

August 7, 2019

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, August 7, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., with Council President Ron Briery presiding. Other council members present were Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen, Robert Bowman, Gerald Jones, and Donna Foley. Mayor Jim Miller was absent. Others present were Rick Rostek, Donna Liddle, Dean Liddle, Joseph Barton, Jody Enfield, Gerry Cullumber, Karen Griffiths, James Moreau, and Darla Ellis. Rick Rostek gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Robert Bowman to approve the July 17, 2019, city council meeting minutes. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

Von Fahrenbruch	- \$10,000 – Remove & replace deck and remodel dwelling at 402 N. First
Nate Hardy	- \$ 8,000 – Re-roofing at 307 E. Waverly
Gerald Jones	- \$ 850 – Install accessory building at 602 N. Second
Jody Enfield III	- \$ 9,000 – Construct deck at 609 Sunset Drive
Bruce Rushton	- \$ 4,500 – Construct deck/porch at 904 Middle
Bob/Darla Beasley	- \$ 300 – Move in temporary storage container at 313 W. Main
Dean Liddle	- \$ 5,000 – Re-roofing at 510 N. Second
Sara Davis	- \$ 2,000 – Re-roofing at 1114 Nixon
James/Reges Ohlsen	- \$ 1,500 - Construct deck at 710 W. Crane
Brett Hildebrand	- \$12,000 - Construct deck at 1104 Nixon
Justin Backman	- \$ 6,000 - Re-roofing at 508 W. Woodsfield
Adam Wallin	- \$ 5,000 – Move in garage at 411 W. Wilton
Jeff LeClair	- \$ 3,800 – Re-roofing at 110 W. Waverly
Jeff LeClair	- \$ 3,375 – Re-roofing at 112 N. Graves
Brad Nuzum	- \$ 3,000 – Re-roofing at 510 W. Crane

Dean Liddle stated the Norton Chamber Car Show and Drag Race Committee wanted to thank the City for all of their assistance with the event this year, and presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Council.

Donna Liddle asked if the welcome flags could be put out for a Valley Hope event on August 17th. She also reported Metro Media Publishers will be printing the new Sebelius Reservoir maps and a representative will be coming to the community to sell ads to the businesses in Norton County.

City Attorney Karen Griffiths stated she was approached by an individual who may be interested in buying a piece of property owned by the City. She was asked to get more information from the individual, and then the Utility Committee will meet to discuss it. A Parks Committee meeting will be held on August 19th at 4 p.m., to further discuss the possibility of acquiring a portion of the NKC railroad right-of-way.

Chief of Police Gerry Cullumber introduced the newest Police Officer, Joseph Barton. Joseph is a certified officer who was recently employed by the Salina Police Department and started with the Norton Police Department on August 2. A meet and greet event will be scheduled soon to introduce him to the public. A Public Safety Committee meeting will be held on August 8th at 4 p.m.

City Administrator James Moreau reported the new water line on Lincoln Street has been installed and will be connected in the next week after testing is cleared. Then they will start cutting in all of the taps and the old line will be abandoned. James also reported the work on Filter #2 at the water plant will begin on August 19th. He stated after August 11, the Aquatic Park hours will be limited to weekends only because of lack of guards with school starting again. Crews will be spraying ballfields again, weather permitting.

Donna Foley stated she served on the Review Committee for the Storefront Renewal Grant Program. The committee reviewed 14 applications and 12 of them were awarded funding.

Council President Ron Briery opened a Public Hearing at 5:45 p.m., for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied for 2020. The proposed total 2020 budget expenditures is \$12,611,566, with an estimated tax rate of 64.041 mills. This is a 3.038 mill decrease from the actual 2019 tax rate of 67.079 mills. There were no comments or questions from the public and the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Jerry Jones to approve the 2020 budget as published and presented. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Donna Foley to suspend the rules and waive the 3 reading requirement for Ordinance #1726. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Donna Foley to adopt Ordinance #1726, incorporating the 2019 Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Donna Foley to suspend the rules and waive the 3 reading requirement for Ordinance #1727. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Jerry Jones to adopt Ordinance #1727, incorporating the 2019 Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Dennis Gilhousen reported the Finance Committee discussed the new premiums for Blue Cross and Blue Shield which will increase by an average of 6.64% effective October 1, 2019. Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Jerry Jones to increase the maximum city contributions and employee contributions accordingly in order to keep the City's grandfathered status with Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and to pay one month of the City's share of premiums from the special health insurance reserve funds. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Robert Bowman stated the Public Works Committee reviewed six curb and sidewalk requests. Motion was made by Robert Bowman and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to approve the curb and sidewalk replacement requests as presented, with the City providing the labor on the requests on an as-schedule-allows basis. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The Committee also discussed a list of improvement projects to be completed. The equipment rental rates for City equipment will be updated to be in line with actual costs, since it has not been updated recently.

Motion was made by Robert Bowman and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to schedule the City-wide Fall Clean-up for October 21-23. This service is for city residents with refuse service only. The Public Works Supervisor has notified the Landfill Supervisor of the proposed dates. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The Public Works Committee also discussed possible street improvement work on the half block north of Highway 36 on N. Norton Street. Staff is working with a potential development, and has informed the development engineer that they would need to ask the City Council for possible participation to improve the intersection and street adjacent to the property. This is at the direction of KDOT, due to the existing driveways being too close to the stop light at the Highway 36 & 283 intersection.

Karen Griffiths stated a letter was received from Norton County, requesting that the Rescue Services Agreement be re-negotiated. This will be discussed at the Public Safety Committee meeting.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Robert Bowman to approve Appropriating Ordinance #15 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gerald Jones to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Council President: _____
Ron Briery