

1 | Hope City Council Meeting December 8th, 2021

Mayor Ryff called the December 8th, 2021 regular council meeting to order 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: David Wendt, Fred French, Robin Moniz. Gordon Hunnicutt and Ginger Stewart was absent.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor Ryff said the next item of business is the minutes from the previous meeting. Robin Moniz made a motion to accept the minutes as written from November 10th, 2021. Fred French seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: Mayor Ryff said next is appropriation ordinance #1125. Robin Moniz made a motion to approve appropriation ordinance #1125, Fred French seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Treasurers Report: The mayor said the next item of business is the Treasurer's report and Heather is not here. He said it would look a little bit different to you than the past ones have. It's got to do with some financial rearranging and trying to make things simpler and changing to the way the auditor wanted to adjust our accounting. A conversation with the Mayor and Council took place. The Mayor said that it looks like there are two CD's that will mature this month. Fred French made a motion to roll over the CD's, Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Robin Moniz made a motion to accept the financial statement for November 1st – 30th, 2021. David Wendt seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

New Business: Mayor Ryff said under new business we do have a new contract with Dickinson County Fire District #2. He said the new mil rate for 2022 is 3.361 mils. Mayor Ryff explained how that rate equals the amount of dollars we will pay for fire coverage. Robin Moniz made a motion to accept the Dickinson County District Fire #2 Contract for 2022. David Wendt seconded the motion, it passed unanimously 3-0. The Mayor said moving on is the trash service contract. He said that Mike had stopped in last Friday to visit about the contract. Basically, he said he would be happy to leave it right where it is at for another year, unless fuel cost increase gets so bad, he can't absorb it, or the County goes up on the tipping charge, which is dollars per pound. He said if the County goes up on the tipping cost, then they will have to come back and talk to us. Fred French made a motion to approve the trash service contract for 2022. Robin Moniz seconded the motion, the motion passed 3-0. Mayor Ryff said moving onto old business.

Old Business: The Mayor said last month we talked about the water rate study and had a bunch of stuff in the Council notebooks, he said I don't want you to throw that stuff away. He continued and said that he thinks it should be put on hold, due to the fact that the city manager of Herington Brandon Dross called and wanted to attend the January council meeting. Mayor Ryff said he believes that it is to discuss a water rate increase from the City of Herington. He said because of that, he feels like it makes good sense to wait to discuss the water rate study after the January meeting. There was a conversation between

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the Council and Mayor. Mayor Ryff said that after the January meeting there will be different ways to hash out the rates, he said we can have a work session during the Council meeting, we can turn it over to the water/sewer committee. He said we can figure it out at the meeting in January. Mayor Ryff asked me to give the election results. I explained that I received an email and also a hard copy from Barbara Jones the Dickinson County Clerk, certifying that Fred French, Robin Hoskin-Moniz and Daniel Schwindt were the winners of the election and that is the final results of the 2021 election.

Mayor's Discussion: The Mayor said that he had a couple of items. The first one being maintenance employee John Moniz. He said we made him fulltime and we did not talk about an insurance stipend for insurance. According to the employee policy manual it says for each fulltime employee the City will pay four hundred fifty dollars for family of individual medical or hospital insurance. So, that is pretty cut and dry. He said he would like to go ahead and get that started for him for the month of December. The Mayor said in years past for Christmas they have given the employee's a floating holiday. Fred French made a motion to give a floating holiday for Christmas. Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. There was a conversation between the Mayor, Council and I, about Christmas falling on a Saturday and what day most businesses would be closed. No action was taken. Mayor Ryff asked me to give the clerks report.

Clerks Update:

I emailed Tandi with Smart Insurance to set up a meeting for Larry to visit with her about the work comp claim. She agreed to meet with Larry on Monday November 15th, 2021. Went online and set up an account with the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. I followed the prompts on the site and submitted the 2019 audit. I received an email Monday letting me know it had been accepted. Went to the SAM website (System for Award Management) and updated information to continue to have an active account. Talked to Carol Lauxman about getting a list of the new customers for the Lions Club. Tandi with Smart insurance sent an email explaining that there is a Kansas statute that reduces the amount of work comp an insurance company has to pay if you are drawing social security benefits. Sent an email to Cindy Jensen to get advice on the best way to adjust numbers for the financial Statement. I ended up sending her some reports and she sent me an updated spreadsheet to start new for 2021. I played around with the spreadsheet Cindy had sent to help us track the funds better. I used a report from Sequoyah to get the information to enter into the spreadsheet. It has formulas in the different cells, and it carries the numbers forward as well as adding them as you enter the information. 😊

Maintenance Report: Mayor Ryff said that on the maintenance side of it, he doesn't have a lot to say. He said that they had hung up the Christmas lights. He said if they look a little brighter that is because John had put new LED lights in them. He said that there is a couple of fixtures that have bad bases.

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The Mayor said that I had ordered new ones to replace them after the Christmas season. He said he had Chad look at a couple of the light sensor eyes and he replaced one that he knew of. He said in front of you is a copy of an email, he said he didn't know if he had mentioned it. But back in June we had the company the does the up-keep and maintenance to the water tower come and replace the light bulb on the water tower. While he was up there, he took some pictures of the paint job on the belly of the water tower. He said that the paint job wasn't done well and that there was some bubbling. The Mayor said he called BG Consultants because they were our engineers for that project. The email said that they had been in contact with Central Tank Coatings the company that had done the tower work and they were waiting for the final confirmation on the actual timing from them, and when they will be here to fix the problem. The Mayor and Council had a discussion about the tower. No action was taken. Fred French made a motion to adjourn, and Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

_____ Larry Ryff, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Joni Rikard, Clerk