

February 6, 2019

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, February 6, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen, Robert Bowman, Gerald Jones, Donna Foley, and Ron Briery. Others present were Adam Frisch, Jamie Frisch, Mark Weiser, Chris Harting, Steve Otter, David Davis, Dana Paxton, Cameron Archer, Cindy Cullumber, Gerry Cullumber, Jody Enfield, Karen Griffiths, James Moreau, and Darla Ellis. Jody Enfield led those present in the Flag Salute and Chief Cullumber gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Robert Bowman to approve the January 16, 2019 city council meeting minutes. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building and demolition permits were presented:

Ron Briery - \$2,500 – Demolition of dwelling at 599 Johnson Road

Ann Bryie - \$6,119 – Re-roofing at 513 N. Jones

Jerry Jones reported the Parks Committee met and discussed Ordinance #1399, relating to the public use of the livestock barn facilities in Elmwood Park. The committee recommends getting rid of the \$25/day charge for use of the facility, but individuals must notify the city clerk's office in advance of when they will be using it, and the individual will be responsible for cleaning it up. Karen Griffiths will prepare an ordinance amending the policy for the next meeting. Ron Briery asked about liability. Karen Griffiths stated according to state law, the City would not be liable for activities with horses involved, and a sign is posted regarding liability. Adam and Jamie Frisch and Mark Weiser left the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

Steve Otter was present to announce his retirement as Assistant Fire Chief of the Norton Volunteer Fire Department, effective March 31, 2019. Steve has been a member of the Fire Department for 24 years. The Council thanked Steve for all of his years of dedicated service to the City as a member of the Fire Department and expressed their appreciation. Steve Otter left the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to waive the formal 2nd reading of Ordinance #1721, amending a portion of Chapter 3 of the City Code, regulating the sale of cereal malt beverage and beer containing not more than 6% alcohol by volume within the City. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Donna Foley to accept the following reappointments to the Tourism Committee: Jay Bhatka, Mark Griffin, Ron Fisher and LeeAnn Shearer, with the terms expiring January 31, 2021. A vacant position for a lodging representative still remains. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Karen Griffiths stated the Planning Commission will meet on February 25 at 5:30 for a public hearing to discuss zoning laws and approve a new zoning map with new districts such as a Public District, Airport District, and Farming District. Current zones will not change.

Karen Griffiths stated the Land Bank needs to meet to discuss a property in the City. The Public Works Committee serves as the officers of the Land Bank. A meeting was scheduled for February 11 at 4 p.m. to discuss the property and the Land Bank discussion will be put on the agenda for the next council meeting.

Chief of Police Gerry Cullumber stated Kaleb Tuxhorn is currently attending the KLETC Academy. He announced the Police Department has been awarded a \$48,881 grant through the Federal Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program. The grant will provide a records management system for his department. Training for a new reporting system will be done in March and the new system will go live in April. Gerry reported Assistant Chief Jody Enfield was instrumental in solving a string of burglaries which occurred in the surrounding communities recently. He also reminded everyone of the Community Meeting regarding Foster Family Care which will be held on February 20th at the Norton Public Library at 6 p.m.

James Moreau stated 7 applications were received for the City's Refuse position and 4 applicants were interviewed. The position has been offered and tentatively accepted by a candidate at salary range 5-A on the City pay scale and he is to start on Monday, February 11. He also reported he is waiting on an updated cost for line stop equipment so the city could implement a valve exercising program. He also received one bid for bulk diesel fuel from a local provider.

Donna Foley stated members of Live Well Norton and Norton Pride met with the Kansas Trails Council to discuss a trail in Elmwood Park. The group would like to add a nature path of about 2/3 mile off of the levee that would be 24" wide. Karen Griffiths has agreed to be the project manager to apply for a grant for a Trail in a Box, which includes equipment to smooth out the ground and make the trail. Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Donna Foley to accept the proposal for the trail in Elmwood Park with James Moreau serving as the City's contact for the project. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Ron Briery stated the City received the signed Agreement for Communications and Jail Services from Norton County, and asked Karen Griffiths and the Council to look over it before the next council meeting.

Dennis Gilhousen reported the Finance Committee met Brian Thompson of Mapes and Miller and discussed new regulatory-required supplementary information for the year ended December 31, 2018. They discussed

the auditor's responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, the planned scope and timing of the audit and other requirements under the new regulations.

Dennis stated the Committee also met with Shawn Myers and Dave Donovan of Keller Leopold Insurance and David Davis of Boxler Insurance regarding the upcoming bid request for the City's Business Protection Policy. Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to approve the Finance Committee's recommendation to not issue an Agent of Record letter to Travelers Insurance or any other agency. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gerald Jones and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to approve Request #4 for Payment of CDBG Funds for \$58,459.78 for the CDBG Electric Grant project; this pay request includes payment of \$119,957.94 to Integrated Power Company for electrical construction, with \$58,459.78 of CDBG funds and \$61,498.16 of Local funds. James reported the contractor is working weekends to insure they will meet the substantial completion date of February 15. The switchover will be done hot so there should not be a power outage, but there is always that possibility. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Ron Briery to transfer surplus funds totaling \$82,500 to the multi-year capital improvement fund and \$82,500 to the municipal equipment reserve fund. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Robert Bowman to approve Appropriating Ordinance #3 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Mayor: _____
James L. Miller