

1 | Hope City Council Meeting August 7th, 2017

Mayor Ryff called the August 7th, 2017 regular council meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the council in the pledge of alliance. Mayor Larry Ryff asked for roll call, it showed the following present: Carol Lauxman, David Wendt and David VanHook. Gordon Hunnicutt left at 8:15pm and Jared Morgan was absent.

Carol Lauxman made a motion to dispense with reading the previous meeting minutes and approve the way they were written. David Vanhook seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: The Council reviewed the Appropriation Ordinance. Carol Lauxman moved to approve the Appropriation Ordinance#1073 and Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Financial Statement: Heather explained that she had moved some money around to show what had been budgeted for the Sewer Fund. She explained by do this it would no longer show the fund in the rears. Heather said that there were also two CD that would be maturing in the month of August. She asked what the Council wanted to do with them. There was a discussion among the Council and the Mayor. Carol Lauxman made a motion to roll over both CD's. The General Fund CD for 60 months and the Sewer Fund for 12 months David Wendt second the motion and the motion carried 4-0. Heather continued she said last month it had been brought up about having a report for the temporary bond account. Heather asked the Council what type of report the Council would like to see. Mayor Ryff said he didn't think it would make a difference what type as long as it showed the deposit, the checks written each month and the balance of the account. He asks what the Council's thoughts were and the Council agreed.

Police Report: The Deputy handed out the report and asked if there were any questions. He said that there had been 20 calls with 69.25 total hours. The Officer explained that on the report it showed an address outside of the City, he said he was unable to speak to the Sergeant about it so he wasn't sure of what happened. Mayor Ryff said that last month he had mentioned that a resident had some concerns about people speeding inside the city limit, especially down by the ballfield. The Officer explained that the Deputies are available to attend ball games for a certain amount of time and he would let them all know. Pat Coup mentioned that she would appreciate a couple Deputies during the Festival on September 9th. The Officer was given a copy of the agenda for the Festival, he said he would give the information to the Lieutenant and the Sergeant so they would be made aware of the date and times they would need

to attend the event. Mayor Ryff and the Council thanked the Officer and the Officer left.

Visitors: Nichole McDaniel(NCRPC), Thaniel Monaco (BG Consultants), Dan Coup, Brian Haden, Marcia Cook, Steve Riedy, Chad Lorson, Pat Coup, Sharon Strickbine

New Business: The Mayor explained that first he would like to address the 2018 Budget. He explained that he knew the financial committee had a couple of meetings and had come up with the budget that increased the mil levy rate a little more than a mil and a half. He explained that we would need to publish the summary and have a hearing on the 21st of August so it could be sent to the County by the 25th of August. Carol Lauxman made a motion to adopt the 2018 budget and have the hearing August 21st at 7:00pm. Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Ryff said next, Nichole with North Central Regional Planning Commission would present the Water Project Hearing. Nichole said she would start by saying that we are holding the public hearing for the water application that will be submitted at the end of September, so if there were any questions or commits they can be addressed here. Thaniel Monaco with BG Consultant was here as well to support Nichole and answer any technical questions that might come up. Nichole and Thaniel both suggested that we have a workshop type meeting to review the application and to see if there were any suggests or additions. They thought sometime around the 15th of September. Thaniel explained that the PER had not changed much since last year with the exceptions of the painting in the booster station and the addition of the complete painting of the water tower and the OSHA upgrade. He said by the City taking care of the painting in the booster station it would help with application, as well as doing more work on the water tower should also help the application. Nichole said that she would go over each one of the forms that must be submitted with application and they must have original signatures on them. She said the Council could just make one motion to approve them all would be fine. Nichole said the first form is Statement of Assurances and Certifications. Next, the 1st Resolution is about how much money that the City of Hope is putting forth towards the project which is the funds from the USDA loan/grant and any local funds and no forced account labor. The 2nd Resolution shows commerce an annual amount of money that the City will put forth for maintenance and operations cost, the total is seventy thousand dollars. The next form was the Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan this form states, that we will not displace anyone from their home

throughout the project. Determination of level of review was the next form, meaning when the City is funded there is an environmental review that Nichole will do and the form states what level of review must be done for the project. Next was the Discloser Report, Nichole said last year that the City agreed that they would do a cash support of \$13,000.00 towards the project and the rest would come from Rural Development. She asked if the City still agreed to that amount. Mayor Ryff said he thought that amount seemed to be reasonable. Nichole explained that you would be able to see it on the budget break down. She explained that the money went towards our local match as well. Nichole said that the project is large enough that we will get total local support points on the application. She said last year the total amount of grant money was five hundred thousand and this year it is six hundred thousand. So, we might not have as much of a loan with Rural Development. The last form was Nichole's administration agreement. It is only paid if the City is awarded the CDBG grant. Mayor Ryff asked if anyone had any questions. The Council had no questions. Carol Lauxman made a motion to adopt Resolution 17-002 and 17-003 for the water project. Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Mayor Ryff explained that because of a conflict in scheduling a meeting between the City and BG Consultants was not able to take place prior to this meeting. However, he would like to reschedule a meeting any time after the 14th of August. Thaniel agreed and said he would have Aaron call to set up a time to meet.

Next is the Hope Developmental Group with Dan Coup. Dan explained that he had sent an email to me with an attachment of the notes from the community meeting. I explained that the Council all had copies of the notes in their binder. Dan said one of the main concerns or goal that came out of the meeting was the need for housing and the revitalization of housing if possible, if not the removal of these houses. Nichole advised that there is grant money available to help with that type of project. Dan said the Development Group was hoping that the City would be receptive of the idea and let Nichole explain and help us to move forward on a housing project to improve our City. Nichole explained that there are two ways that it can be approached with Community Facility grant through the CDBG. The first one would be demo only. The other way would be a housing grant, that means there would be demolition and rehabilitation. NCRPC would come drive around the community to assist the city in determining which properties would rate favorable for rehab and which ones for demo. The City would not be eligible until next fall to apply for this program, because of the existing application for the water project. Mayor Ryff said he thinks that it would be a good idea to work together with the

Development Group and get a meeting set up to go over the information in more detail with Nichole. Mayor Ryff asked Nichole how the property owner response had been in other communities. Nichole said that the response has been great, she explained that a lot of times the owners just cannot afford to demo the property and that is why the property just sits there. Nichole said at the community meeting that residence all felt like housing is where we need to start. So, the community is supportive of the project. Dan Coup then asked Nichole what the first step would be, she said it would be her explaining in detail about both programs at a workshop type meeting. Dan Coup said off the housing, another thing that had been discussed at the meeting was recreation for the kids. One popular idea was incorporating a splash pad in the park. Nichole explained that there are several little towns around the area that have put in splash pads and she can give us names of the towns. She said that she would get us some more information if the city was interested. The Mayor said that when they come down for the drive around to let him know and he would make sure he was available, Dan Coup said he would be available as well. Nichole said her and a co-worker would try and come down to do the drive around sometime in October. Nichole said that we could sign the forms for the water project hearing and mail them back to her with a tracking number. We thanked Nichole for all her help and she left.

Mayor Ryff said next, he would let Gordon Hunnicutt talk to the Council about the School and the ballfield. Gordon said he had received a phone call from the School Board wanting the Ball Association to carry liability insurance on the ballfield. Gordon said that he talked to the Mayor about getting the ballfield from the School and letting the City's liability insurance cover it, unfortunately after talking to Gary Coup the insurance company said that the City could not insure the ballfield. Gordon explained if the City owned the ballfield the Ball Association could purchase liability insurance on the field. Gordon is having Danielle and Gary check on a price quote for liability insurance as well as for the buildings property. Gordon said a tentative price is between \$250.00-\$750.00 annually. What Gordon is asking of the Council is if they would be interested in the City taking over the ballfield if the School board would deed the property over to the city, it would take the liability out of the School's hands. The City would then own the property but the Ball Association would carry insurance on it. Mayor Ryff explained that he thought that it was important to support the Ball Association and that it would be bad for the town to not to have ball for the kids. David Vanhook made a motion to provide supportive to assist the Ball Association with whatever needs be for the ball

diamond. David Wendt seconded the motion and it carried 3-0. Mayor Ryff said he would let Gordon take on the role of negotiator with the School Board.

Mayor Ryff said Pat Coup would be next. Pat Coup said that she had passed out a map of streets to be closed and tentative schedule of the events for the Festival. She said she would like to have the same streets closed as last year and leave the alleys open. Pat said she wants to put up the no parking along Main street like they did last year. She said she thinks it keeps people safer as the move up and down the street. Pat asked if the light by the stage in the North park worked, she explained that last year there were unable to get it to work. Billy said as far as he knew it did but he would check into it and let her know. Pat said that they had got some new solar light that they plan to put around the trees in the park to help light things up some. She asked if the City would call Dig Safe for they put the tent up, Pat said they would be putting the tent up on the 8th. She also asked if the City could provide the extra dumpster for the Annex like last year. Brian Haden asked if the City had any extra barricade. He said last year he thought it would have been good to have a couple more. Pat said she would like to see some mowing done by Thursday before the Festival so they can start marking things off. She explained that they were also putting in an electrical pole over at the food court for the vendors. She said that they had ordered New Banners along with new brackets to put up on Main street. Carol Lauxman made a motion to close the Streets for the Heritage Festival and David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Mayor Ryff said the next was Sharon Strickbine. Sharon said that the Sheriff had kind of touched on what she wanted to talk about which was speeding on 3rd Ave and Cedar. She said that there are 4 small children around the area and she thinks that it is an accident waiting to happen. She said that there is a lot of activity in that area and she thinks that the speed limit needs to be reduced. After a very lengthy discussion took place David Vanhook made a motion to put up a 2 Stop signs up at the corners of 3rd Avenue and Poplar Street for the East West traffic and 2 Stop signs up at 4th Avenue and Poplar Street for East West traffic David Wendt seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0. Sharon Thanked the Council and the Mayor Thanked her for attending and her patients.

Old Business: Mayor Ryff explained that sewer rates had been brought up at the last Council meeting and that I had gathered the sewer rates around the State of Kansas for the Council to review. Carol Lauxman moved to table the

sewer rate discussion until the next meeting and David Wendt seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

Standing & Special Committee Reports: Mayor Ryff explained that he had received a phone call from Jerome Hyman. Jerome resigned his position as the City Health Officer since he had moved out of the town. Mayor Ryff said that he would need to appoint another person for that position. He explained that David Vanhook is also on the committee and that he and Dave will have to get together and see if they can come up with another person to join them on that committee.

Mayors Discussion: One item of business is the Nuisance Ordinance packet however it is still pending because we hadn't heard anything from the attorney so that business had been automatically tabled until next month.

Maintenance Report: Billy said that things had kind of been a mess. Things just hadn't worked out like he wanted. He explained that the ExMark mower had broken down and that the belt came off. He ordered a new belt for it and put it on but didn't pull the pulley's off the bottom of it and then the bearings seized up on it. So, he went to Manhattan to get the parts to fix it. The mower was down about 4 days. Billy said that he did some tree trimming at big park as well. He said that he got a culvert dug up and replaced over on Letourneau street. He started getting the pot hole cutting out to put asphalt in them. He said he will be painting things and try and get things looking good for the Festival. Mayor Ryff explained that the culvert Billy replaced will be on next month's appropriations report. The Mayor continued and explained that the fusing unit for the copier broke and had to be replaced as well and that expense will be on next month's appropriations report also.

Clerks Report: I spoke to Amber with Kan Pay and she came out on the 17th and set up the Kan Pay counter swiper as well as the online link on the City's website and went through the steps on how to use it. So, you can now pay your bill with a credit card or debit card in the office or online. After the budget meeting, I started entering the information off the budget worksheet and into the County's excel workbook. I spoke to Janelle with the county and she came down to help me with the couple of the parts that had changed since last year's budget. I showed Jared and Larry, both thought it looked good. Sent the check for the Developmental Groups solar lights that came from Canada. Cashed the Water Fund CD and put it into the savings account. Completed the 2017 Capacity survey required every three years from the KDHE. Spoke to Larry and Jared about filling out the KDHE application for funding for the water project. I

called William Carr about the application and explained the USDA had earmarked funds for the project. He explained some people use them because you don't get the money from USDA until the project is completed. I continued to gather information and update the financial information for new CDBG application required by Nichole. Dave Wendt said that the new Solar light had come in for the walking trail.

Mayor Ryff said the next item of business is a personal evaluation, he said he wanted to go into executive session to discuss the City Clerks evaluation. Carol Lauxman motioned to go into executive session for 10 minutes at 8:50pm and David Wendt seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0 David Wendt motioned to come out of executive session at 9:00pm and David Vanhook seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0.

The Mayor explained that Fred French had been in and ask if he could sell cereal malt beverages on Sunday. In the Council's binder that there is a copy of an Ordinance that was basically written for a bar and grill but there is not an Ordinance prohibiting The Endzone from selling cereal malt beverages on Sunday the way the Ordinance is written. After a discussion among the Council the all agreed that there was not an issue.

David Vanhook motioned to adjourn the meeting. Carol Lauxman seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

Larry Ryff, Mayor

Attest:

Joni Rikard, City Clerk