

Minutes  
City Council  
May 1, 2017

The City Council of the City of Tecumseh, Nebraska, met in regular session in the Utilities Conference Room at the Utility Shop on the 1st day of May 1, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., in a publicly convened session, the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advance publicized notice, a copy of the same being annexed to the minutes of the meeting as Attachment #1, said attachment showing how the availability of an agenda of then known subjects was communicated and the time and specific place of the holding of this notice, the same having been transmitted to each Council Member simultaneously. The Mayor presided and the City Clerk recorded the proceedings.

**Routine Business**

The following Council Members were present: Renee Carter, Travis Goracke, Jesse Grof, and Jim Reed. Absent: Kim Jansen, Jim Philippi. Others present: 3 Staff, City Attorney, 1 media outlet, and 10 members of the public.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Montz read a statement of availability of current copy of Open Meeting Act.

Additions or Corrections to Agenda – None.

Public Comment – No public comment received.

**Regular Agenda**

Johnson County Sheriff Report – Received monthly report. Presentation/request for contribution for drug dog/vehicle, equipment. Officers presented information about the pending canine unit start up costs and what benefits the unit would bring to the community and area. They asked for a one-time contribution of \$35,000 for the SUV they need for the unit. They have contributions from the county for the cost of the dog plus on-going training and overtime costs. Other businesses will be donating vet services and food for the dog. Motion by Carter, second by Goracke to contribute \$35,000 towards the SUV for the program startup costs. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried.

**City Clerk Report**

- a. Committee Meeting Report - A summary of committee meeting actions was provided in the council packets.
- b. Clean-up Day Report – 2 free dumpsters were utilized on the clean-up day. No additional dumpsters were needed.

Street Department Report - Doug Goracke gave the report. Casey Bohling passed his Grade III Water Certification exam. The north water tower (prison) will be painted this month. Staff assisted Olsson Associates with continued GIS mapping of utilities. Ken Fairchild of Olsson

Associates visited with staff regarding electric infrastructure projects. Staff installed a new switch at the Legion ballfield. The old service was torn out at the hospital. The Board of Public Works approved a contract for engineering services for electrical system upgrades. The board also reviewed some preliminary bond quotes for possible electric upgrade projects – no decisions about financing will be made until bids are received. The board is also considering a 3-4% electric rate increase – action will be taken at their June meeting. Also approved the purchase of a mosquito mist blower.

Economic Development Report – Doug Goracke gave the report. Reported that LB518 regarding Workforce Housing looks like it will pass in the Legislature. We will need to update our housing plan and comprehensive plan to be eligible for these funds – which may not be available until 2020.

Utility Department Report – Doug Goracke gave the report. Casey Bohling passed his Grade III Water Certification exam. The prison water tower will be painted soon. GIS mapping of utilities is ongoing. Ken Fairchild from Olsson Associates has been reviewing our electric system infrastructure. The old electric service was taken out at the hospital. Approved a \$126,700 agreement with Olsson Associates for Electrical Infrastructure upgrade engineering & design services. Reviewed draft bond figures for these potential electric infrastructure projects. Discussed an electric rate increase of 3-4% now and possible other increases based on how bids come in on these projects. Approved the purchase of a \$5,100 mosquito mist blower.

#### Parks Department Report

- a. Tabled – Bids for Playground Basketball Backboards – Travis Goracke requested we table this item for one more month – he is still waiting for word on his grant request with BNSF Railroad. Suggests purchasing backboards next month.
- b. Park Restroom Hours – City staff opens the restrooms each morning (including weekends), but need someone to lock them each night. Motion by Reed, second by Grof to have the City staff open the restroom each morning and ask the Sheriff's office to lock them at dusk each night. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried. Mayor Montz will discuss with the Sheriff's department.

Legion Baseball Field – Discussed possible lease with American Legion outlining responsibilities between the Legion and the City. Went through list of items and determined responsibilities. Motion by Reed, second by Carter to establish a \$1.00 lease to the American Legion for use of the ballfield and buildings. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried. Discussed Legion Baseball coaching salaries. Motion by Reed, second by Grof for the City to pay the coaching salary and umpire costs (approx. \$1,939 this year.). Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried. Discussed whether City would continue to pay utilities at the Legion field. Motion by Reed, second by Carter for the City to continue paying utilities at the Legion field. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried. Also discussed the condition of the memorial at the ballfield – the Legion is planning to repair this.

#### Swimming Pool

- a. Auditor's Report on City's Financial Position for new pool project – Reviewed auditor's letter that indicates that the City can afford the proposed pool and that proposed financing options all seem reasonable.

- b. Current Status of swimming pool leaks – Doug Goracke reported that some leakage is happening – probably some pipes below the pool are leaking. Could dig up some areas to try to camera the pipes – would probably cost \$15K to just try to look at pipes and take 3-4 weeks (which means not opening on time) to get it done. Don't know if we would see anything due to difficulty in getting camera around pipes and corners. Several members of the public provided input – generally they do not feel the City should waste anymore money on repairs – that all available funds should go towards the new pool project. Discussion about a splash pad was again mentioned to buy the City more time to save up for a new pool. Members of the public and some council members again provided feedback that this is a waste of money at this time – that these funds should be used towards the new pool. Motion by Carter, second by Reed to open the pool this year and try to keep it running by filling with more water as needed and utilize more chemicals as needed – without any repairs. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried. The Council would like to hold a special meeting to discuss only the pool project. Motion by Reed, second by Carter to schedule a special meeting to discuss the pool project when ALL Council members could be present. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried.
- c. New pool design and financing options – no action taken.
- d. Consider applicants for pool staff – A list of 22 applicants was reviewed. Council member Goracke had reviewed the manager and assistant manager applications and contacted some references. He recommended Brienne Stephens for manager and Stephanie Berkebile for assistant manager. He recommends that the Head Lifeguard and regular lifeguards be selected by the manager and assistant manager. Discussed the need to have 2-3 substitute lifeguards. Motion by Grof, second by Carter to hire Brienne Stephens and Stephanie Berkebile as manager and assistant manager. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried.

Pay Rates for summer staff – Reviewed the proposed 2017 pool wages and fees, baseball/softball salaries, and public property mowing wages. Staff recommends a limit of 4 people (immediate family members only) named on family pool passes, with an additional \$10.00/person for additional immediate family members. Also recommend that children under 5 be charged \$1.00/per child. High School softball coach (Ages 16-18) - City will pay for 1 coach – if head coach wants to share this wage with assistants they can do so. Motion by Grof, second by Carter to approve wages and fees as presented and recommended. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried.

Resolution Verifying Special Assessments in Street Improvement District No. 2016-1; and related matters – City Attorney Bruce Dalluge presented the resolution. Council discussed the interest rate to be charged on the special assessment – determined 3% would cover all costs incurred by the City. Motion by Reed, second by Carter to introduce Resolution #2017-5 as presented with a 3% interest charge inserted. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried.

Storm Sewer Improvement at 115 High Street – Discussed storm water runoff issues at this property. Discussed a couple of ideas to try and address the issue. Motion by Reed, second by Grof to have Olsson Associates take a look at the area and see if they can outline options to consider. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried.

Agreement with Olsson Associates for Electrical Engineering Services for 12.47 kV Ring Bus Improvements – The Board of Public Works approved this agreement for design & engineering for electrical infrastructure improvements. Motion by Reed, second by Carter to approve the agreement for \$126,700. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried.

Electric Rate Adjust of 3% or 4% - The Board of Public Works discussed increasing electric rates by 3-4%. They will be considering a resolution to increase rates at their June meeting. These increases can be approved by the Board of Public Works and do not require Council approval.

Purchase Mosquito Blower – The Board of Public Works approved the purchase of a \$5,100 Mist Blower – some City funds would be used for this item, so Council approval is requested. Motion by Grof, second by Carter to approve the purchase of a \$5,100 mist blower. Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried.

### **Consent Agenda**

Motion by Grof, second by Carter to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Approve minutes of the April 3, 2017 meeting
2. Pay bills for City Funds

Voting Aye: Carter, Goracke, Grof, Reed. Voting Nay: None. Not Present: Jansen, Philippi. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 P.M.

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Lisa Beethe, City Clerk

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William J. Montz, Sr., Mayor