

Mayor Ryff called the July 12th, 2023 regular council meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor said since we had visitors he was planning to rearrange the Council and Mayors agenda and get right into get down to the brass tacks with the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary. Phyllis Perry said that Gail Pilcher would be here in alittle while, but since she isn't she would talk for a while. She apologized for not being at the last meeting when we had discussed the possible purchase of the building. Phyllis talked about the history of the building and how the American Legion ended up with the lady's auxiliary. She expressed her thoughts and ideas about some of the possibilities the building could provide. Gail Pilcher showed up and there was a lengthy conversation between the Council, Mayor, and the visitors. Mayor Ryff said I don't normally make motions but, I am going to make a motion to the city Council. He said I make a motion that we buy the American Legion Building from the American Legion Auxiliary for \$5000.00 to be specifically used for a library until the library deems that they are no longer in existence, or they have been closed for 12 months. Robin Moniz seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0. There was another conversation about the contents of the building between the Council, Mayor and Visitors. The Mayor said he wanted to thank the ladies for how things turned out. They said that they were pleased with the outcome too. Mayor Ryff said that the library turns in a budget every year and he wanted the council to take a look at it and adopt it if they are good with it. The Mayor explained how the budget with the City and Library worked. Fred French made a motion to adopt the library's 2024 budget, Ginger Stewart seconded the motion, The motion passed 4-0. He said that pretty much finishes up the American Legion and the Library so, we will go ahead and start the regular meeting. He started by having me do roll call, it showed the following present: Fred French, Robin Moniz, Ginger Stewart and Daniel Schwindt. Gordon Hunnicutt was absent.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor Ryff said the next item of business is the minutes from the previous meeting. Ginger Stewart made a motion to accept the minutes from June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as written. Robin Moniz seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: Mayor Ryff said next is appropriation ordinance #1144 He said if there are any questions please ask. Fred French made a motion to approve appropriation ordinance #1144, Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Treasurers Report: The mayor said the next item of business is the Treasurer's report. The Mayor asked if there were any questions. Heather said that she was not able to see a couple of the CD's on the banks website, I told her I would check into it and see if I could get it fixed. Mayor Ryff said that he would entertain a motion to approve the statement. Daniel Schwindt made a motion to approve the financial statement for June 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 2023, Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

New Business: The Mayor said he wanted to move into the new business, he said he wanted me to present item A. Exceeding the RNR. I explained that earlier the Mayor mentioned the template from the state that I enter the city budget into each year, I enter the information from the budget paperwork that we come up with from the budget committee meeting. Mayor Ryff explained the state legislature passed a bill that the Mill Levy Rate would generate the same amount of tax dollars as the prior year and the county sends that information to the City. He said they want to tell us how much it will take for us to operate each year and if we aren't able to operate on that amount, we will have to petition the county and have them put it on a ballot to exceed that amount. There was a conversation with the Council, Mayor and me. Daniel Schwindt made a motion to accept the notice to exceed the RNR and Ginger Stewart seconded the motion, The motion passed 4-0. Mayor Ryff said item B. Solar Speed Sign Quote he would have me present it. I explained that it had been brought up at the end of last year but there had not been an actual motion to do anything. I did some research and had put some information about the signs in the council packet notebooks. There was a discussion about the signs. Fred French made a motion to buy the signs, Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0. The Mayor said moving on to old business.

Old Business: Mayor Ryff said first of all there is some scratching in there to kinda tell you how the back tax sale went. He said that it was his handwriting on the paper. He explained that it is to show the Council what he spent on each of the properties. He said now he was just waiting on the county to get the deed work done and he will sale them penny for penny. The Mayor said that we went up to the sale and there were a lot of people there. Some properties sold for ten dollars, and some didn't get a bid. There was a discussion between the Mayor and Council. No action was taken. Mayor Ryff said next of the agenda is the digital sign update. He said the digital sign has been ordered, he said that is about all he has for an update right now. The Mayor said item C. The Legal Description for The city of Hope, we looked at it last month and we tabled it and hopefully everyone was going to look it over. A short conversation took place. Daniel Schwindt made a motion to adopt the legal description from BG Consultants. Robin Moniz seconded the motion and it passed 4-0. The Mayor said moving on item D. Maintenance Position update he said he really isn't sure how to update it because there is only one applicant and from his application he would not be qualified. He said that he had visited with John to see if he would work three days a week and Parker would work three days a week until school starts. Mayor Ryff said that we have spent money to put the help ad for two weeks in the Abilene paper and two weeks in the Herington paper. He said he is just not sure where to advertise it. There was a discussion between the Council and Mayor. No action was taken.

Mayor's Discussion: Mayor Ryff said he had a couple of items. He said number one would be the city maintenance truck, basically he said that he thinks we will have to up the ante a little bit. He said he would pass out some options that had been found. There was a conversation between the Mayor and Council. Fred French made a motion to spend between \$27,000.00 - \$34,000.00 on a new used maintenance truck. Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0. Mayor Ryff said that he would put Fred in

charge of the committee and asked Daniel if he wanted to be on it, then asked if Ginger and Robin wanted to be on it. He said he wanted John to go with him to pick out the truck he would be working out of. There was a conversation about how the process would work. Mayor Ryff said the next item was under the FYI section Pay for Council and Mayor on listserv. He said that the listserv is what I put out on a list to all the other cities. He asked me to share some of the information that I collected from listserv. I explained that there had been a huge reply and a large variety in the amounts that the Mayor and Councils received. There was a discussion between the Mayor and Council. No action was taken.

Clerks Update: We met with Scott with Schurle sign company and visited about the location of the new digital sign. Scott said he would be in touch after he talked with KDOT. Edited the help wanted ad for the newspaper and emailed it to Kim with the Reflector Chronical to have it published as soon as possible. Then called the Herington Times to have it run in their newspaper too. Sent Ryan with Navrats an email to let him know that the Council approved my new desk and cabinet. Thanks Again 😊 Made a phone call to Jeanne Livingston the County Clerk about one of the candidates that filed for Council that lives outside of the city limits. She called the state to find out what to do and called me back. She said the candidate would not be eligible for the position but unfortunately it was too late to change anything. We had the budget committee meeting for the 2024 budget. I worked on inputting information into the template for the 2024 budget. Worked on the site plan for the Lead and Copper test and emailed it to Jenny. She emailed back to let me know that there was a problem with a couple of the locations, I talked with Larry, and we decided to change some of the locations to make it easier to take samples. After several email exchanges she approved the site plan, and we started handing out the bottles for the lead and copper test. Received a phone call from Tim Halfhide with KDHE about coming to do the wastewater inspection and talked to John to make sure he would be around. Went to the delinquent tax sale with Larry, and I kept a record of the amounts the properties sold for.

The Mayor asked if anyone had anything else to discuss and if not he would entertain a motion to adjourn. Fred French made a motion to adjourn, Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

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

Attested

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