

## February 17, 2016

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, February 17, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Jeff Urban, Chriss McDiffett, Gary Lacy and Ron Briery. Others present were Tara Vance, Roberta Ryan, David Cressler, Robert Bowman, Steve Cole, Dana Paxton, Ron Ridley, Karen Griffiths, Chad Buckley and Darla Ellis.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve the February 3, 2016, council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

Mark Griffin - \$7,500 - Re-roofing structure at 607 N. Grant

Warren Bullock - \$7,300 – Re-roofing structure at 506 N. Brown

Mayor Miller presented a plaque of appreciation to Roberta Ryan for her years of service from April 29, 2009 to February 1, 2016 as a Council Member of Ward 2. Roberta encouraged the Mayor and Council to attend the upcoming Chamber Banquet.

David Cressler stated he would like to have a music event on March 19 in the Livestock Barn or Elmwood Park Speedway. City Attorney Karen Griffiths stated if the Livestock Barn is used, there is a fee of \$25 per day and he will need to provide proof of insurance. If the Elmwood Park Speedway is used, there is a head tax per person and proof of insurance will be needed.

Tara Vance was present to give an update on the Norton County Community Foundation. She stated about a year ago a county-wide strategic planning session was held and 8 core areas were designated to focus on. She reviewed the accomplishments over the last year in each of those areas. She thanked City Administrator Chad Buckley for his support and stated much of their success is due to cooperation from the City.

Mayor Miller recommended the appointment of Dennis Gilhousen to fill the city council seat in Ward 2, vacated by Roberta Ryan. Motion was made by Chriss McDiffett and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve the appointment of Dennis Gilhousen, to fill the term which will be up for election in November of 2017. Mayor Miller stated Dennis will be unable to attend the next council meeting. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Mayor Miller stated this year when budgets are presented, we would like to have a representative from each organization present their budget to the City Council. This would include Economic Development, Travel and Tourism, the Norton Public Library and the City/County Airport.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to adopt Resolution #4-2016, in opposition to legislation advancing the date of the property tax lid; and in support of legislation to repeal said lid; or amendments to the current lid allowing adequate time for a vote of the city elections. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Ron Ridley stated the 800 MHz radios were delivered today and he will be working with Sheriff Thompson to get changes made to the console so they will be functioning soon.

Chad Buckley reported the new trash truck was delivered Friday and will be put in service soon. Concrete is being poured for the new parks building in Elmwood Park. A water main break occurred on Monday and was repaired. An electrical update for Love's is being worked on. Interviews for a third electrical lineman position are being conducted. Motion was made by Gary Lacy and seconded by Chriss McDuffett to hire an additional lineman at pay range 12-A, which is \$17.559 per hour. Vote taken. Motion carried 4-1 with Jeff Urban voting no.

Chad Buckley stated Dustin Pfannenstiel has submitted an application for water services to a new residence outside the City limits and has signed a consent to annexation. The Utility Committee will meet Tuesday at 4 p.m. to discuss this request. Chad also reported he and Scott Sproul visited with Buck Driggs regarding an estimate he prepared for extending Reagan Street in order to serve four more lots for housing.

Chad Buckley asked if the Personnel Committee could meet to discuss a written policy on how employees are paid if the city is closed due to a severe storm or other disaster. Discussion was held regarding how the recent snow storm was handled. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Chriss McDuffett to support the City Administrator's decision on how to pay employees who helped with snow removal during the recent snow storm when the City Office was closed. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to approve a \$150 donation to Norton Post Prom to be paid from line item 16.16.283. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gary Lacy and seconded by Jerry Jones to hire Jill Lively as the Pool Manager for the 2016 season, at the same rate of pay as last season. Vote taken. Motion carried.

There have been considerations of having the pool concessions handled differently this year. This will be discussed in further detail before a decision is made.

Motion was made by Jeff Urban and seconded by Jerry Jones to waive the formal first reading of Charter Ordinance #18, exempting the City from the provisions of K.S.A. 14-201, relating to the appointment of the position of Chief of Police, amending the Norton City Code 1-301, and providing substitute and additional provisions on the same subject. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Jeff Urban stated the Parks Committee met with Don Bolt and he is interested in having a race during the Norton County fair, but doesn't know if he will be scheduling any other races for the 2016 season.

Chriss McDuffett stated the Public Works Committee discussed hand railing on the 100 block of S. Kansas and by the building at 109 E. Main. The Airport Board met and discussed the proposed lease agreements.

Gary Lacy thanked those who voted for the additional lineman position. He stated the Utility Committee is discussing upgrades to the Rhodes Substation and plan to have more information to present at the next council meeting.

Motion was made by Chriss McDuffett and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve Appropriating Ordinance #4. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jeff Urban to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_  
James L. Miller