

March 20, 2019

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, March 20, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Robert Bowman, Gerald Jones, Donna Foley, and Ron Briery. Dennis Gilhousen was absent. Others present were Damen Andrew, Bret Shogren, Dean Liddle, Donna Liddle, Lisa Herman, Cindy Cullumber, Dan Bainter, Cameron Archer, Gerry Cullumber, Jody Enfield, Karen Griffiths, James Moreau, and Darla Ellis. Damen Andrew gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Donna Foley to approve the March 6, 2019 city council meeting minutes. Vote taken. Motion carried.

No building or demolition permits were presented.

Bret Shogren of George K. Baum & Company reported pursuant to the Notice of Bond Sale, three bids for the purchase of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2019, dated April 24, 2019, of the City had been received. He provided a tabulation of the bids. The Governing Body reviewed and considered the bids and it was found and determined that the bid of Central States Capital Markets LLC, Prairie Village, Kansas, with a true interest cost of 2.995987% was the best bid for the Bonds. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones that the bid be accepted and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the bid form selling the Bonds to the best bidder on the basis of the bid and the terms specified in the Notice of Bond Sale. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Ordinance #1723 was presented and motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Robert Bowman that the rules be suspended; that it be determined that an emergency exists; and that the requirement for the 3 readings of the ordinance be waived. Vote taken. The motion was duly passed by a unanimous determination of all council members present.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Robert Bowman to adopt Ordinance #1723, an Ordinance authorizing and providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds, series 2019, of the City of Norton, Kansas; providing for the levy and collection of an annual tax for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on said bonds as they become due; authorizing certain other documents and actions in connection therewith; and making certain covenants with respect thereto. The Ordinance was read and considered, and upon being put, the motion for the passage of said Ordinance was passed by a unanimous determination of all council members present.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to adopt Resolution #5-2019, a Resolution prescribing the form and details of and authorizing and directing the sale and delivery of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2019, of the City of Norton, Kansas, previously authorized by Ordinance #1723 of the Issuer; making certain covenants and agreements to provide for the payment and security thereof; and authorizing certain other documents and actions connected therewith. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Dean Liddle said the surface condition of the parking area at Veteran's Park adjacent to Highway 36 is very poor due to heavy trucks and large vehicles parking there all weekend. It also makes it difficult for visitors to get in and out of the park area, and has caused issues with people being able to access the Farmer's Market when it is in progress. Chief Cullumber will research this and report back to the council.

Donna Liddle stated the Norton Classic Cruisers will not be sponsoring the Norton Car Show event this year and so the Chamber Board has agreed to sponsor it this year. A steering committee will meet tomorrow to discuss the event and Dean Liddle will chair the committee.

Fire Chief Cameron Archer stated a reception will be held on March 29 at 7 p.m. at the Eagles for Steve Otter's retirement from the City Fire Department. He also said the new truck has been delayed until July.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to waive the formal third reading of Ordinance #1722. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Robert Bowman to adopt Ordinance #1722, amending Chapter 12, Article 3 of the City Code pertaining to the use of the livestock barn in Elmwood Park. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to accept the Mayor's 2-year re-appointment of Karen Griffiths to the Northwest Kansas Juvenile Services and Community Corrections Governing Board. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Mayor Miller stated he understands the City has been given a drawing of the proposed plan for Elmwood Park and asked if it could be presented to the Council. Parks Chairman Jerry Jones said there are a few people who should be present to discuss it and they would like to do that in April.

Karen Griffiths stated work on the natural trail in Elmwood Park was scheduled to start this weekend but has been rescheduled to April 13 because of the muddy conditions. The box will be delivered on April 12.

James Moreau stated the City sent out Request for Bids on a new street sweeper and 3 bids were received. This was a budgeted expense for 2019 from the Refuse Fund, and there is a 90-day delivery time from the date it is ordered. Motion was made by Gerald Jones and seconded by Robert Bowman to approve the low bid from Berry Tractor for a Global M3 3-wheel sweeper in the amount of \$239,482, which includes the trade-in of the current Johnston 3000 sweeper. Vote taken. Motion carried.

James also stated a citizen inquired in February about releasing floating paper lanterns for an event in June. He discussed this with the Fire Chief and they are considered to be fireworks, so they would only be allowed during the time frame allowed for shooting of fireworks, which is June 27th through July 5th. James also stated he is working with the Public Works department on a number of street issues caused by the winter weather conditions. The Public Works Committee will discuss these issues.

Donna Foley stated the Personnel Committee met and discussed the City's policy for emergency call-backs when an employee is in a "use it or lose it" situation with their vacation, and also discussed doing a payscale survey. Personnel Committee will meet again April 29 at 4 p.m. to discuss these items further.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to provide an Emergent Plus plan through MASA Medical Transport Solutions to all full-time employees who are eligible for health insurance and the Mayor and Council, at a total cost of \$6,720 per year. This will provide air and ground transportation for members and their families in emergency situations. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Gerald Jones to recess into executive session to discuss the pending litigation in bankruptcy court, regarding the status of a utility customer pursuant to the attorney-client privilege exception, with the Mayor, Council, City Attorney, City Administrator, and City Clerk present, for a period of 15 minutes to return to open session at 6:16 p.m. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Council resumed in regular session at 6:16 p.m. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to return to executive session to discuss the same topic with the same people present for a period of 10 minutes to return to open session at 6:27 p.m. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Council resumed in regular session at 6:27 p.m. No motions were made as a result of executive session.

Robert Bowman stated he got a quote for bleachers from Cliff's Welding in Phillipsburg with both wood or aluminum seating, and passed around pictures of both options. They would be 6 rows up and 16' long with steps on the side. A joint Public Works and Parks Committee Work Session will be held on March 25th beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Dan Bainter reported City-wide clean-up will be held April 29, 30 and May 1, and the start of yard waste pickup will be announced in the future.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Robert Bowman to approve Appropriating Ordinance #6. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor: _____
James L. Miller