

1 | Hope City Council Meeting September 8th, 2020

Mayor Ryff called the September 8th, 2020 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, 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 accept the minutes from last month's meeting and approve them as written; Robin Moniz seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: Mayor Ryff said next is appropriation ordinance #1110. David Wendt made a motion to approve appropriation ordinance #1110, Fred French seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Police Report: Mayor Ryff said next, he was going to have the Sheriff report. The Deputy said he thought that everyone knew him but for those who don't He said he is Deputy Chris Cease. He said there had been 69 hours for the month of August, and a total of 30 calls. Deputy Cease said if there were some calls that looked suspicious it is because there is a lady in town with dementia. The Deputy went over the rest of the calls. The Mayor asked if there were any more questions for the Officer, the Council and Mayor thanked the deputy and he left.

Financial Statement: Mayor Ryff said he was going to back up and go over the Financial Statement. He said it looks like we are in pretty good shape as far as the finances go. He said he was happy to see that the water fund was starting to build a balance, especially with the water project coming to an end, and the payments for the project will be starting up. Mayor Ryff said that there is a couple of the CDs that is coming up due this month. He said they are 91-day CD's. A conversation took place between the Mayor and Council. Robin Moniz made a motion to approve the financial statement and to let the CD's roll over, Fred French seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

New Business: Mayor Ryff said starting off with new business will be Nakita Hirsch with the library. Nakita explained that she had finally received the estimate to reconstruct the Northside of the building. She said that they had broken down on the estimate what all they planned to do. Mayor Ryff said that before they would start a project like this, he would like to see another estimate. Nakita said that there was another contractor that said they would provide an estimate also, but it just hadn't happened yet. The Mayor asked about how it would be funded. She explained that she had checked into a group that does help with fund raising for non-profits. She said they fund libraries and schools, and plans to check into that one. Nakita explained that there five grants, and two local grants from the County and the others are random grants and one from the USDA. The Mayor, Nakita and the Council had a lengthy conversation. There was no action taken. The Mayor and Council thanked Nakita and she left. The next item is the Fall Festival, the

Mayor explained that the festival had been cut back because of the county restriction due to covid19. He said that you can drag Main and then there is a double feature drive in movie up at the soccer field. The Mayor said they have two plans. He said plan A. is to use the soccer field, but if it continues to rain and it gets to muddy it will be North of the Annex. He said the brome field had been mowed once and hopefully we will be able to mow it again before Saturday. He said he was planning to have some picnic tables moved to the soccer fields and some trash barrels. He said he thinks that is all that the City will be involved in. Mayor Ryff said the next item of business is a resolution for the consumption of alcoholic liquor or cereal malt beverages during the Fall Festival. He said that there will be two or three vendors parked up at the soccer field. He explained that one of the vendors sells Captain Morgan lemonade and that is why we need to pass a resolution. There was a conversation amongst the Mayor and Council. David Wendt made a motion to approve resolution 20-004, Fred French seconded the motion and it passed 4-0. Mayor Ryff said next on the agenda is two Ordinances, it is your STO and your UPO. He said what they are is traffic laws that is used in municipal court, he said they update them yearly and each year we have to adopt the new STO and UPO. Mayor Ryff said it is a standard format deal. Robin Moniz motioned to accept Ordinance #468 and Ordinance #469. Fred French seconded the motion and it passed 4-0. Next Mayor Ryff said is a building permit from Gerald Dittman, he said it looked like a 12' X 32' storage shed. There was a short conversation and Fred French made a motion to approve the building permit and David Wendt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0. The Mayor said next is the Dickinson County Economic Development Group representative. He said that they had sent paperwork to find out who the representative for the City would be. A discussion took place between the Mayor and Council. Mayor Ryff said if anyone know someone that would be interested to represent the City of Hope, to let us know and we will get them signed up. There was no action taken. Mayor Ryff suggested they maul it over. The Mayor said moving on, the next item is social security deferral option. He said basically this is because of President Trumps Memorandum on deferral of employee payment of certain payroll taxes until the end of the year. He said after checking into it he thinks it would be best to continue to take the payroll taxes out of the employees checks instead of playing catch up for the first four months of next year. He said he thinks the City should opt out of it. A short conversation took place and Fred French made a motion to opt out of the deferral of certain payroll taxes. Ginger Stewart seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

Mayor Ryff said he didn't have anything under Standing and Special committee reports so, he wanted to move onto the Mayor's Discussion.

Mayor's Discussion: The Mayor said if you notice it says Grant Hearing, What the Grant Hearing is, is basically a meeting to give the public the opportunity to come and to do the final paperwork for the CDBG Grants final monies. He explained that the hearing has to be done before Robert Perry the City's Bond Counsel and Chelsea Morris with USDA Rural Development can do their final paperwork. He said if anyone on the Council wants to attend the Grant

Hearing it will be at 10:00am on the 15th of September. He said it is not required but if they want to attend, they are welcome to. He said there will not be anything to make a motion on, so they do not have to attend. Mayor Ryff said he would have me send out a text to remind everyone. The Mayor explained that we had been working on coming up with the final amount of the Water Project. He said there were two bonds out, he said one in the amount of two hundred thousand dollars and the second bond is in the amount of one million two hundred thousand dollars. He said his rough dollar amount is one million four hundred ninety-two thousand dollars. Chelsea with USDA said that the loan can be up to one point five million dollars. He said that once the hearing is over and Bob Perry gets his paperwork done, and Chelsea gets hers done; we will have to have a special meeting to finish things up before the end of the month. Mayor Ryff said then the next step will be asking Rural Water to come in and do a rate study to make sure we are collecting enough money to make the loan payment. He said he thinks the rates are close, but they might have to be tweaked a little. Mayor Ryff said that is all he has. The Mayor said under the departmental reports that he did not have Pat come. Pat asked if it was necessary for him to come, Mayor Ryff said there will be meetings that it will be necessary for him to come. He said he told him if he came, he could pat himself on his back, he said his quality of work is his pat on his back. He says if you all like what you see then he knows he is doing a good job. The Council and the Mayor agreed that he was doing a good job and that there was more getting done in the last two to three weeks than what has been done in the last year. Mayor Ryff said it is not only Pat but John too! He said they are both good workers and the Council agreed! The mayor said next is the clerks report.

Clerks Report: Called the residence that had building permits and let them know they could proceed. Scanned in the 2021 budget paperwork to send to the Abilene Reflector Chronicle to be published. Signed Resolution 20-003 Hope Coronavirus Relief Fund Resolution and scanned in to send to the County. We did receive a reimbursement check for the soap dispensers we put in the bathrooms at the park. Mailed the Bowens a signed copy of Resolution 20-002 and I also sent it to the city's official newspaper to be published on August 6th, 2020. I met Larry up at the Cemetery to mark for a burial. We got it all measured out. I came back to the office and called Chad to let him know it was marked and ready for him. Emailed Chelsea with the USDA about the loan closing and she suggested that I reach out to Robert Perry our Bond Counsel to get his paperwork going and to possibly close the last week of September. I sent Bob an email to update him on the project and he advised me he needed the final numbers on the grant money and project costs. I then emailed Carol with NCRPC to let her know what we needed. She explained that she had sent the paperwork to Linda with the Commerce department and was waiting for her to finish her final monitoring of the project. Larry and I had a meeting with Bret Beye with Kansas Rural Water. Bret explained that they have a quarterly publication called The Kansas Lifeline and he was interested in putting our water project in it, because of the size of the project. I dug out the information that he thought he needed for the article. We received the sanitizing stations we had ordered, and I put them together.

Mayor Ryff added that when we were talking to Bret Beye, that the chlorine tester that the City has, is as antique as it can be. He said one reason he was having Bret come over is to talk to him about the chlorine tester and what the cost of the newer ones are. He explained that the KDHE requires the City to do a daily chlorine test. He said he also wants to know what the minimum and the maximum amounts are as far as the chlorine test goes. He said he wanted to see what type of equipment Bret would recommend and talk to him in more detail about the operator in training. Mayor Ryff said he had talked with Pat and Pat has no problem doing what it takes to be the certified water operator. He said he just has some questions for Bret and wanted to get some answers about the operator in training. The Council and Mayor had a short conversation. No action was taken.

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

_____ Larry Ryff, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Joni Rikard, Clerk