

## 1 | Hope City Council Meeting December 2nd, 2019

Mayor Ryff called the December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 regular council meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor asked me to do roll call, it showed the following present: Gordon Hunnicutt, Carol Lauxman, David Wendt, Fred French and Robin Moniz.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor Ryff said the first item is the minutes from the previous meeting. Carol Lauxman made a motion to dispense with the reading of minutes and approve the way they were written; Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: Mayor Ryff said next is appropriation ordinance #1101. Gordon Hunnicutt asked about a check for the Museum, Mayor Ryff explained that we had received a claim check from the insurance company for the properties that had had damage and the check was to repair the roof on the Museum. Carol Lauxman made a motion to approve appropriation ordinance #1101, David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Financial Statement: Mayor Ryff said that the Treasurer was not able to make it to the meeting tonight, he said he would let the Council take a couple of minutes to take a look at it. Carol Lauxman asked if the CD that had matured last month got cashed in and replaced. I told her that it had been. She asked if the date should be different on it. After looking at it again I agreed that the date should be different, and I would check into it. Carol Lauxman made a motion to approve the Financial Statement for November, Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Police Report: The Deputy explained that there had been a total of 30 calls, and they had put in a total of 71.25 hours. Mayor Ryff asked if anyone had any questions, he told the Deputy that we would be looking at the 2020 Sheriff's contract in a little bit if he would like to stick around, he was welcome to. The Deputy said he would stay and take the contract back with him.

New Business: Mayor Ryff said next would be Thaniel Monaco with BG Consultants to give the progress report. Thaniel said that we had our progress meeting today, he said that they are wrapping things up effectively with the project. He said that the final metering was going in on the westside of town. He said that Buddy thought they would have the meters done by the end of Wednesday. Thaniel said primarily they have clean-up work. He said there are abandonments of fire hydrants, around the meter pits are mounds of dirt. Thaniel said realistically everything will be done with the exception of seeding. He said by the end of the week they are coming up to substantial completion, he said that was a contractual term which means that once the improvements are installed, approved and in use that is what's called substantial completion. He said the important thing is if you look at the application for payment, there is a line that says retainage, currently we are withholding 5%. Once substantial completion is achieved the retainage will be reduced to zero. Thaniel said next week they should have the final numbers of the bid items also well as the "if, ands, or others." He said that would all be ready for next month. Thaniel said pay request number six is in the amount of \$136,928.17.

Gordon Hunnicutt asked how the tower work tied into this. Thaniel explained that the tower work would be a separate item. He said he would like to advertise this month, he said they hadn't received the final KDHE approval, he doesn't expect much from that, he said generally they just do that. Thaniel said next Tuesday that the State Engineer from Rural Development will be coming here to do a final walk through, tentatively he will be here at 11:00 am. He said he would plan to visit with him about it so they could get that going and to get it finished up in the spring, definitely don't want to go into the summer. Thaniel said we may end up having two pay requests, but probably next month will be the final one. He said the only question will be, this will be up to CDBG, they won't have the seeding done. That will be one thing that they don't have done, so we will have to figure that out. At different times people at the state will say go ahead and pay them out because it is a warrantable item anyway, a one-year warranty starts with substantial completion. Thaniel said that they had talked today depending on their workload and schedules, that they might have someone come in and do hydro seed mulch. Mayor Ryff said he would entertain a motion for the pay request. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to accept the pay request number six in the amount of \$136,928.17, Carol Lauxman seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0. Mayor Ryff said if anyone had any questions this would be a good time to ask them. There were no questions and Thaniel left. Mayor Ryff said next under new business is the Sheriff's Contract for 2020. He said basically the only thing that changed is that there is a 1% increase. Carol Lauxman made a motion to accept the Sheriff's contract for 2020. Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion, the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Ryff said next is old business, he said that there wasn't any other than last month we talked about the Cemetery. He said he had drove through the Cemetery two or three times and he has got some ideas. He said we could do some improvements. He said I think it is due for a facelift more than likely. But he said he didn't think that would take care of all the problems at the Cemetery. Fred French said that he didn't think that it was that bad, it's just the visual coming into the Cemetery. Mayor Ryff said that he understood that but, he thought the weed-eating at the Cemetery was a little bit lax over the summer and he would like to see that improve next year. He said as far as what we want to do with the fence and appearance, he said I call that a facelift. Fred French said he was there the other day and the that it is a steel pole fence. Mayor Ryff said that he was going to leave it at old business to be thinking about and discuss it more strongly in January. He said that we could get something figured out and have it done before Memorial Day. He said he didn't have anymore old business.

Mayor Discussion: Mayor Ryff said that they had had a rough couple of weeks prior to Thanksgiving for the City of Hope maintenance department and the Mayor and a lot of other people. He said with old pipe blowing up it had caused quite a bit of havoc the two weeks prior to Thanksgiving, he said he was very thankful that the tower got cut over before Thanksgiving. He said there was a couple of days that the water pressure was up and down, he said that was due to running off of the pumps without the tower attached. He said he made several trips to the pump house those days because it is very hard to

regulate water without the tower attached. Mayor Ryff said when they do the tower work in the spring, they will have to do the same thing while they do the sandblasting and the epoxy work on the inside of the tower. Mayor Ryff said next he wanted to go to the maintenance report.

Maintenance Report: Billy said a lot of his time was getting with J & K trying to get organized and work together to shut down the old lines. Trying to figure out the leak, he said there were a couple of big nasty leaks on the 6-inch main twice. Tried to relief pressure and flush lines. Started putting the pads back in and picking up the old meters. He said he had been activating the new meters and getting them going. Billy said he had pushed up the burn pit and lit it. He said he put the flags up on main street for Veterans day. Billy said a lot of time he had been working with J & K together doing the water thing, getting customers cut over. Billy said he had been slowly putting in meters and had 14 left to be put in that wasn't on the water project.

Clerks Report: Brian Bina came up for a meeting with the realtors to appraise the property's for eminent domain, so the city can have easement for the waterline project. Had the Election, it went well according to our election ladies 😊 Took care of the Court Docket and emailed it to the prosecuting attorney. Verified information for KPERs and submitted the payment for the first payroll. Entered the serial numbers and transmission numbers for all the customers that had new meters installed at their residence. Double checked addresses to make sure the information was under the correct address. I called and talked to Preston with Core & Main to set up a time for him to come and help with the next step. He agreed to come the next day. When Preston showed-up he showed me how to load the handheld with the information that I had entered into Sequoyah. Then Billy and Preston went out to collect the meter readings from the active meters. When they got back Preston entered the information into the Sensus software and he had me call John with Sequoyah so he could show us how to transfer the data into the Sequoyah billing software. Things went pretty smooth for the first time. Preston asked about next month's readings and plans to be here to help. I called Sequoyah to get some help to upload radio readings. Lindsay called me back and helped me to upload the information. She also showed me a report to run to check the radio readings to make sure they were all good. There were several radio readings that had some strange numbers, so I made a list for Billy to manually read. I plan to talk to Preston about that problem when he is here next month. Entered readings from meter read sheet and radio readings re-read sheet and got water-bills printed, sorted and stamped to go in the mail.

Mayor Ryff said there is information under the FYI section. He said first is the official election results, it shows what the Mayor and Council people received for votes. The new terms for the Council and Mayor will start on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and their first council meeting will be the February 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. The next item is a letter from the transfer station explaining that the price per ton will increase \$2.00 a ton starting January 1<sup>st</sup>. Mayor Ryff said that we looked at the M & K Trash Service Contract and the contract is good until December 2020. He said he didn't know if it would affect them or not. Also, he said in the FYI is an Award Banquet for the Tri-County Area Chamber of Commerce in

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Herington. He said if anyone wants to go you have the information. The other item is Holland Municipal Services, he said they are out of Abilene and they are a municipal service that helps small towns fix their problems. Mayor Ryff said after visiting with the gentlemen he asked him to attend the February meeting and explain what kind of services he offers. A conversation took place among the Mayor and the Council. Mayor Ryff said he did have one question for the Council, he said since it is the Christmas season, he wanted to know what they wanted to do for the City Employees. A short conversation took place and the Council decided to give Billy and Myself an extra paid day. Fred French made a motion and Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

David Wendt made a motion to adjourn and Fred French seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

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

Attest:

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