

## August 1, 2018

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, August 1, 2018, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen, Mark Dewees, Chriss McDiffett, Gary Lacy, and Ron Briery. Others present were Darel Boston, J.P. Metzler, Robert Bowman, Dan Bainter, Gerry Cullumber, Karen Griffiths, James Moreau, and Darla Ellis. Chief Cullumber led those present in the Flag Salute and Darel Boston gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to approve the July 18, 2018 city council meeting minutes. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

Kowpoke Rentals	- \$ 8,000 – Remove & replace porch at 612 N. First Ave.
Chris Henson	- \$ 5,000 – Remove & replace shed/storage at 1009 Hartford
Louis Keiswetter	- \$ 700 – Construct accessory building at 513 ½ E. Lincoln
James T. Gregory	- \$22,000 – Construct garage at 428 S. First Ave.
Paul Lueschen	- \$ 1,000 – Re-roofing at 308 West Ave.

J.P. Metzler gave an update on the street improvements project and reported the project is on schedule. They will open Brown Street before the weekend and the east side of Wilberforce will be poured tomorrow. Ron Briery stated he got a complaint that the Smoky Hill employee driving the front end loader ran the stop sign on West Street by the pool. J.P. said he will talk to Smoky Hill; he left the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to adopt Resolution #13-2018, authorizing the abatement of conditions under the environmental code as to property at 406 S. Second Street in Norton, Kansas. The Resolution gives 30 days to abate the conditions; after 30 days, the City will abate said conditions and the cost of abatement will be assessed to the property. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to adopt Resolution #14-2018, finding the structure at 406 S. Second to be unsafe and dangerous, and requiring the abatement of such conditions within 30 days. If such conditions are not abated or removed, the property shall be razed, removed and demolished and the costs will be assessed to the property. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Dennis Gilhousen reported the Utility Committee discussed an ordinance regarding implementation of water conservation practices for outdoor watering, and enforcement of repairing water leaks after a consumer or owner is notified of the leak. Outdoor watering will be prohibited between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. from Memorial Day through Labor Day of each year, and will be limited to every other day. Addresses ending in an even number shall water on even numbered calendar days and those with addresses ending in an odd number shall water on odd numbered calendar days. Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Gary Lacy to suspend the rules and waive the three reading requirement for Ordinance #1715. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to adopt Ordinance #1715, amending Chapter 15, Article 2 of the Norton City Code as it pertains to water, water usage and water conservation. Vote taken. Motion carried.

City Administrator James Moreau reported the Public Works crew is starting on Washington Street and will pour curb and gutter on the south side tomorrow.

James also reported the City is trying to finalize the 2019 budget figures, and has not received the estimated budget expenditures for the upcoming year from the County Sheriff. The City sent Norton County a one year written notice on March 21, 2018, as per Section G of the Agreement for Communication and Jail Services, with a request that the terms of the agreement be renegotiated. He asked the City Attorney if the existing contract, which says budget figures must be submitted by June 1, is still in effect. Karen Griffiths stated the existing contract is still in effect and she will contact the County to get their estimated expenses.

Jerry Jones asked if the City has a closing date for the pool yet for this year. James stated he received an email from the pool manager but has asked for additional information regarding how long the assistant manager will still be in Norton. Council discussed possible options to keep the pool open longer after sports practice starts and guards go back to school. Jerry also asked James to get a list from the pool manager of items needing fixed or addressed before the pool closes, so they can be fixed in a timely manner.

Dennis Gilhousen stated the well driller has not been back to drill additional test wells in Elmwood Park so he has nothing to report regarding the water at the football field.

Gary Lacy reported the Finance Committee met and discussed the proposed 2019 budget. The budget hearing notice will reflect a 1.95 mill increase, which is a result of neighborhood revitalization rebates which cause a decrease in tax revenues received. The hearing will be held on August 15 at 5:45 p.m.

The Finance Committee also discussed the new premiums for Blue Cross and Blue Shield which will increase by an average of 10.02% effective October 1, 2018. One month of premiums will be paid from

the special health insurance reserve funds and the maximum city contributions and employee contributions will be increased accordingly, to keep the City's grandfathered status with Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

Mayor Miller stated K&L Ranch is advertising the biggest waterslide in Kansas as part of their fundraiser in Elmwood Park on August 25. He stated nothing has been requested through the City and the liability would be an issue. Staff was asked to notify them that this will not be allowed in the park.

Motion was made by Gary Lacy and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to approve Appropriating Ordinance #15 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_  
James L. Miller