

June 1, 2016

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, June 1, 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. Dennis Gilhousen was absent. Others present were Vicki Hubin, Tim Amundson, Tom Lasser, Robert Bowman, Lisa Herman, Jamie Amlong, Ron Ridley, Karen Griffiths, Chad Buckley and Darla Ellis.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve the May 18, 2016, council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

<i>The Haven</i>	<i>\$30,000.00</i>	<i>Commercial remodel at 813 N. Grant</i>
<i>Ron Anderson</i>	<i>\$ 4,500.00</i>	<i>Construct garage at 504 N. Brown</i>
<i>Michael Richards</i>	<i>\$31,000.00</i>	<i>Construct garage at 403 W. Waverly</i>
<i>Eric Glenn</i>	<i>\$ 300.00</i>	<i>Install accessory building at 406 N. Graves</i>
<i>Charlotte Hartman</i>	<i>\$ 1,500.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 411 N. First</i>
<i>Kay Lebeau</i>	<i>\$12,700.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 1108 N. Wabash</i>
<i>Devaney Wells</i>	<i>\$ 4,000.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 709 N. First</i>
<i>Gregg Wicker</i>	<i>\$12,000.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 408 N. First</i>
<i>Rick Keenan</i>	<i>\$11,000.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 404 W. Waverly</i>
<i>George Jones</i>	<i>\$13,000.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 414 E. Wilton</i>
<i>Paul Gibson</i>	<i>\$18,202.50</i>	<i>Reroofing at 312 Warsaw</i>
<i>William Spradling</i>	<i>\$ 6,501.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 337 W. Lincoln</i>
<i>Delma Lee</i>	<i>\$16,000.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 409 N. First</i>
<i>Carla Griffin</i>	<i>\$ 9,285.68</i>	<i>Reroofing at 609 N. Norton</i>
<i>Steve Reedy</i>	<i>\$10,140.70</i>	<i>Reroofing at 311 W. Waverly</i>
<i>Don Pharis</i>	<i>\$ 7,660.60</i>	<i>Reroofing at 1007 W. Wilton</i>
<i>Gale Schulze</i>	<i>\$35,000.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 603 E. Main</i>
<i>Mick Miller</i>	<i>\$23,430.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 119 S. First</i>
<i>Edward Fowler</i>	<i>\$ 7,500.00</i>	<i>Reroofing at 313 N. Grant</i>

The following sidewalk replacement requests were presented:

<i>Pat Brooks</i>	<i>Replace 50' of sidewalk at 401 E. Lincoln</i>
<i>Norton Christian Church</i>	<i>Replace 10' of sidewalk on east side at 209 N. Kansas Ave.; Replace 23' x 8' of sidewalk on west side and 30' x 5' in street area on west side</i>

Vicki Hubin of Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center was present to explain the services which they offer. Their mission is to heal the trauma of child abuse to children and families through prevention, support and services. They had a total of 414 cases last year, with 5 cases in Norton County. They receive funding from cities, counties and private donations, and she is hopeful the City will be able to contribute something to help them continue to serve the area. The Finance Committee will review the budget and consider their request. Vicki thanked the council and left the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

Jamie Amlong was present to discuss a chemical change at the water plant which could save about \$30,000 a year in chemicals and greatly enhance the water quality. Tom Lasser of Hawkins Water Treatment Group stated they have a pre-filtration process which will greatly reduce the turbidity, increase the quality of water and save money. They have contacted KDHE and KRWA regarding the chemistry change. They are testing at the plant today and they will review the testing results with KDHE and KRWA. Then they will notify the City whether the change can be made which would eliminate the ferric, caustic and polymer chemicals.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Jeff Urban to approve Mayor Miller's re-appointment of Mike Posson to the City/County Economic Development Board at large position. This will be an extension of his current term until the new appointments in February of 2017. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Karen Griffiths stated she would like to set up a City Facebook page which would be used for informational and notification purposes. It would be set up so no comments could be made on it but announcements could be posted. Karen stated she would work on this at no charge, and council agreed to allow her to proceed.

Chief Ron Ridley stated he has received some applications for the Police Officer position and has completed some interviews. He also has some interviews scheduled for next week as well.

City Administrator Chad Buckley reported Tara Vance and Abby Rice would like to start a "little lending library" and have receptacles available in various places throughout Norton including the Norton Aquatic Center. Gary Lacy asked who would be monitoring the books that are available.

Chad stated the Highway 36 project is progressing. Second Street is now open and Smoky Hill is getting ready for another pour on the highway. He reported a water main break in State Street resulted in water being off Saturday while repairs were made. Tuesday morning there was another water main break in the 900 block of North Norton which had to be fixed. Today, water stoppers made two stops to allow a 12" valve to be installed. A new 2" water service will be bored under State Street to restore service to Washington Square. The Public Works crew would like to thank Cheryl Roberts and Don McClelland for providing water and Greg Arehart for providing sandwiches to the crew while they worked on the leak over the weekend. The City would like to thank employees Dan Bainter, Richard McKenna, Jan Maley, Jamie Amlong, Drew Eagleburger, Barry Madden, John Carlin and Ed Lively for their work over the weekend.

Chad reported a 3-year employment contract has been drawn up with Chief of Police Ron Ridley, from July 1st, 2016, through June 30th, 2019. The Finance Committee will meet to review the contract and bring a recommendation back to council.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to promote Jamie Amlong to the Water/Wastewater Supervisor position at a pay range of 15-B. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Ron Briery to promote Joyce Garrison to the Assistant Water/Wastewater Supervisor position at a pay range of 13-E. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Gary Lacy to authorize staff to advertise for a Water/Wastewater Plant Operator position. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Chad Buckley reported the City's Nex-Generation Intern for this summer is Will Ellis. He started work today and attended the orientation at Nex-Tech in Lenora with Code Inspector Jeff Wolf.

Keli Habiger is the new Economic Development Director and will be at the next council meeting to be introduced. Chamber Director Darla Beasley is still looking for volunteers on Sunday, June 5 for Biking Across Kansas. The bikers are expected to be in Norton from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Chamber's phone number is 877-2501 if anyone would like to volunteer.

Jeff Urban said a pit bull in the Prairie Hill's Apartment complex area has been a problem in the past, and was impounded again this weekend for an attack. He said the owners have agreed to surrender it to the City and he wants the Animal Control Officer to have some backing on this issue.

City Clerk Darla Ellis reported she will begin working on the 2017 budget soon and supervisors are to complete their capital expense requests by June 6. The requests will need to be reviewed by the appropriate committee and a recommendation made regarding approval.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to approve Appropriating Ordinance #11 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor: _____
James L. Miller