

May 18, 2016

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, May 18, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Jeff Urban, Chriss McDiffett, Gary Lacy and Ron Briery. Dennis Gilhousen was absent. Others present were Justine Benoit, Tiffany Kershner, Richard Tiekamp, Nathan Pramel, Carol Wyatt, Carol Mayo, Robert Bowman, Dana Paxton, Cameron Archer, Jamie Amlong, Dan Bainter, Ron Ridley, Karen Griffiths, Chad Buckley and Darla Ellis.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve the May 4, 2016, council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

<i>John Sanders</i>	<i>\$ 1,500.00</i>	<i>Construct deck at 506 N. Home</i>
<i>Ag Valley</i>	<i>\$30,000.00</i>	<i>Demolition of 2 bins at 314 W. North</i>
<i>Bob & Cheryl Krueger</i>	<i>\$ 5,000.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 805 N. Archer</i>
<i>Jeremiah Stark</i>	<i>\$ 3,300.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 501 W. Waverly</i>
<i>Jeremiah Stark</i>	<i>\$ 3,200.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 507 W. Waverly</i>
<i>Patrick Hall</i>	<i>\$ 4,400.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 807 Valley Vista</i>
<i>Michael Newell</i>	<i>\$40,000.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 211 S. Second</i>
<i>Howard Schemper</i>	<i>\$ 6,200.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 807 N. Norton</i>
<i>Sharon Batson</i>	<i>\$ 8,600.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 208 W. Wilton</i>

Justine Benoit from Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission presented the Environmental Review for Grant Agreement #16-PF-020, for the street improvements on Crane Street and N. Second Avenue. The original review will be at the City Office and available for the public to view. It will be published and there will be a 7 day comment period, which will expire June 3. All comments, positive or negative, must be in writing and signed. The review will be sent to the Kansas Department of Commerce for approval and then the bidding process can begin around July 1. Motion was made by Chriss McDiffett and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve the Environmental Review on the street improvement project for Crane Street and Second Avenue. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Tiffany Kershner from Options Domestic & Sexual Violence Services of Hays, was present to request funding from the City of Norton, to help fund their services to Norton County. They provide 24 hour service within the 18 northwest Kansas Counties. They are grant funded, but she said that doesn't pay for any of the prevention services. The rest of their funding is from donations. They've been serving Norton County for about 30 years. In 2015, they served 5 domestic violence and 3 sexual assault victims in Norton County. Their daily costs to serve victims is \$14.52 per day to operate the 24-hour helpline, \$311.17 per day to operate the safe shelter, and \$450 per victim for a domestic violence exam. The request was referred to the Finance Committee for consideration.

Robert Bowman said the potholes in West Street by the Norton Vet Clinic need filled in again.

Motion was made by Jeff Urban and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve David New as a Volunteer Fireman effective June 1. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Jeff Urban to adopt Resolution #7-2016, commending city staff, fire department personnel, city and county law enforcement, Emergency Preparedness, Kansas Department of Corrections, the City of Phillipsburg, the Red Cross, Salvation Army, KQNK Radio, the Norton Telegram, and all those who so avidly and effectively worked during the water treatment emergency in Norton, Kansas on May 2nd through May 6, 2016. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Mayor Miller reported Sue Ann Stutheit has resigned her position on the Library Board. He would like to appoint Sandra Worden, who has submitted a letter expressing interest in the vacant position. Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to approve the appointment of Sandra Worden to fill the unexpired term on the Library Board, with the term ending November 30, 2018. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Richard Tiekamp was present regarding the property at 615 E. Lincoln. He stated they intended to fix it up, but it is in worse shape than they realized. They would like to sell the property so someone can demolish it and build a new house. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to adopt Resolution #8-2016, fixing the time and place and providing for notice of a hearing on July 6, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. before the governing body of the City, at which the owner, his or her agent, lienholders of record, occupants and other parties in interest of structures located at 615 E. Lincoln may appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished as an unsafe or dangerous structure. Karen Griffiths stated if they have plans, they should present them at the hearing on July 6. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-0 with Jerry Jones abstaining.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to adopt Resolution #9-2016, fixing the time and place and providing for notice of a hearing on July 6, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. before the governing body of the City, at which the owner, his or her agent, lienholders of record, occupants and other parties in interest of structures located at 433 S. First Street may appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished as an unsafe or dangerous structure. Allen Taylor is the owner of record, and was not in attendance to comment. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jeff Urban and seconded by Jerry Jones to promote Patrol Officer Mark Dewees to the Assistant Chief of Police position, at a pay range of 13-B, effective immediately; and to re-classify Patrol Officer Jody Enfield from part-time status to full-time status, effective immediately, with no change in pay status or employee benefits. Vote taken. Motion carried.

City Administrator Chad Buckley reported he would like to advertise for the vacant Water/Wastewater Plant Supervisor position, and update the job description. Ron Briery stated he thinks the job description should be updated and reviewed by council before the position is advertised. Motion was made by Chriss McDiffett and seconded by Jerry Jones to advertise for the vacant Water/Wastewater Plant Supervisor position. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-1 with Ron Briery voting no. Ron stated he would like to look at the job description for the Water/Wastewater Plant Supervisor when it is revised.

Chad Buckley stated the Public Works department will be doing some concrete work by the Christian Church in the City's street and in the sidewalk. He also reported an insurance adjuster came today to look at the water plant equipment and damage. The prison crew is repairing brick streets. They planted grass and finished placing rocks in the landscaped area at Pool Park last week. The pool has been filled and all pumps are working. Lifeguard training will begin this Saturday. A scum pump was installed today at the wastewater plant. Mosquito spraying will begin tonight.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to suspend the rules and waive the 3 reading requirement for Ordinance #1687. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to adopt Ordinance #1687, adopting the codification of Ordinances of the City of Norton, Kansas, authorized by Ordinance #1686, providing for the repeal of certain

other ordinances not included therein, excepting certain ordinances from repeal and saving certain accrued rights and liabilities. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Jeff Urban stated he'd like to discuss the status of weed abatement on various properties in Norton. He stated he knows it has been rainy, but many of them have not been mowed yet this year. Ron Ridley stated notices have been sent out, but city crews are busy getting the parks and cemetery ready for Memorial Day weekend and have not been able to commit time to mowing other properties at this time. Gary Lacy asked the Public Safety Committee to review the charges and penalties for those who don't mow their property.

Chriss McDuffett reported the Airport Board met and approved their 2017 budget. They discussed reducing the amount for the land leases due to the construction. The hangar agreements have been sent out.

Chriss McDuffett stated the Public Works Committee met and discussed a sewer line request and are considering several options. He also reported the US Hwy 36 project is progressing.

Assistant Water/Wastewater Plant Supervisor Jamie Amlong was present to give an update on the repairs at the Water Plant. Hawkins from Omaha will be here next week to help build the chlorine room and put it back in working order. Don's Electric will be coming tomorrow to put the breaker in. They will be redesigning the electronics to put outside of the building. He has ordered both a chlorine sensor and heat sensor for the chlorine room and dioxide room. The electricians will look at the scrubber to see what it would take to get it working. The City's insurance company took the heater with them today; their engineers will take it apart and look at it. They also took the thermostat. Chriss McDuffett commended him for the work they are doing at the plant.

Mayor Miller reported Steve Schrum compiled a list regarding all of the improvements the Recreation Commission has made and the cost for the improvements over the last several years.

Jeff Urban said the City needs to stick to our dog at large violations and make sure things are dealt with and not let go.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve Appropriating Ordinance #10 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor: _____
James L. Miller