

April 4, 2018

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, April 4, 2018, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen, Mark Dewees, Chriss McDuffett, Gary Lacy, and Ron Briery. Others present were Chris Murphy, Terry McConnell, Robert Bowman, Dana Paxton, Gerry Cullumber, Cameron Archer, Kyle Jones, Karen Griffiths, and Darla Ellis. Kyle Jones led those present in the Flag Salute. Chris Murphy gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Mark Dewees to approve the March 21, 2018 city council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

No building permits were presented.

Mayor Miller stated James Moreau will begin his position as City Administrator on April 30. He also reported the testing applications for various employee certifications have been sent in.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve the quote from All Services Contracting Corp. for the purchase and installation of a Leopold Universal Type S Underdrain and Leopold air header piping for filter 1 at the water plant, at a cost of \$116,250. The cost will be split equally between the water fund, the water replacement fund, and the Capital Improvement Fund. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Dennis Gilhousen reported the Utility Committee met with Phil Wilson and Craig Renner regarding water for the football field. Both parties are interested in working together to find a reasonable solution to resolve this issue, and recognize it is not practical to do what was originally proposed in the agreement. They discussed the potential of doing some test wells to see if there is water available in Elmwood Park to either water just the football field, or possibly water the rest of the park and ball fields also. The school is in the process of working with the Stockton water office to discuss water rights. The City will not start charging for water usage at the football field while negotiations are ongoing.

Dennis Gilhousen stated the Utility Committee also talked about possible projects for the upcoming CDBG grant round.

Chief of Police Gerry Cullumber reported a Meet and Greet will be held on April 13 from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. at Moffet Drug to introduce the public to the new Police Officers. The department is also hosting a Youth Police Academy June 11-15 from 8:30 – 2:30. It will be open to 15 Norton County students who are 13-15 years old, and a graduation presentation will be held on the 15th. Applications will be available.

Motion was made by Chriss McDuffett and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve Art Shelton's sidewalk replacement request at 402 S. Second Street with the City providing the labor and the landowner paying the cost of materials. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Chriss McDuffett reminded the council that the pre-bid meeting for the street improvement project will be held April 9th at 11 a.m. and the bid opening will be held April 16th at 11 a.m. Both meetings will be held in the council room at city hall.

Gary Lacy stated at the last meeting, a personnel resolution was presented making several changes to the Employee Handbook. He asked what the procedure is to notify employees of what is being presented or proposed. It was stated that the employee representative for each department group is to inform the employees within their department. Gary stated he felt the City failed to notify an employee who was affected by the recent change. Jerry Jones stated a salary survey has not been conducted for a number of years, and needs to be done this year to see if everything will take care of itself.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to suspend the rules and waive the three reading requirement for Ordinance #1712. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to adopt Ordinance #1712, amending Section 2-209 of the Norton City Code in reference to impoundment, redemption, and disposition of dogs or cats. This will increase the deposit charged for spaying or neutering an adopted animal from the pound, and was a mandated change due to new state regulations. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve Resolution #7-2018, approving the execution and delivery of a lease purchase agreement with First State Bank for the purchase of a new fire truck. The lease purchase agreement will be to finance \$340,000 at 4.48% interest for 10 years with an annual payment of \$42,926.56. Bids were also received from Solutions North Bank, The Bank, and Community Leasing Partners. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve the purchase of a new Rosenbauer Custom Pumper Truck from Hays Fire and Rescue Sales & Service, as a sole source provider, at a cost of \$410,893 plus loose equipment at a cost of \$15,000, for a total of \$425,893. The City will lease purchase \$340,000 and the balance will be funded by a \$50,000 grant from Dane G. Hansen Foundation and \$35,893

from city funds. Terry McConnell was present from Hays Fire to answer questions. The truck will be built in Lyons, South Dakota and will not be delivered until 2019. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to approve Tim Sprigg's request to block off the 100 block of S. Kansas Street on May 5th, for a Cinco De Mayo celebration. Several events are being planned throughout the afternoon and evening to be held in the street. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve Wade and Diana Ambrosier's request to block off an area of sidewalk adjacent to 110 S. State Street and approve Resolution #8-2018, allowing the consumption of alcoholic liquor at a special event on public property, contingent upon them receiving a Temporary Alcohol permit from the State of Kansas. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Ron Briery stated 21 bids were received on the 1970 Chevy pickup. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to accept the high bid of \$7,166.66 from Shawn Hearld of Hays, Kansas. Vote taken. Motion carried.

City Clerk Darla Ellis reported the City received 2 applications for net metering this week, and are now at the maximum total rated capacity of customer generated energy allowed on the City's system. She stated M & D Contractors started today on fixing the sewer main where AT&T bored through the City's line. She reported on upcoming work at the pool & the status of the waterline project on W. Waverly. Two contractors attended the Pre-bid meeting for the electric grant project, and the bid opening will be held on April 18th at 3:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to approve the purchase of rock from S&R Ready Mix for the west side of the City parking lot for approximately \$400. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Dennis Gilhousen stated he doesn't think it is appropriate to discuss specific employees in an open meeting when they can be easily identified, as it affects the morale of the employees involved as well as all employees. He stated employees look to the council members as leaders of the City, and the council needs to consider what is appropriate to discuss in open meetings and respect the rules of having specific discussions during executive session.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to approve Appropriating Ordinance #7 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor: _____
James L. Miller