

May 2, 2018

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen, Mark Dewees, and Gary Lacy. Chriss McDiffett and Ron Briery were absent. Others present were Kirk Kasson, Kent Taylor, Mike Posson, Todd Johnson, Robert Bowman, Gerry Cullumber, Karen Griffiths, James Moreau, and Darla Ellis. Chief Cullumber led those present in the Flag Salute. Kirk Kasson gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Mark Dewees to approve the April 18, 2018 city council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

Connie Lacy	- \$ 600	- Demolition of dwelling at 313 W. Washington Street
D.S.N.W.K.	- \$12,000	- Construct deck at 1115 Eisenhower
Joe & Nicole Henry	- \$ 2,443	- Replace shed at 513 W. Woodfield
Kowpoke Rentals	- \$ 8,000	- Re-roof house at 401 N. Norton
Gary Dole	- \$ 4,000	- Re-roof house at 504 E. Lincoln
Beth Lee	- \$ 1,500	- Curb cut and street opening for sewer tap at 409 N. First
Drew Graham	- \$15,000	- Construct garage at 602 Sun Ave.

Kent Taylor, General Manager of Ag Valley Coop, was present to introduce himself. He stated the cooperative was organized in 1953 and currently employs 270 employees in the communities which Ag Valley serves, which includes 17 locations in Southern/Western Nebraska and Northern Kansas.

Mike Posson, City/County Economic Development Director, stated he has been on the job one month as the new director. He is working with Tara Vance of Norton County Community Foundation on the strategic planning and doing process that is implemented and updated each year. He reported a meeting to discuss the growth, prosperity and planning the future of Norton County will be held on Wednesday, May 16 from noon – 1:30 p.m. at the Heaton Building. He encouraged the City representatives to attend if possible.

Mayor Miller reported Mike Posson resigned his position on the Economic Development Board, in order to accept the Director position, and John Griffiths has submitted his application to fill the vacant position. Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve Mayor Miller's appointment of John Griffiths to fill the vacant position on the Norton City/County Economic Development Board, with the term expiring in February of 2019. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Jerry Jones to accept the Mayor's appointment of City Administrator James Moreau as Director #1 on the KMEA Board of Directors. This position will expire on April 30, 2020. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Karen Griffiths reported the Board of Zoning Appeals held a hearing on April 23 to consider a request for variances at 411 W. Woodfield. No property owners were present at the hearing to express opposition. The Board of Zoning Appeals approved the variance requests for a lot coverage of 41.08% and a front lot setback variance of an eight foot setback, and approved a Resolution authorizing the variances.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve Resolution #10-2018, authorizing and directing the issuance, sale and delivery of G.O. Temporary Notes, Series 2018, for the street improvements project. A Note Purchase Agreement was signed with The Bank, who submitted a proposal of 2.05% interest for the temporary notes. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Chief of Police Gerry Cullumber reported a meeting will be held with the Norton County Commissioners to discuss the Agreement for Communication and Jail Services, to discuss the possibility of renegotiating the terms of the contract for dispatch services. A Public Safety Committee meeting was scheduled on May 14 at 10:00 a.m., to meet with the Commissioners in the County Courthouse.

Chief Cullumber reported the Police Department's rifle grant of \$10,000 was denied. Mark Dewees stated the City needs to find a way to finance the rifles. Chief Cullumber also stated a candidate was interviewed for the vacant police officer position and will complete the necessary psychological exams and physical. Officer Dreher's last day is May 5th and Officer Richard will leave for the Academy in July.

Jerry Jones stated a recent edition of the Norton Telegram listed the City as the owner of the property where the community garden is going; he clarified that the property is owned by Norton County.

Dennis Gilhousen reported the Utility Committee discussed utility customers who are using a large amount of water due to ongoing water leaks. The City Attorney will research the requirements to demand that the leak be fixed within a certain amount of time.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve an agreement with the City of Clayton, for the joint assistance on the hauling and disposal of certain water treatment residues generated from the treatment of a public water supply system. This would be about 800 gallons, twice a year. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Dennis Gilhousen stated the City is continuing to work with USD 211 and the Division of Water Resources Stockton Field Office on an agreement for watering the football field. The City can put in an irrigation well with their existing water rights to water the football field and adjacent softball field, if a well can be drilled. He stated he hopes to have an agreement to consider with the School within the next few months.

Gary Lacy welcomed James as the new City Administrator, and scheduled a Finance Committee meeting for Monday, May 7 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Mark Dewees and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve 110 Western Sports Bar's temporary permit for a confined sidewalk event adjacent to 110 S. State Street on May 5th for a Kentucky Derby Party. They have received their temporary alcohol permit from the State of Kansas. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gary Lacy and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to approve Appropriating Ordinance #9. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor: _____
James L. Miller