

Council Chambers
City Hall
November 19, 2007
7:30 P.M.

Council met in regular session with Mayor Sharon Brown presiding and roll call showing Councilmembers: Steve Fox, Justin Begnoche, Daton Hess, Rhys Baker, Butch Hess, Chuck Smith, Connie Jordan and Jack Wallace present.

Copies of the minutes of the previous meeting were presented and approved by the Council. Copies of the minutes of the previous Public Utilities Commission meeting were presented.

Appropriation Ordinance Nos. 3202 and 3203, allowing claims, which had been checked by the Council, were presented. Moved by Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, that these ordinances be approved for payment. Upon being put to a vote by roll call the motion carried by a unanimous vote of all Councilmembers present.

City Clerk, Calvin Wohler, stated that "Thank You's" were received from students that attended the Youth Academy in October. Each student sent a card to a department head or councilmember who helped with the Academy.

A Public Hearing was held before the Council Meeting to listen to citizens concerns in regard to the North 8th Street curb and paving project. The citizens who will be assessed were sent notices of the Public Hearing. There were no comments at the Hearing. The Public Hearing was closed.

City Attorney, Monte Green, substituting for Michael Ryan, had two Ordinances to present for approval.

Ordinance No. 2208, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS ON CERTAIN LOTS AND PARCELS OF GROUND IN THE CITY OF CLAY CENTER, KANSAS, TO PAY THE COSTS OF IMPROVING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF 8TH STREET, IN SAID CITY, LYING BETWEEN LIBERTY STREET AND FRANKLIN STREETS, DESIGNATED AS STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT A-2007.", was read and considered by sections. Clifford Williams III appeared before the Council to complain about the water drainage in his yard. Mr. Williams feels he will have a lot of problems in the future when it rains a lot at once. Streets and Alleys Committee will see if some more work needs to be done in his yard in the future. Moved by Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to adopt Ordinance No. 2208 as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Councilmembers Fox, Begnoche, D. Hess, Baker, B. Hess, Smith, Jordan and Wallace voting "yea" and no councilmember voting "nay".

Ordinance No. 2209, entitled "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL CHARGES FOR THE RECONNECTION OF ELECTRICAL OR WATER SERVICE, IN THE CITY OF CLAY CENTER, KANSAS; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-120 AND 15-313 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF CLAY CENTER, KANSAS, REPEALING SAID EXISTING SECTIONS.", was read and considered by sections. Moved by Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember D. Hess, to adopt Ordinance No. 2209 as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Councilmembers Fox, Begnoche, D. Hess, Baker, B. Hess, Smith, Jordan and Wallace voting "yea" and no councilmember voting "nay".

Mr. Wohler gave the Oath of Office to Greg Jensen. Mr. Jensen will become the Street Commissioner on November 26, 2007.

Mr. Wohler reported that the deadline for 2008 license renewals is December 13, 2007.

Library board representative, Jerry Callan, appeared before the Council to give a report they received about their building. The library board contracted with Hans J. Fisher AIA to do a complete building assessment on what it needs now and in the future. If all items were addressed and improved the estimated cost would be \$1,000,000.00. One item of repair that is needed now is a new furnace to replace one that was taken out of service. The library board accepted a bid from Debenham Inc. for \$3,495.20 for a replacement furnace. The board may be asking the City's help to pay for the furnace.

Bobbi Patterson, Director of Clay Center Area Chamber of Commerce, appeared before the Council to make a request

for closing a portion of the parking on Fifth Street between Court Street and Lincoln Avenue. The parking will be reserved for a "trackless train" that will give rides to children and adults for five different dates in December. The train would travel from Fifth Street parking through Utility Park and back. Moved by Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember D. Hess, to allow the reserve parking as requested. The motion carried 7-0-1. Councilmember Baker abstained.

Committee reports were as follows:

Ways and Means-Committee met with Municipal Judge, Susan Carlson, concerning her work load.

Streets and Alleys-It was reported that Fall Clean Up is going well. City Street Department will be working with Mel's Pump and Plumbing and residents in the ten hundred block of 10th Street to install clean outs in a private sewer line. City will dig to sewer line and residents will pay Mel's for installation of clean outs.

City Parks and Pool-Park Department would like to purchase two more aluminum bleachers like what they have been buying. Moved by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Begnoche, to purchase two sets of bleachers out of the Special Park and Recreation Fund at a cost of \$2,792.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Park Department would like to purchase a new 6' Merry Go Round for \$1,793.00 out of their reserve funds. Moved by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember D. Hess, to purchase the new merry go round. The motion carried unanimously.

Cemetery-Committee received two bids for a new mower with cab and broom attachments. A bid from Grasshopper was for a cab that was made of vinyl and a bid from John Deere was for a steel cab. The John Deere bid is more expensive but Committee believes a better over all bid. The bid from John Deere was for \$27,150.00 less trading in a Grasshopper mower with broom, snow blower and soft cab valued at \$10,350.00 or a trade in difference of \$16,800.00. Moved by Councilmember B. Hess, seconded by Councilmember Begnoche, to purchase the John Deere mower as described above from CTI of Clay Center. The motion carried unanimously.

Building Permits-Moved by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve a permit for Ralph and Linda Stirrett for an addition, garage and breeze way (1092 sq. ft.) at 201 Court Street. The motion carried unanimously.

Emergency Preparedness-Some city officials attended a joint meeting with the County. Councilmembers can train themselves on a web site if they do not want to attend training.

Mayor's Report-Mayor Brown and Councilmember Baker reviewed web site proposals from several vendors. They have selected Justin Geering of Manhattan to create a new City web site.

Old Business-Councilmember D. Hess asked Mayor Brown if she would excuse herself from the Council so they could discuss her salary. Councilmember Smith, President of the Council, presided over the Council while the Mayor was temporarily absent. Councilmember D. Hess informed the Council that he had a list of 24 (added one more at meeting) names of persons willing to pay \$20.00 a month towards an increase in the Mayor's salary for one year. Moved by Councilmember D. Hess, seconded by Councilmember Begnoche, to instruct the City Attorney to write a Resolution to supplement the Mayor's salary \$500.00 per month from the donations being received from citizens. A lengthy discussion was held before voting. The motion did not pass due to a 4-4 vote. Councilmembers Fox, Begnoche, D. Hess and Jordan voted "yea" and Councilmembers Baker, B. Hess, Smith and Wallace voted "nay".

Mayor Brown returned to preside over the Council. More discussion was held in regard to Mayor's compensation or have a City Manager.

New Business-The Committee to study the feasibility of a city manager may be meeting for further study.

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.