

July 6, 2016

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, July 6, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen, Chriss McDiffett, Gary Lacy and Ron Briery. Jeff Urban was absent. Others present were Thaniel Monaco, Corina Cox, Noe Musquiz, Robert Bowman, Lisa Herman, Cameron Archer, Jamie Amlong, Jeff Wolf, Jerry Hawks, Ron Ridley, Karen Griffiths, Chad Buckley and Darla Ellis.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to approve the June 15, 2016, council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits and sidewalk replacement requests were presented:

<i>Eric Glenn</i>	<i>\$ 3,500</i>	<i>Roofing/Reroofing at 406 N. Graves</i>
<i>Andrew Enfield</i>	<i>\$ 1,500</i>	<i>Roofing/Reroofing at 703 N. Wabash</i>
<i>Francois Marais</i>	<i>\$30,000</i>	<i>Roofing/Reroofing (and railing of house) at 322 S. State St.</i>
<i>Olin Sprague</i>	<i>\$ 3,500</i>	<i>Reroofing at 311 N. Jones</i>
<i>Ray Colligan</i>	<i>\$11,000</i>	<i>Reroofing at 309 W. Main</i>
<i>Megan Kendell</i>	<i>\$ 9,000</i>	<i>Reroofing at 501 E. Lincoln</i>
<i>Corey Roy</i>	<i>\$ 5,000</i>	<i>Reroofing at 16345 E. Hwy 36</i>
<i>Joann Wolf</i>	<i>\$ 4,400</i>	<i>Reroofing at 307 N. Jones</i>
<i>Carolyn Foskuhl</i>		<i>Sidewalk replacement request at 306 N. Graves</i>

Jamie Amlong stated all of the state water tests have been taken in the city's water distribution system and passed the state requirements. He thinks the City will save over \$30,000 annually in chemical costs with the water treatment changes, and has received good feedback from the public regarding the water quality.

Noe Musquiz thanked the City for the use of the ball fields and having the welcome flags out for the recent baseball tournament. There were 14 teams with 170 youth participating; he hopes it is even bigger next year. He had compliments from the participating teams regarding how nice the town looked and how well the tournament was ran. Dennis Gilhousen stated it was a very organized tournament. Noe stated Steve and Joan from the Recreation Commission helped him with it quite a bit. Noe left the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

Thaniel Monaco of BG Consultants was present to review the status of the CDBG street project. A few changes will be needed to coordinate the project with the Love's project. There will be new sidewalk on the south side of Crane Street which will extend to the daycare driveway. From that point on, there will only be a few patch spots for sidewalk. The location of the sidewalk was discussed; Thaniel will see what can be done regarding moving the sidewalk off the curb, and report to Chad. Corina will need to know if it is not in the city easement. Thaniel reviewed the modifications to be made, and hopes they can start advertising for bids next week. He will work with Chad and Corina to proceed. He will include an earliest start date of mid-September, a latest start date of March 1, 2017, and a substantially complete date of August 1, 2017. The project needs to be done by January of 2018 according to the contract.

Thaniel also met with Dan Sisk this afternoon regarding the proposed electrical project. He is working with their electrical engineer to get a scope of work sent to Corina by tomorrow, to make sure it qualifies as an eligible project. He knows the City already spent a lot of money on an electrical study, but said he thinks it will cost \$5,000-\$7,000 for BG Consultants to do the preliminary engineering report required for the grant application. Corina stated she will need the number of residential customers outside the city limits who are served by the electrical system, and they will need to be surveyed. The grant application for the electrical project must be submitted by November 1. Thaniel and Corina left the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

Karen Griffiths reported hearings regarding the properties located at 615 E. Lincoln and 433 S. First Street were scheduled for tonight at 5:45 and 6:00 p.m. respectfully. The notice of hearings were not published and so the hearings will be continued to a later date and time. The property at 433 S. First Street was owned by Allen Taylor, who is recently deceased. Karen has been in contact with an attorney who is working on the estate, and the hearing will be set at the next meeting.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to adopt Resolution #11-2016, fixing the time and place and providing for notice of a hearing on August 17th, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. before the governing body of the City, at which the owner, his or her agent, lienholders of record, occupants and other parties in interest of structures located at 615 E. Lincoln may appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished as an unsafe or dangerous structure. Vote taken. Motion carried 4-0 with Jerry Jones abstaining from the vote.

Code Inspector Jeff Wolf was present to request that the Council proceed with the abatement process on the property located at 208 E. Woodsfield, owned by Rich Estes. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to have the City Attorney prepare a Resolution setting a hearing on the property located at 208 E. Woodsfield. Vote taken. Motion carried.

City Attorney Karen Griffiths discussed an ordinance amending the Fire Insurance Proceeds fund to include other disasters besides fires. Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to waive the formal first reading of Ordinance #1688, repealing Sections 7-401 through 7-408 concerning fire insurance proceeds funds for the City of Norton, and adopting in its place certain insurance proceeds funds, within the City of Norton. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Chief of Police Ron Ridley reported on a change in law affecting the Kansas Open Records Act effective July 1 on personally owned devices. The Police Department has migrated everyone to a public email domain for all police officers, so communication regarding cases can be directed to those official emails rather than any personal emails. He stated this issue needs more discussion at Public Safety Committee to consider moving from personal cell phones for communication and documentation, to department owned cell phones. Jerry Jones asked Chief Ridley to put information together regarding who would need a city cell phone and an estimate of the cost for the Public Safety Committee to review.

Chief Ridley also said he has heard concerns and received a petition from residents around Tweed Park, requesting a curfew because of illegal activity taking place in the park. He stated this is not just a problem at Tweed Park, but throughout the City. He asked the Public Safety Committee to discuss this issue also.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to offer the position of Police/Court Clerk to Crystal Richard at a starting pay range of 3-B. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to hire Amanda Dreher at a starting pay range of 9-D for the Norton Police Department. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to hire Brock Blackstone as a Police Officer II at a starting pay range of 11-A. He is a KLETC certified officer. Vote taken. Motion carried.

City Administrator Chad Buckley reported a private donor has contributed a bronze statue for the enjoyment of the entire community. The donor would like it displayed in a prominent area, and the library is their preferred location. Shawn Gosselin would pour concrete for a base around it, and they would like to have it dedicated on July 24, 2016. Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to have Chad work with the donor and the Library to complete this project. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Chad Buckley reported the Finance Committee reviewed the fire department and water department budget requests for 2017. They will meet again on July 11 to review the police department budget requests.

City Administrator Chad Buckley reported he has a sales agreement for natural gas services with Jeff Younger of Secure Energy Consulting, Inc. Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve a one year agreement with Secure Energy Consulting, Inc. for natural gas sales, effective August 1, 2016. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Chad Buckley stated he has an estimate for the development of Ryan Addition, and asked the Public Works Committee to discuss it. He reported the Public Works crew fixed a water main break this morning on Wabash Street. Chriss McDuffett asked if the City should look at replacing that line, as there have been several breaks there in the past few years. He reminded everyone of the upcoming Norton Car Show.

Municipal Judge Jerry Hawks asked if the Public Safety Committee could discuss the training of the new court clerk. He stated it will be expensive, but it needs to be done. He left the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Chriss McDuffett stated there are concerns regarding the drainage at the Almema State Bank project on East Highway 36. Motion was made by Chriss McDuffett and seconded by Ron Briery that the City notify Almema State Bank that they are not to proceed with their building project on Highway 36, until they obtain an engineering study from a licensed engineering firm regarding the drainage along Wilmington Street, at their expense. This is in accordance with Section 13-206 of the Norton City Code, which states "no person shall change or alter any gutter, storm sewer, drain or drainage structure which has been constructed, or is lawfully maintained or controlled by the City unless such change or alteration is authorized or directed by the governing body." Indoor work could proceed but nothing outside should be done to further affect the drainage. Vote taken. Motion failed 2-3 with Chriss McDuffett and Ron Briery voting yes, and Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen and Gary Lacy voting no.

Chad Buckley, Gary Lacy, Dennis Gilhousen and Chriss McDuffett will meet with Shad Chandler, Scott Evans and Bob Hawks to try to work out the drainage concerns at the building location on Highway 36. Chad stated he has notified Scott Evans to delay proceeding with any work that would affect the drainage.

Motion was made by Gary Lacy and seconded by Jerry Jones to offer the position of Water/Wastewater Plant Operator to William Steck at a starting pay range of 9-A. He will begin employment on July 12. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Gary Lacy stated the basements for the new construction in Ryan Addition are open and anyone can walk in. Jeff Wolf stated he will notify Wes Bainter that fencing needs to be put up to make the site safe.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve the Norton American Legion's use of the grandstand booth in Elmwood Park for consumption of cereal malt beverages from July 26-30, 2016, as per Section 3-

103(e) of the Norton City Code, and to approve their cereal malt beverage special event license for consumption on the premises at a confined beer garden at the grandstand booth in Elmwood Park during the 2016 Norton County Fair. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to approve Appropriating Ordinance #13. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor: _____
James L. Miller