

1 | Hope City Council Meeting March 2nd, 2020

Mayor Ryff called the March 2nd, 2020 regular council meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor asked Ginger Stewart to do roll call, it showed the following present: David Wendt, Fred French, Robin Moniz and Ginger Stewart. Gordon Hunnicutt was absent.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor Ryff said the first item is the minutes from the previous meeting. David Wendt made a motion to dispense with the reading of minutes and approve the way they were written; Robin Moniz seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: Mayor Ryff said next is appropriation ordinance #1104. David Wendt made a motion to approve appropriation ordinance #1104, Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Financial Statement: Mayor Ryff said Heather Stackley was unavailable for the Treasurers report. Mayor Ryff said that he had a couple of items that he planned to check with the Treasurer about. He said he noticed that the date on the General Certificate of Deposit had the wrong date on it, he said he knew that it had been taken care of. Mayor Ryff said under the Sewer Fund he said he knew that that the sewer revenue doesn't cover the sewer cleaning bill and he thought that it was going to come out of the General fund under sewer. Mayor Ryff explained that the Sewer Fund had been running in the rears and thinks that there should be a Sewer increase. A short discussion took place. David Wendt made a motion to approve the February financial statement. Fred French seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Police Report: Deputy Steve Davis said that it looked like they had put in 74.25 hours. He said that there had been a total of 28 calls. He explained that some of the calls could be business checks that they are just tracked as calls. He asked if there were any questions. Mayor Ryff asked with mini-bikes, go carts, 4-wheelers season coming up what are the rules for that. Deputy Davis said that anyone on driving those types of vehicles had to be licensed, have to wear eye protection and helmets. That is on any public roadways. He said a new law came into effect that you can drive a 4-wheeler, Razor or ATV on any highway marked below 65mph as long as your licensed. Deputy Davis said that they are having a retirement get together for Deputy Longbine who is retiring at the end of March. They thanked Deputy Davis and he left.

New Business: Mayor Ryff said next is Wesley Weishaar with BG Consultant. Wesley said that Mayor Ryff and himself was here to take bids for the water tower revitalization, he said it was the second phase of the water system improvements, he said there will be some big issues addressed during the project. He explained there would be interior and exterior painting jobs done and some significant safety improvements being done on the water tower. He said there will be a new laddering safety climb, it is a fall protection system. He said that this has to be done during the right time of the year because the paint has some very specific limits when it can be painted. Wesley reviewed some of the previous numbers and explained that he had conversed with

Thaniel Monaco at his office and Thaniel said that he was very familiar with all the companies and that they all were responsible bidders. Wesley said that it was his recommendation to award the base bid and alternate 2 & 3 to Central Tank Coatings, Inc., pending CDBG and USDA Rural Development approval for \$95,200.00. A conversation took place between Wesley and the Council, Fred French made a motion to award the contract to the recommended contractor Central Tank Coatings Inc. and authorize construction on the water tower for \$95,200.00, Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Mayor Ryff said that he would expect J & K Contracting back between now and the end of April to do seeding and finish clean-up and finish doing their punch list. Mayor Ryff said next is the Librarian Nakita Hirsch. Nakita said she had brought a pamphlet with a summary of the activities that the library had in 2019 and everything that is offered at the library as well. She said they have several activities planned for the summer, she said they are hoping to do much more in the future. Nakita explained that they are interested in moving the library next door to city hall. She said that I had taken her and the library board next door and took some measurements and the board was excited to get more space to do more activities. Nakita said and with that, if the council is ok with it, they would like to move forward to apply for a grant to help with the cost of remodeling it. Mayor Ryff, the Council and the Library had a discussion about the next steps moving forward. Nakita thanked the Council and Mayor and left. Mayor Ryff said next is a building permit from Terry Hoskins, it is a 14X14 tool shed. Fred French made a motion to approve the building permit, Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0. The next item of business is about the Cemetery. Mayor Ryff said they did have a Cemetery Committee meeting. He said they had discussed the problems they had with the small mower last year. He said in the notebooks there are estimates from Hometown Outdoor Power in Salina Kansas, which is where we purchased the big mower two years ago. Basically, he said they had given you a couple of quotes for a couple different models of Hustlers mowers, they are a 42" mower. A conversation among the Mayor, Billy and Council took place. Fred French made a motion to purchase a Hustler Raptor 42" with a Kohler motor. Robin Moniz seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0. Mayor Ryff said there is no old business so, they would move onto Standing & Special Committee Reports.

Standing & Special Committee Reports: Mayor Ryff said the David Wendt is the Chairperson of the committee and he was going to fill us in on what was discussed. Dave said they had talked about the Ordinance being a hundred years old, and they would like to redo the Ordinance in the next six months and get it up to date. He said the attorney might have to help with that process. Dave said that they had discussed the pricing of the cemetery plots and lots. He said that we are way out of date with the current pricing. He said that the committee decided that they would use the same pricing as the Catholic Cemetery which will make a plot \$80.00 and the price of a lot \$640.00. He said he knew it was a substantial increase but, that is how far behind the City is right now. After a brief conversation Fred French motioned to raise the current cemetery lot fee to \$80.00 per plot and \$640.00 per lot. Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0. Mayor Ryff asked if

there was anything else. Dave said that they also talked about a minor facelift for the Cemetery to make it more presentable for Memorial Day. He said first they are planning to remove the chain-link fence but use the existing posts and replace the fence with chain. Robin Moniz made a motion to remove the fence and Ginger seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Dave said they are going to order some new flags to put up as well. He said there was talk about doing some landscaping and a little dirt work. He said they were going to do something with the entrances to the Cemetery also. Fred suggested that they could repurpose the gates by cutting them down and incorporating them at the Southwest corner of the Cemetery. Mayor Ryff said that at the committee meeting they had talked about getting the gates sandblasted and repainting them. There was a conversation between the Council and Mayor. Mayor Ryff told Billy to go ahead and take the fence down and if the weather cooperates go ahead and mow where the fence was. The Mayor said he would like to move on. He said that was the end of the committee reports.

Mayor's Discussion: He said he had one item of business, he said that it wasn't in the notebook. The Mayor said as far as part-time help during the summertime, there had been several different people help us. He said that we had given the city maintenance person a raise and have given the city clerk a raise. He said but the people that help mow, dig up a water pit or whatever are still only making \$8.00 per hour, he said he thinks he would like to see a two dollar increase on that if the Council agrees. Fred French made a motion to increase the part-time help pay two dollars. David Wendt seconded the motion and it carried 4-0. Mayor Ryff said that he thinks we will need help in April through August. He said he had spoke to John Moniz and John said he would be available. Mayor Ryff said he would like to schedule John two days a week, instead of like last year, calling him at the last minute. Mayor Ryff said that is his tentative plan. Mayor Ryff said next would be the maintenance report with Billy Lininger.

Maintenance Report: Billy said he was winding down from the cold weather, we had some snow at the beginning of February and he said he checked the heaters in the bathrooms. He said one of the heaters was kind of messing up so he shut it down for the rest of the month. He said he is going to get with Chad to see if there is still warranty on them. He said he had brought in some picnic tables so he could get them scraped down to repaint them. Billy said he didn't have them painted yet because he had to replace some boards. He and Larry met with Kansas Department of Labor for their inspection, he said they did pretty good on that. He said that they found a fire extinguisher and a cover for a plug in. He checked the lagoon, he said he been cleaning them. He said he pushed up the burn pit as well. He said he had put a lot of rock in the alleys, he said a lot of people have been making complaints. Billy said he had put a lot of rock behind the office in the alley. He said he had talked with Todd Elliott about trimming the tree up that is hanging over the power lines behind the office. Todd told him he would do it in a couple of weeks. He said he is getting ready for springtime to start mowing and everything else. Fred French asked when they would be doing the meters on Broadway, he said that there is a meter in the middle of a customer's driveway. He was wondering if it could be moved out of the driveway when it is replaced. There was a discussion

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between the Council, Mayor and Billy. Mayor Ryff said he would take a look at the situation and then they could figure out the best way to handle it. Mayor Ryff said that he would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Fred French made a motion to adjourn, Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

_____ Larry Ryff, Mayor

Attest

_____ Joni Rikard, Clerk