

October 19, 2016

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, October 19, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Chriss McDiffett, Gary Lacy and Ron Briery. Dennis Gilhousen and Jeff Urban were absent. Others present were Holly Puga, Dani Hartwell, Robert Bowman, Dana Paxton, Jamie Amlong, Dan Bainter, Ron Ridley, Chad Buckley and Darla Ellis.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve the October 5, 2016, council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

Kevin Black - \$14,000 – Construct addition to garage at 908 Hartford
Bob/Sandy Husted - \$ 9,000 – Construct garage at 614 E. Lincoln
Jack Kersenbrock - \$ 5,400 – Reroofing at 406 W. Waverly
Kathy Hardy - \$ 4,500 – Reroofing at 405 N. Norton
Lee/Janice Russell - \$ 9,300 – Reroofing at 502 West Ave.
Richard Wyatt - \$10,000 – Reroofing at 701 N. State St.

Holly Puga and Dani Hartwell were present on behalf of the Baseball and Softball Committee Representatives to discuss the possibility of having baseball and softball as a spring sport for high school students at USD 211. Holly presented information regarding the current summer programs and participation, and the benefit of adding baseball and softball as a high school sport. She stated they would like to request permission to use the ballfields if it is approved. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Gary Lacy to allow the use of the City's ballfields if USD 211 would implement baseball and softball as a spring sport for high school. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Ron Briery asked about the status of the old building in Elmwood Park. He stated when the Parks Committee met with the Amusement Association representative, they were given the choice of fixing it and using it, or the City would tear it down. The representative was going to contact the Recreation Commission to see if they were interested in contributing toward the repairs and using the building also.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to waive the second reading of Ordinance #1692, amending the City Code relating to the appointment dates of the joint Recreation Commission. The City's appointment term will commence on February 28, 2017. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to waive the second reading of Charter Ordinance #19, in regards to the Norton Library Board appointment. The appointment terms shall begin February 28, 2017. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Ron Ridley stated the City received a request from the Catholic Church for additional handicap parking spaces. An Ordinance will need to be prepared to be considered at the next city council meeting.

Chad Buckley stated there is still a vacant position in the Police Department and he would like to advertise for the vacant Police Officer position. Jerry Jones stated Jody Enfield was moved to full time status in May to fill the vacant position. Chief Ridley stated this change was only temporary and he will be returned to part time status when a new officer is hired. Motion was made by Chriss McDiffett to authorize staff to advertise for a police officer position. Motion died for lack of a second.

Chad Buckley stated this week is clean-up week and the crews have been picking up a variety of trash all over town. The property at 615 E. Lincoln will be demolished next week. He also reported on various projects that have been completed within the last week.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to accept the bid of \$6,950.34 from Cummins Central Power, LLC to repair the electronic control module on a generator at the water plant. The repairman said it was possibly damaged by lightning, and it will be turned in to the insurance company; the City has a \$5,000 deductible per occurrence. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Chad Buckley stated the Utility Committee discussed advertising for an operator position for the water and wastewater departments. It was the consensus of the Council to wait and discuss this further in 30 days.

Jerry Jones asked who the railroad property goes to now that the railroad has abandoned it. He stated the intersections have been given to the City, but the City should find out who the rest of the property goes to.

Chriss McDuffett stated the Airport Board met and someone is looking into building a new hangar at the airport. He also stated the Street Committee is still discussing a plan to repair streets in the Lintner Addition.

Motion was made by Chriss McDuffett and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve Appropriating Ordinance #20. 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