

April 20, 2016

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, April 20, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen, Gary Lacy and Ron Briery. Jeff Urban and Chriss McDiffett were absent. Others present were Bob Neff, Mark Weiser, Cindy Wegener, Jerry Hawks, Robert Bowman, Dana Paxton, Cameron Archer, Jamie Amlong, Dan Bainter, Steve Cole, Ron Ridley, Karen Griffiths, Chad Buckley and Darla Ellis.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve the April 6, 2016, council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

<i>Russ Frack (Ag One)</i>	<i>\$ 8,500.00</i>	<i>Commercial addition and metal roof at 711 N. State Street</i>
<i>Justin Baker</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>	<i>Demolish south porch at 613 W. North Street</i>
<i>Dalene Horton</i>	<i>\$14,000.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 312 N. Second Street</i>
<i>Kim Largent</i>	<i>\$ 6,500.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 505 N. Jones Street</i>
<i>Joe Wray</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>	<i>Demolish garage at 102 S. Brown</i>
<i>Mike Richard</i>	<i>\$ 1,000.00</i>	<i>Demolish dwelling at 403 W. Waverly</i>
<i>Matt Wyatt</i>	<i>\$15,000.00</i>	<i>Permit renewal for construction of garage at 605 W. Waverly</i>
<i>Mike Vincent</i>	<i>\$ 7,000.00</i>	<i>Curb cuts at 808 Middle Street</i>
<i>USD 211</i>	<i>\$7,500,000</i>	<i>Additions to Jr High & Sr High Schools at 706 N. Jones and addition to Eisenhower School at 1100 Eisenhower Drive</i>

Bob Neff was present to request the City's assistance with the drag races, as the City has done in the past. He stated the car show is July 9 and they want to have the drag races again. He stated the airport property will need to be mowed prior to, and bleachers and trash cans moved to the event. In the past, the police department has also ran radar during the races. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to provide assistance for the drag races on July 9. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Mark Weiser was present on behalf of the Norton Horse Council; he stated they have been using someone's crow's nest, but they would like to build a new announcer's stand next to the horse arena in Elmwood Park, and they are requesting the City's permission. Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to permit the Horse Council to build their two-level announcer stand next to the horse arena in Elmwood Park, provided all of the state and city requirements are met. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Cameron Archer stated he talked to Chad about a burn ban, but then the City got a much needed rain. He stated he is worried about the open flame fire pits and burning ditches. Karen Griffiths stated a fire pit must have a screen on it under current ordinance, even if a burn ban is not in place. Cameron stated if it would dry up again, he will ask the council to enact a burn ban.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to waive the formal second reading of Ordinance #1685, amending Chapter 16 of the City Code pertaining to zoning regulations and the Board of Zoning Appeals, within the City of Norton. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Mayor Miller reported the City has two Directors and one Alternate Director for the KMEA Board of Directors. He stated he would like to appoint the following people to these positions: City Administrator Chad Buckley as Director 1; Mayor Jim Miller as Director 2; Electric Distribution Supervisor Dan Sisk as Alternate Director. Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve the appointments. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Mayor Miller stated last year in July, the fireworks ordinance was referred to the Public Safety committee for discussion and review. This has not been done, and July 4 is rapidly approaching. The Committee will address the concerns after this July 4 holiday.

Chief of Police Ron Ridley stated the open positions in the Police Department have been advertised. The police officer position is very competitive; there are about 25 open positions in the State of Kansas right now. He has not had any interest in the Police Clerk position. City Administrator Chad Buckley asked if the Finance Committee would like to meet to discuss possibly combining the Police Clerk and Court Clerk positions. Jerry Hawks stated he had hoped to get someone in the Court Clerk position sooner so there would be a chance for training while the existing Court Clerk is still here. He stated the City has to be very careful to separate judicial and legislative powers. Jerry Hawks and Ron Ridley were invited to attend a Finance Committee meeting on April 21 at 4:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Gary Lacy and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve the bid of \$10,351 from McFarland Cascade for a truck load of 40 utility poles, to replenish the city's inventory. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Chad Buckley reported the Highway 36 geometric improvement project is underway. The two north lanes of traffic have been milled off from the concrete west of the traffic light to West Street. A utility pole southwest of Sonic will need to be moved for the project.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to approve Ted Hadley's request for 50 feet of sidewalk replacement at 607 N. Jones. The City will provide the labor and the property owner is responsible for the cost of materials. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Chad Buckley reported the City-wide cleanup has taken place the last three days. They will start on tree limbs and yard waste tomorrow. A group of students helped with planting around the pool area as part of service learning day. Dennis Gilhousen commended the Administrator for his supervision and assistance at the pool. Several other service learning groups helped in other areas for the City as well.

Motion was made by Gary Lacy and seconded by Ron Briery to approve the transformer project through Prairie Land Electric at the Rhodes Substation south of Norton. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Jerry Jones stated the City has some broken pieces of concrete on State Street and other areas that need picked up. He also stated he is getting many complaints about the traffic light. He asked if the construction company is paying for the water they are getting from a hydrant for the highway project; Dan Bainter will check tomorrow to make sure they are only filling up at the hydrants which have a meter on them.

City Clerk Darla Ellis reported she has received a letter of resignation from Christina Land, and requested permission to advertise for the Clerk II position. Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to authorize staff to advertise for the Clerk II position. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Gary Lacy to move into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m., to include the Mayor, Council, City Attorney, City Administrator and City Clerk to discuss non-elected personnel for 30 minutes. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Council resumed in regular session at 6:31 p.m. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to return to Executive Session at 6:31 p.m., to include the Mayor, Council, City Attorney, City Administrator and City Clerk, to discuss non-elected personnel for 15 minutes. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Council resumed in regular session at 6:46 p.m. No motions were made as a result of Executive Session.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve Appropriating Ordinance #8 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor: _____
James L. Miller