried 5-0. Ginger Stewart made a motion to increase my hourly rate \$1.25. Randy Walker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. I thanked the council for the increase!

Old Business: The Mayor said as for the update of 114 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, we called and talked to the Sheriff and asked if he could send someone down August 1<sup>st</sup> so the City could secure the house without an incident. The Sheriff agreed and sent 3 deputies down while we hung the no trespassing signs and plywood. Mayor French said that he had me call about some roll off dumpsters to see about cleaning up the yard before the festival too. As for the property at 108 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue we agreed to let the previous owners get their belongings out of the trailer house before we start working on it. There was a discussion between the Mayor and Council about the property that sits in between the two properties the city

bought. Ginger Stewart made a motion to start condemnation proceedings for 110 E 2nd Avenue. Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion, and it carried 5-0. Mayor French asked me to give my update.

Clerks Update: Talked to Fred about calling Big Tex Trailer company about the new trailer. Got information and entered it into the software and printed a check for Randy to go pick up the trailer. Went to Amazon and ordered a hitch lock for the new trailer. Called and talked to Bayer about getting a load of cold mix. Phil explained that the heater had broken down and he would let me know when it was up and running again. Phil with Bayer called to let me know they had things up and running, then I called Ben Smith about hauling us a load of cold mix. Filled out the BOTA (board of tax appeals) for the new properties that we bought. Went to the bank with Fred and had the paperwork notarized. Then emailed them to the county appraisers office. I emailed Tandi about getting insurance on the new trailer and sent the information that she needed. Called the County Treasurer's office to find out what would be needed to get the trailer registered. Went up to the County and registered the trailer. Talked to the Sheriff about them coming down when we took possession of the property at 114 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. They agreed to come down. Things went good and there was no problems. I called the gas service company to have the gas meter removed from the property. Called about a roll off dumpster and let Fred know the details. Larry Ryff said that he thinks the maintenance guy should come to the next month's meeting since his 90-day probation period will be up. He said it would give the council an opportunity to visit with him and see if he was still happy with his job.

Mayor's Discussion: The Mayor said that the cold patch is going good and that Johnny was staying busy. He said that they are planning to get the solar radar speed limit signs up next week too. Larry Ryff made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ginger Stewart seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

\_\_\_\_\_ Fred French, Mayor

Attested:

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