

## 1 | Hope City Council Meeting October 13th, 2021

Mayor Ryff called the October 13th, 2021 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: David Wendt, Fred French, Gordon Hunnicutt and Ginger Stewart were all present. Robin Moniz called in.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor Ryff said the next item of business is the minutes from the previous meeting. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to accept the minutes as written from September 8<sup>th</sup>. Fred French seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: Mayor Ryff said next is appropriation ordinance #1123. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to accept appropriation ordinance #1123, David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Treasurers Report: The mayor said now we will move on to the financial report. He explained that Heather was gone because of parent teacher conferences. He asked if anyone had any questions on the treasurer's report. Mayor Ryff said that on the special water fund, we made our first loan payment on the water loan, he said after we made the payment of \$46,802.00 it leaves \$21,206.17 in that fund. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to accept the financial statement for September 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 2021. Fred French seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

New Business: Mayor Ryff said that there isn't a whole lot on the agenda tonight. But under new business, is employee evaluation and wage review, on the maintenance man position. He said when John was hired, he was put on probation for 90 days, which was up on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Mayor said he would like to get a wage increase up to \$17.00 per hour. There was a conversation between the mayor and council. Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion for John Moniz's wage to increase to \$17.00 per hour, Ginger Stewart seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Old Business: Mayor Ryff said moving on to old business, it is nothing more than updates. He said the update on the junk vehicle clean-up, the bucket truck is gone. The junk vehicles on the Westside of town have been turned over to the city attorney, so he said he wasn't sure where things were, but he was giving the attorney some time. He said there was another one with an outstanding ticket and that will be handled next month. Mayor Ryff said that there is an outstanding ticket on yard clean-up too. The Mayor said moving on to the audit. He said there has been conversations with Cindy Jensen and himself and the clerk. He said we have been sending paperwork back and forth, and then signing paperwork for her to get information from the bank. Mayor Ryff said that almost the same thing is happening with the water rate study with KWRA. He explained that I had been contacted by KRWA and had filled out a basic rate calculation worksheet. From that information they calculate what rate the city needs to charge to be able to pay the loan payment from the USDA. Mayor Ryff said the next item of business is the condemnation timeline. He said if you go to the old business section in your packets it shows

the process that Mr. Holland will help us go through to get the properties ready to demo. He said that the last page shows an estimate of the costs associated with the process. The Mayor said that he knows that I sent certified letters out to the property owners and that we posted notices of the inspections that will take place on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 9 and 10 am. The council and mayor had a conversation about the demo of the properties. No action was taken.

Mayor's Discussion: Mayor Ryff explained that the American Legion Sons have donated \$100.00 to the City of Hope to help pay for more brass veteran markers for the cemetery. He said that he would like to go ahead and get some more ordered. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council. Fred French made a motion to buy 12 more veteran medallions for the veteran graves at the cemetery. Gordon Hunnicutt seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. Mayor Ryff said that we received a letter from the property owner's next to the mini park. He said along the rock wall on the southside of the building there are some branches that need to be cut back. There is also a little shed on the west end along the property line that needs to have a big limb removed and a few smaller ones. He said he would like to get the job done in the next 30 days. The Mayor said that John would be able to handle the job for the most part, but the big branch and two trees around the flag pole he would like to have Todd Elliott take care of with his bucket truck. Mayor Ryff said he had one more comment and that is the election is Tuesday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, we need to find someone to vote for, for city council. There was a conversation between the Council and Mayor. No action was taken.

Clerks Update: I emailed Brian Bina about the junk vehicles on the out of town property owners. Brian thought it was something the prosecuting attorney could address. I talked to Larry about it, and we called and explained that one lived out of state and the other one lives out of town. Brian said that it would be the last week of the month before he could work on it. In the meantime the bucket truck was removed, so I emailed Brian to let him know. I also emailed James Holland to let him know that he could go ahead with the condemnation on the two properties. He sent a timeline of how things should play out. Since then I received the information from the title search and the notice of inspection paperwork. Cindy Jensen called and asked for a couple more reports and asked to make some journal entries to fix a couple of things that she had found. Also, she sent some documents that needed signed in order for her to get access to them at the bank. I sent Kim Maguire with Abilene Reflector an email with the STO and UPOC Ordinance's to get them publish. I emailed Jeanne Livingston with the Dickinson County Clerks office the 2022 Budget signed Certification and the signed RNR Resolution with the affidavit of publication. I met John up at the cemetery to measure and mark for a headstone placement. I received an email from Doug Helmke with Kansas Rural Water Association. He is the one that is working on the Water Rate Study. He sent a basic rate calculation spreadsheet to fill out. I ran some

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reports to get the amounts of some of the items and I visited with Larry about some of the items. I filled out the sheet and sent it back to him.

Maintenance Report: The Mayor said that John has been doing a good job. He said that he is backing off of his elbow, he knows that he rode him hard in July and August due to the fact that the maintenance department for the last 60 days has had a rough trip. Between asphalt and filling holes, chipping and sealing and then turning around and getting ready for the fall festival. Mayor Ryff said as far as the City's side of it, it went off very well. He said things looked good and it was a very decent fall festival. He said he would like to see some tree trimming, sign straightening this fall and winter. He said that we had sent out three water tests on Tuesday. He said he had some stop signs that are faded and wanted to check with the school Paw Prints about refurbishing them. A discussion between the Mayor and Council took place. They asked for me to contact the school about whether they would be able to revitalize the stop signs.

Gordon Hunnicutt made a motion to adjourn, and David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

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Larry Ryff, Mayor

Attest

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Joni Rikard, Clerk