

September 7, 2016

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., with Council President Jerry Jones presiding. Other council members present were Dennis Gilhousen, Jeff Urban, Chriss McDiffett, Gary Lacy and Ron Briery. Others present were Robert Bowman, Fred Wetter, Megan Wetter, Jeff Wolf, Jamie Amlong, Dan Bainter, Mark Dewees and Darla Ellis. Mayor Miller, City Administrator Chad Buckley and City Attorney Karen Griffiths were absent.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to approve the August 17, 2016, council meeting minutes as written. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits and sidewalk replacement requests were presented:

NW KS Housing - \$215,000 – New single family dwelling at 1006 Reagan Ave.

NW KS Housing - \$215,000 – New single family dwelling at 1008 Reagan Ave.

LaVonne Wright - \$ 3,600 – Demolition of building at 412 N. Wabash

Miller Aviation - \$ 30,000 – Construct addition at 1226 N. State St.

Deb Graham - \$ 9,500 – Replace deck at 1022 Churchill

Russ Frack - \$ 23,000 – Addition to building at 711 N. State St.

Richard Rushton - \$ 500 – Construct deck at 1025 Churchill

Gary Rolland - \$ 3,000 – Construct roof over patio at 1116 N. 2nd

Richard Wyatt - \$ 1,500 – Commercial remodel at 210 S. Norton

Murel Davis - \$ 5,660 – Re-roofing at 308 N. Brown

Elicia Wicker - \$ 4,000 – Re-roofing at 611 N. Grant

Stephen Boxler - \$ 10,000 – Re-roofing at 209 E. Lincoln

Marissa Lambert - \$ 5,000 – Re-roofing at 812 N. Wabash

Stuart Brooks - \$ 2,000 – Re-roofing at 1014 Hartford

Gilbert Otter - \$ 12,000 – Re-roofing at 509 N. First

Joe Annon - \$ 11,000 – Re-roofing at 403 W. Wilton

Deena Wente - \$ 11,300 – Re-roofing at 313 N. First

Kurt Eberle - \$ 4,500 - Re-roofing at 706 N. Wabash

Pat Taylor - \$ 6,000 – Re-roofing at 707 N. First

Kaley Ward -- 40' of curb replacement at 205 E. Lincoln

Dan Walter -- 48' of curb replacement at 211 E. Main Street

Dan Walter – 48' of sidewalk replacement at 211 E. Main Street

Fred and Megan Wetter were present to discuss the rules on open burning inside the City. Their neighbor is frequently burning outside in a tractor tire and sometimes it smolders for up to 24 hours. They have called the police often and

recently filed a police report. The neighbor was instructed not to burn again or he will be fined, unless he gets approval from the City Council. The Public Safety Committee will discuss this regarding fines and penalties for open burning violations.

Motion was made by Jeff Urban and seconded by Ron Briery to approve Resolution #15-2016, finding the structure at 615 E. Lincoln to be unsafe and dangerous, and requiring the abatement of such conditions. The landowner or agent has 30 days from September 7th to remove the structure and personal property; the City will abate the conditions on October 10 if it has not been done. Vote taken. Motion carried.

At 5:45 p.m., a Public Hearing was opened to discuss the condition of the property located at 208 E. Woodsfield in Norton, Kansas. The purpose of the hearing is for the owner, his or her agent, any lienholders of record, any occupant and any other interested parties to appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned as an unsafe or dangerous structure and ordered repaired or demolished. No property owner representatives were present at the hearing. Jeff Wolf displayed slides showing the violations that still exist as of today. He recommended the council proceed with a demolition order on the property for the structure and any personal property which remains. There were no comments from the public.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Gary Lacy to determine the structure at 208 E. Woodsfield to be dangerous, substandard, or unfit for human habitation and direct the City Attorney to prepare a Resolution giving the owner 30 days to remove the structure and personal property. After 30 days, the City will proceed with the abatement. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Chriss McDiffett to approve the request for water and sewer services outside the city limits for Roger and Mary Jane Wahlmeier at 11406 Pineview Drive, contingent upon them signing a Consent to Annexation form and agreeing to pay the standard fees for monthly services outside the city limits. It was asked who is responsible if the sewer would become plugged, and decided that some issues need clarified prior to approval. Motion was withdrawn with permission of the second.

At 6:00 p.m., Council President Jerry Jones opened a Public Hearing to discuss the condition of the property located at 433 S. First Street in Norton, Kansas. The purpose of the hearing is for the owner, his or her agent, any lienholders of record, any occupant and any other interested parties to appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned as an unsafe or dangerous structure and ordered repaired or demolished. No property owner representatives were present at the hearing. Jeff Wolf displayed slides showing the violations that still exist as of today. He recommended the council proceed with a demolition order on the property for the structure and any personal property which remains. There were no comments from the public.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Gary Lacy to determine the structure at 433 S. First Street to be dangerous, substandard, or unfit for human habitation and direct the City Attorney to prepare a Resolution giving the owner 30 days to remove the structure and personal property. After 30 days, the City will proceed with the abatement. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jeff Urban and seconded by Ron Briery to suspend the rules and waive the 3 reading requirement for Ordinance #1689. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jeff Urban and seconded by Ron Briery to adopt Ordinance #1689, incorporating the 2016 Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jeff Urban and seconded by Ron Briery to suspend the rules and waive the 3 reading requirement for Ordinance #1690. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jeff Urban and seconded by Ron Briery to adopt Ordinance #1690, incorporating the 2016 Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Jeff Urban asked why 10 more 95 gallon trash containers were purchased, when the City already had 69 containers around town. Jerry Jones stated they were purchased so the crews would not need to move them from one place to another when there are various activities all over town.

Jeff Urban stated the weeds are getting bad all over town, and he has received lots of complaints regarding the weeds along the railroad tracks on West Washington Street. Chriss McDuffett stated the gutters around town are full of silt and weeds are growing in the gutters now. They asked Public Works to look at getting the gutters cleaned out where needed. Council also discussed the speed limit on Highway 36 in the construction zones, which is supposed to be 20 mph. They asked if the police officers could patrol the area more often until the construction is finished. Assistant Chief Mark Dewees said there needs to be speed limit signs posting the speed limit. Council asked that Chad Buckley check into this.

Chriss McDuffett stated the Public Works Committee met and a Street Committee has been formed which includes some concerned residents in the Lintner Addition. The Committee will discuss some options to try and fix the street issues, set priorities and look at possible funding options.

Motion was made by Ron Briery and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to allow the Police/Court Clerk position to become a temporary full-time position for 6 months. The position will be evaluated at the end of 6 months to determine if it needs to remain a full time position. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-1 with Jeff Urban voting no.

Ron Briery suggested that the Parks Committee discuss advertising to see if any promoters are interested in sponsoring races in Elmwood Park for the 2017 season.

Motion was made by Chriss McDuffett and seconded by Gary Lacy to approve Appropriating Ordinance #17 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Council President: _____
Jerry Jones