

February 19, 2020

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, February 19, 2020, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jerry Jones presiding. Council members present were Gerald Jones, Donna Foley, Ron Briery, Dean Liddle, Dennis Gilhousen, and Robert Bowman. Others present were Dave Cuthbertson, Curtis Eveleigh, Gary Lacy, Kevin Lacy, John Milnes, Jim Miller, Jeff and Lynette Jones, Kyle and Tosha Kats, Tim Miller, Greg and Darla Engel, Kenneth Anderson II, Gavin Lively, Donna Liddle, Reva Benien, Cameron Archer, Kyle Jones, Jody Enfield, Gerry Cullumber, Karen Griffiths, James Moreau, and Darla Ellis.

Gerald Jones clarified that he had inquired about the hospital signs at the February 5 council meeting, rather than the radar signs, as reflected in the proposed minutes. Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Dean Liddle to approve the corrected minutes for the February 5, 2020 city council meeting, with the correction regarding the signs. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Dave Cuthbertson was present to follow up on his discussion with the city council in December, regarding the drainage issue at the Western Pest Control building. He stated they have not had any communication from the City regarding this matter. James Moreau stated the City took their potholer up and determined the phone utility line is only 2'8" deep, which does not meet KDOT's minimum cover requirements for buried utility lines. He stated if any work is going to be done, AT&T would need to be contacted to move their line to a deeper depth, or at least be present while dirt is being moved. The property owner would need to get a permit from KDOT to proceed.

Curtis Eveleigh was present to discuss the City's membership requirements of the Planning Commission. He stated another individual was appointed in his place at the last council meeting, and that person does not meet the qualifications since he does not live outside the city limits. According to 16-102 of the Norton City Code, two members of the commission shall reside outside of the City limits but within three miles of the corporate limits of the City. Mayor Jones said he would give the existing members 60 days to prepare a letter of interest and submit it to him.

Gary Lacy was present to ask about the City's plans for annexation which was mentioned at the last city council meeting. He had several questions and stated most of the visitors present at the meeting were also concerned. He asked what the reason was for annexation and what area is being considered. Greg Engel asked how agricultural use of property would be handled if it is annexed into the City. Mayor Jones stated the Annexation Committee will have their first meeting on February 24 at 4:00 p.m., for initial discussions to research the process for annexation and whether it is feasible to proceed. Karen Griffiths stated there are specific regulations which must be followed in the process and those rules will be discussed and reviewed.

Gerald Jones stated he felt that the committee which was appointed at the last meeting was at a disadvantage, because it was the first time he had heard about it and he felt there was already a predetermined outcome of annexation. He said he tries to look at things objectively and he wants everything to be up front. Dennis Gilhousen stated he was appointed to the committee and does not have any forgone conclusion of what is going to happen. Initial discussions will take place at the meeting on February 24, and then the committee will decide whether to proceed with further discussion. Dean Liddle stated annexation is not an easy process and it cannot happen overnight. He does not know what the process entails and it will be an educational process to learn what it involves. He stated there are many people affected by this topic and it is the council's job to listen to public concern and weigh everything to decide whether to proceed. Everyone was invited to attend the meeting on February 24.

Fire Chief Cameron Archer stated he has an application for an individual interested in being a Fireman for the Volunteer Fire Department. He also stated he will be demonstrating rescue equipment which was included in the 2020 Budget.

Donna Liddle stated she brought copies of the 2019 annual report of the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce and Travel & Tourism. Dennis Gilhousen commended the Chamber on the Annual Banquet and said they did a great job. Mayor Jones said he appreciated the city representatives who attended.

Karen Griffiths reported a few changes were made on the deed for the dog park and it was sent back to the owner for review. She stated she would like to meet with the Parks Committee again to see if they want to go forward with the Dog Park plan. She also wants to discuss the trail issue with the committee to decide whether to accept the deed for the proposed trail area.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Robert Bowman to adopt Resolution 5-2020, amending the residency requirements in the Employee Handbook. It allows exceptions to the residency requirement when an available qualified candidate for a specialty position lives outside of Norton County. Such exceptions must be approved by the City Council on a case by case basis. Vote taken. Motion carried.

City Administrator James Moreau introduced Kenneth Anderson II, who was recently hired as the Assistant Water/Wastewater Plant Supervisor and stated he is doing a good job. He stated Gavin Lively

who was recently hired as a lineman was also present earlier, but had to leave. James stated he is working with the department supervisors to develop a 2020 schedule of projects, and should be ready to have a planning session with the council in the near future. The hospital signs are ordered and will be installed upon delivery. The City is still waiting to receive notice of grant funding for the radar signs and should get notice by the end of the month.

Motion was made by Gerald Jones and seconded by Robert Bowman to authorize the purchase of a 2003 Ford F-350 truck with utility box from Gary Gross Truck and Accessories in Lincoln, Nebraska, at a cost of \$16,500 for the water/wastewater plant. James Moreau stated \$25,000 was budgeted for a used vehicle for this department. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Donna Foley stated the Parks Committee met with Reva Benien of Norton Pride and was presented with a grant of \$18,474.44 from the Norton County Community Foundation, provided by Dane G. Hansen Foundation Community Grant Fund for Norton County. The grant funds will be used toward the purchase of new playground equipment for Pool Park and the City staked out the area for the new equipment. The Parks Committee also met with Keith VanSike and will be installing 26 bat houses in the parks. The committee discussed Tree USA, which will help cities plan for future needs of trees and will send an Arborist to come look at our trees and make recommendations. Service Learning Day was also discussed.

Ron Briery asked if improvements could be made to West Lincoln Street to fix the drainage somehow. James stated the drainage is a problem and he has some ideas on how to improve it.

Dean Liddle reported he was unable to attend the most recent commission meeting. Ron Briery reported the Airport Board met with the contractor regarding concerns of the striping and joint sealing on the runway. There is a guarantee in place so the contractor will look at it in six months and redo it if it is not adequate.

Motion was made by Dean Liddle and seconded by Ron Briery to waive the formal first reading of Ordinance #1728, increasing Municipal Court costs. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Dean Liddle stated the Public Safety Committee discussed a list of structural abatements for 2020, and will meet with the Code Inspector on March 2 to discuss the list further.

Dennis Gilhousen stated the Finance Committee reviewed the League of Municipality's salary survey and asked the City Administrator and City Clerk to review the survey and make a specific recommendation to the committee of which positions need adjusted on the City's pay scale.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to approve the following 2019 utility write-offs and have the City Attorney proceed with the collection process, with the collection fee being assessed as an additional cost as authorized by Ordinance #1700:

2019 UTILITY WRITE-OFFS

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Acct. #</i>	<i>Service Address</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1.	Acheson, Sommer	3-25	104 Case	No forward	393.11
2.	Allen, Jessica	8-180	505 N. First	No forward	259.63
3.	Anderson, Joe	5-1283	407 W. Lincoln	No forward	957.82
4.	Ball, Rebecca	9-957	404 W. Crane Apt. 4	Deceased	228.65
5.	Boss, Jennifer	7-54	112 N. Wabash Apt. 4	No forward	96.27
6.	Bremmer, Kristen	4-845	310 N. Grant	No forward	91.74
7.	Brigman, Amanda	6-1273	807 N. Norton	No forward	430.94
8.	Brown, Owen	7-752	1007 Echo Acres	Read out 08-27-19	480.30
9.	Carlton, Nancy	8-1284	309 W. Wilton	Read out 03-13-19	2,175.91
10.	Couch, Josh	4-336	304 N. First	Read out 09-23-19	115.39
11.	Chavez, Ashley	11-1083	309 W. Holme Lot 7	Read out 07-08-19	309.70
12.	Daniels, Nick	3-21	104 Case	Read out 09-12-19	76.78
13.	Davenport, Jordan	13-527	1001A Kennedy	Read out 07-09-19	120.77
14.	Davis, John	5-1113	331 W. Lincoln	No forward	1,458.20
15.	Engelhardt, Carolyn	13-1334	1003B Ryan Circle	Read out 07-09-19	531.23
16.	Fuemmeler, Briana	5-982	314 ½ W. Lincoln	Read out 06-27-19	85.28
17.	Gomez, Medardo	2-1015	203 W. Washington Apt. 5	Read out 05-13-19	114.32
18.	Gosselin, Louisa	8-612	606 N. Second	Read out 04-15-19	58.15
19.	Horeksy, Andrew	6-731	303 N. Norton	Read out 04-11-19	146.50
20.	Hutchison, Sean	9-1169	608 W. Crane	Read out 11-20-19	160.77
21.	Jameson, Edgar	9-570	1007 Eisenhower	Read out 08-05-19	628.25
22.	Juarez, Benjamin	5-1643	709 W. Waverly	No forward	10.13
23.	Jurgonski, Kelsie	2-272	316 S. First	Read out 06-28-19	55.24
24.	Lehmann, Greg	13-1372	1005B Ryan Circle	Read out 06-03-19	705.70
25.	Linde, Cecelia	3-992	615 W. Washington	No forward	360.41
26.	Loftus, Michael	2-414	434 ½ S. First	No forward	93.63
27.	McMullen, Brad	13-1432	1008B Ryan Circle	Read out 01-09-19	578.22
28.	Meier, Curtis	1-370	107 S. Wabash	Read out 08-07-19	159.94

29.	Prochaska, Dalyon	5-671	305 West	Read out 03-18-19	403.69
30.	Riley, Pam	7-1570	501 E. Wilton	Read out 01-08-19	215.96
31.	Ruiz, Shane	2-1164	411 W. Washington	No forward	687.78
32.	Ruth, Troy	3-664	407 W. Main	Read out 09-25-19	711.65
33.	Sandmann, Chris	6-564	313 N. Kansas	Read out 11-01-19	476.18
34.	Schoby, Jamy	6-1193	710 N. Norton Apt. 1	No forward	7.06
35.	Shinn, Sharrelle	7-726	1004 Echo Acres	Read out 08-15-19	400.99
36.	Spray, Chloe	13-582	1003B Kennedy	No forward	317.85
37.	Stenka, Jacob	8-173	502 N. First	Read out 07-29-19	295.09
38.	Stone, Jessica	5-131	112 N. Graves	Read out 03-05-19	388.09
39.	Sunblade, Nathan	13-530	1001B Kennedy	In jail	516.23
40.	Vogelgesang, Dalton	9-943	404 W. Crane Apt. 2	Read out 06-25-19	56.00
TOTAL UTILITY					15,359.55
1.	Carlton, Nancy	Weed abatement in 2019 @ 309 W. Wilton – property given to City Land Bank			516.25
2.	Hoft, Amy	Weed abatement in 2019 @ 410 S. Second – assessed in 2019			276.20
3.	Stacy, Thomas	Property abatement in 2018 @ 406 S. Second – property given to City Land Bank			2,400.25
GRAND TOTAL					18,552.25

Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to suspend the rules and waive the three-reading requirement for Ordinance #1729. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to adopt Ordinance #1729, an ordinance authorizing and providing for the codification of the general ordinances of the City of Norton, Kansas, and the publication of such codification in loose-leaf book form.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to waive the formal first reading of Ordinance #1730, adopting the codification of Ordinances of the City of Norton, Kansas, authorized by Ordinance #1729, 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.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to approve Appropriating Ordinance #4 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

ATTEST: _____

MAYOR

City Clerk

Jerry Jones