

April 18, 2018

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, April 18, 2018, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen, Mark Dewees, Chriss McDiffett, and Gary Lacy. Ron Briery was absent. Others present were J.P. Metzler, Eric Hethcoat, Randy Schlegel, Reva Benien, Denise Schmitz, Robert Bowman, Dana Paxton, Jeff Wolf, Dan Sisk, Jody Enfield, Karen Griffiths, and Darla Ellis. Jody Enfield led those present in the Flag Salute.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to approve the April 4, 2018 city council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

Blake Sander - \$13,885 – Re-roofing structure at 408 Pearl
Pat Douglas - \$ 2,000 – Re-roofing structure at 429 South St.
William Beale - \$ 7,375 – Re-roofing structure at 402 E. Warsaw
David Brehmer - \$ 6,000 – Re-roofing structure at 605 N. Grant
Barry/Sharon Cochran - \$ 6,400 – Construct accessory building at 606 Pool Drive

J.P. Metzler of RMA Engineering, LLC reported three bids were received for the street improvement project: Smoky Hill: \$686,532.48; Bryant & Bryant: \$714,652.00; and APAC: \$847,783.20. Motion was made by Chriss McDiffett and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve the low base bid of \$686,532.48 from Smoky Hill of Salina, Kansas, and allow them to start as soon as they can. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Eric Hethcoat with BG Consultants reported three bids were received for the CDBG Electric Project as follows: Integrated Power Company for \$760,978.10; ElectriComm for \$813,198.78; and PAR Electrical Contractors for \$1,119,037. Eric recommended having the City's Electric Distribution crew perform Alternates 6, 7, and 11 in advance of the contractor starting and approve Alternate 4 for the contractor to do with the base bid. The City cannot be working simultaneously with the contractor. Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to approve the low base bid of \$760,978.10 plus Alternate #4 in the amount of \$24,348, for a total of \$785,326.10 from Integrated Power Company of North Platte, Nebraska, for the City of Norton CDBG Electrical Distribution System and Substation Improvements. The engineer's estimate of probably cost was \$779,750. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Denise Schmitz, President of Norton Community Garden Coalition, and Reva Benien were present regarding a request for water service outside the city limits east of Norton for their community garden plot. Norton County will lease the land to the Garden Coalition and has signed the Agreement of City to Extend Services and Consent to Annexation by Landowner. They have a contractor lined up to do the waterline extension and it would be coordinated with the Public Works crew to install the water meter. Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve the water line extension for the Norton Community Garden Coalition through the Norton County Commissioners. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Code Inspector Jeff Wolf reported on the status of the cleanup of Karla Reed's property at 814 N. Grant. The City had granted a 90 day extension on the remaining items to be completed at the December 20, 2017, city council meeting. Jeff presented pictures showing the progress that has been made on the remaining items. Chriss McDiffett suggested that Jeff strongly encourage her to get items out to the curb for clean-up week. Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Jerry Jones to extend the time for cleanup of 814 N. Grant an additional 3 months and review the status at that time. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Jeff Wolf reported on the status of the cleanup of Randy Schlegel's property at 320 S. First Street. Randy was present and stated he has been working on the property; Jeff stated Randy has made significant progress but would also like an extension. Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to extend the time for cleanup of 320 S. First an additional 3 months and review the status at that time. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Chriss McDiffett and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to approve Resolution #9-2018, authorizing the offering for sale of general obligation temporary notes, series 2018. These temporary notes will be used for the street improvement project until bonds are issued. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Assistant Chief of Police Jody Enfield reported the Police Department has accepted the resignation of Police Officer Amanda Dreher, who will be going to work for Trego County. Her last day is May 5 and the position has been advertised. The vehicles from the impound lot will be sold on June 5 on PurpleWave, as well as the City's 1985 Ford firetruck and 1988 Bobcat skid loader. Jody reported the Meet and Greet which was held at Moffet Drug was well received and he thanked Moffet Drug for sponsoring the event.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Mark Dewees to approve the revised Elmwood Park schedule to include some ball tournaments and Legion baseball games for 2018. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Dennis Gilhousen stated he and Craig Renner have a conference call with the Division of Water Resources Stockton Field Office on Tuesday regarding options for water at the football field. He also thanked the electric distribution crew for their ongoing maintenance and preventative work, which has reduced the number of electrical outages.

Motion was made by Chriss McDiffett and seconded by Jerry Jones to offer the Maintenance I position to Randy Perales at the starting pay range of 5-A. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Mark Dewees to approve Don Bolt's request to have a car race on Saturday, July 28th, during the Norton County Fair. Vote taken. Motion carried 4-1 with Gary Lacy voting no.

City Clerk Darla Ellis reminded everyone that City-wide clean-up is scheduled for next week and yard waste pickup will begin that week. She also reported a Board of Zoning Appeals hearing will be held on Monday, April 23 at 5:30 p.m., to consider a variance request for 411 W. Woodsfield.

Motion was made by Chriss McDiffett and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve Appropriating Ordinance #8. Vote taken. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Mayor Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor: _____
James L. Miller