

1 | Hope City Council Meeting February 1st, 2021

Mayor Ryff called the February 1st, 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, Gordon Hunnicutt and Ginger Stewart. Robin Moniz was absent.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor Ryff said the first item of business is the minutes from the previous meeting. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to accept the minutes from January 4th's meeting and approve them as written. Fred French seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: Mayor Ryff said next is appropriation ordinance #1115. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to accept appropriation ordinance #1115, David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Financial Statement: Mayor Ryff said Heather was not attending tonight to try and keep the numbers down. The Mayor said to look over the report and see if there are any questions. Mayor Ryff asked if there were any questions or the financial statement. David Wendt made a motion to approve January's financial statement. Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0.

Police Report: Mayor Ryff said that now he was going to turn things over to Dickinson County Undersheriff Brian Hornaday to give us our monthly report and visit with us about the sheriff's contract. Mr. Hornaday explained that the Sheriff couldn't be here because the Solomon Council Meeting was at the same time and they flipped a coin to see who went where and that was why he was here. He said next month they planned to switch and Sheriff Davis would be here, and he would go to Solomon. He said his understanding was that the Sheriff sent us a new contract for 2021. He said after twelve years of doing budgets the hardest thing to tackle to try and determine what is a fair amount. The other big difference we saw he said was there is three different contracts, Hope, Solomon and Enterprise, and all three contracts are different as far as the dollar amount and how you come to what's factored in to say this is what it cost. He said so what Sheriff Davis and I did was go through the entire sheriff's office budget and broke down what it cost for every sworn deputy. He said that total included retirement, insurance and everything that is paid for benefits. Undersheriff Hornaday said what they discovered is back in August when Jerry won the Primary, when they started looking at the budgets was that that the County itself is operating right now on about a 1990 to the year 2000 budget, trying to do law enforcement in 2021. He said what it basically boils down to is man-power. The undersheriff said, a good example if you look to the neighbors to the North-East of us to Geary County, just their patrol shifts, they have 20 guys that works each 12-hour shift. He said if you look to the comparison and size of county and population, Dickinson County is about quadruple of what Geary County is. He said there is a large amount of incorporated and unincorporated in this county that does not have their own law enforcement, he said to be blunt, it is more then they can handle. Undersheriff Hornaday said what generally happens is you won't

find a deputy down here below 1400 Avenue unless they are serving papers. The reason is because between Enterprise and Solomon is where the major call volume is. He said where that effect's us in Hope is detection and deterrents, responding is what every agency does. But what we want to be is on the flip side, we don't want to be LAPD, just responding to everything that is already active. So, what we are struggling with right now is man-power. He said they are trying to do what they can do. A lengthy conversation continued between the council, mayor and undersheriff Hornaday. Undersheriff Hornaday said one thing that we all can agree with is that the contract the way it is now will not work. Mayor Ryff said as the mayor I would suggest tabling the sheriff's contract negotiations until next month. Undersheriff Hornaday said he would second that suggestion. 😊 Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to table the conversation about the Dickinson County Sheriff's contract until next month. Fred French seconded the motion, the motion carried 4-0. Undersheriff Hornaday handed out the sheriff's report for January. He said he would go through it real quick. He explained regardless, if there is a contract or not, the sheriff and him want everyone to have a monthly report. He said but the report like it is isn't worth the paper it is printed on. Because he said if you look at it, the type of call doesn't really tell you anything. He said that they are researching right now trying to find away to be able to give you a more accurate representation of what it actually was. They are looking for more accurate reporting especially if we are paying them. He said but even if there is not a contract, we should know what is going on in our city. Undersheriff Hornaday said anything they can do to help, please reach out to them and let them know. The council and mayor thanked him, and he left.

New Business: Mayor Ryff said the next item of business would be the museum. He said so, I'll have Nancy Cowan come in and visit with us. Nancy said she was here on behalf of the Hope Museum, she said they were hoping that the city would consider helping them with a \$1200.00 donation like in the previous years. She said that they had used the insurance money they received and put a new roof on the building and painted the outside last summer. She said everyone is welcome to come and visit. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion approve a monetary contribution of \$1200.00 to the Hope Historical Society, Fred French seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Nancy thanked the council and she left. Mayor Ryff said the next item of business is a building permit from Gail Banker. He said basically what he was seeing that they were wanting to build a fence. Gordon Hunnicutt motion to approve the building permit for Gail Banker. David Wendt seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0. Next item of business is basically a tower inspection Maguire Iron Contract. Mayor Ryff said our contract with them will be up after this year. The Mayor said that the tower was just remodeled in July and he don't think there is really anything there to inspect. He said he had spoke to Pat and that he thought that the clear well was relatively clean. So, it is up to the council whether they want the clear well inspected or if they want to let it go for another year. He said if we had to have it done, we would just have to enter into a new contract with Maguire. The Mayor said to keep in mind once the contract runs out the new rate could be a different dollar

amount. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to table the tower inspection contract until next month. Fred French seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Old Business: The Mayor said he had Pat get in touch with J & K Contracting, they came down and then sent us a quote for repairing the sewer main. He said last month they had gotten pictures of it. He said it was around forty feet of sewer main. Mayor Ryff said it is a section that runs North and South on the West end of Gene Schaaf's property. It is a high demand area. He said J & K thought they could do it in a two-day time period in the month of February weather permitting. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to accept the quote from J & K Contracting for the sewer main repair and Fred French seconded it. The motion carried 4-0. The Mayor said moving on DKEDC official appointment for Kevin Morgan. He said last fall in September of October the economic group was wanting a person local on the committee at that time. We talked about and really didn't come up with anybody. He said Kevin had spoke to them and has expressed interest in that position and he would like to be put on as a community member. David Wendt made a motion to have Kevin Morgan put on the Dickinson County Economic Development Board. Fred French seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Mayors Discussion: The Mayor said he didn't have much. He said that the Christmas lights were needing some work done on them. He said quite a few of them are missing six to eight bulbs. He said now the bulbs are not the LED type bulbs and the quote in front of you is a material quote from Lorson Electric for the purchase of LED bulbs. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to accept the Lorson Electric bid for Christmas LED light bulbs. Fred French seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

Maintenance Report: Mayor Ryff said moving on is the maintenance report, he said we have had an issue out at the pumps. He said number two pump quit, he said he called Pat last Tuesday or Wednesday. He said he received a call from Curtis Brown at twelve o'clock saying he didn't have any water. He said he went and checked his bathroom and didn't have any water either. Mayor Ryff said ok, so the tower called for water, pump two was supposed to come on and pump water, but it wouldn't because it broke a shaft between the pump and the impeller. So, we called Sargent Drilling out of Salina and had them come down and pull the pump, they gave us an estimate for a new pump, installed it and still didn't have water. So then, they ended up working another four hours to replace a gasket on the cast iron coming out of the clear well into the pump shed. So, the project just got finished about 5:00 this evening. The Mayor and Council had a conversation about the work that had been done.

Clerks Report: I received a phone call from Martin Becker funeral home about Maggie Brunner passing. I went up to the cemetery and Pat met me there and help mark the plot for the burial. Tried to emailed Shannon with J & K Contracting the video of the sewer issue, but the file was too large. So, instead I sent a link for him to go to and access it that way. Larry and Pat talked with

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me about the septic tank in the park needing to be pumped out. I looked up local pumping services and made a list for Pat to call to get the tank pumped out. Sent Cindy Jensen copies of the meeting minutes for 2019, the Council contact information and reconciliations. Cindy had also sent some paperwork to the bank to fill out and I got it from the bank and email it as well. Heather has also been working with Cindy with the financial statements and bank statements. Talked with Pat about the paperwork sent from Maguire Iron. He gave me some information to complete the paperwork they sent for them to complete the service agreement we have with them. I received an email from the County Health EMS wanting a list from me of those that were interested in getting vaccinated for Covid-19. I sent a text to all employees and Council, put the list together and sent it back to the County. They emailed a consent form for everyone wanting the vaccine. So, I sent out another text about the form and explained they would need to fill it out before getting the vaccination. Made all quarterly payments and put together the 1099's and W-2's for 2020. Talked with Pat about pump issues. Dug out invoices from Stroda plumbing and Sargent Drilling. Gave Pat the phone number to Sargent Drilling out of Salina. Jerry Davis the new Sheriff, stopped by and dropped off the 2021 Sheriff's contract and reviewed the dollar amounts with me.

Gordon Hunnicutt motioned to adjourn David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Larry Ryff, Mayor

Attest:

Joni Rikard, Clerk