

Council Chambers
City Hall
April 15, 2008
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, Charles 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.

Municipal Judge's receipts for the month of March 2008 were \$5,320.00.

Appropriation Ordinances Nos. 3223 and 3224, allowing claims, which had been checked by the Council, were presented. Moved by Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember Smith, 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, read a "Thank You" letter to Mayor Brown. The letter was from Headquarters 1st Infantry Fort Riley, 580 1st Division Road, Fort Riley, Kansas. The letter was thanking Mayor Brown for her participation in monthly Community Partnership Conferences in Fort Riley.

City Attorney, Michael Ryan, presented several items for action and/or information purposes.

Mr. Ryan presented a Local Government Endorsement Form on behalf of Presbyterian Manor Inc. Clay Center Presbyterian Manor. The form asks for an endorsement from the City so they can apply to the State for tax credits. Tax credits are a way of funding capital projects for non-profit organizations. Moved by Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, to endorse the efforts of the Manor to apply for tax credits. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ryan presented a Proclamation for review. The Proclamation proclaims April 22, 2008 as Equal Pay Day in Clay Center, Kansas. The Proclamation was presented by the Business and Professional Women's organization. Moved by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to adopt the Proclamation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

A Proclamation declaring May 2008 as Older Americans Month was presented. The Proclamation was presented by Clay Center Presbyterian Manor. Moved by Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, to adopt the Proclamation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ryan stated he has been working on a franchise fee agreement for Twin Valley Telephone Inc. A decision needs to be made in regard to a franchise fee for Twin Valley.

Mr. Wohler presented a tree trimming license for McGee Roofing for approval. Moved by Councilmember Begnoche, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, to approve the license. The motion carried unanimously.

Kristin Wright, Counselor at CCCMS appeared before the Council to make a request for a 5K run in the City. The middle school is celebrating a month of positive health habits to have healthy lives. A group of students have committed to have a 5K run. They have about 120 students signed up for the race on May 2, beginning at 12:50 p.m. The race route is designed to pass by all the district schools in town. The route will cross the major highways four times which would require extra volunteer help for these crossings. Moved by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to allow the 5K event and the selected route as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Ben Foster, representing Twin Valley Telephone, appeared before the Council. Mr. Foster was asking for the Council to waive the 30 day period to get a solicitors license for Twin Valley. Twin Valley is currently installing underground fiber optic cable in the City to provide phone, video and internet services. Twin Valley will be licensing eleven of their employees so they can go door to door getting subscribers for the services they will be offering. The 30 day waiting period was giving the City time to do background checks on all the applications. Mr. Foster informed he could furnish

background reports on most of the employees who will be doing the soliciting. Moved by Councilmember B. Hess, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, to waive the 30 day waiting period for Twin Valley Telephone. The motion carried unanimously.

Don Dean, representing Campbell & Johnson Engineers P.A. appeared before the Council. Mr. Dean informed the Council that Hall Brothers, Inc. was the successful bidder for the Health Department Sub Division curb and street project. The bid was for \$83,277.20. Mr. Dean recommends that the Council approve the bid and sign the contract with Hall Brothers. Moved by Councilmember B. Hess, seconded by Councilmember D. Hess, to accept the bid of Hall Brothers. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Callaway, Public Utilities Superintendent, appeared before the Council to discuss the condition of the water in Clay Center. Recent water testing shows higher than allowable uranium in No. 9 well and higher than allowable selenium in No. 10 well. No. 9 well will be taken out of service and put on emergency stand-by. No. 10 well will be used sparingly. Mr. Callaway gave an update on the progress of the water treatment plant. When the treatment plant goes on line in about 15 months this will take uranium and selenium out of the water. The treatment plant will go to bid in June. Mr. Callaway would like support from the Council to take bids for the treatment plant. Moved by Councilmember B. Hess, and seconded by Councilmember D. Hess, to have the Council support the Public Utilities Commission in receiving bids for the treatment plant. A discussion followed concerning the cost of the plant. The vote was a 4-4 tie. Councilmembers Begnoche, D. Hess, Baker and B. Hess voted "yea" and Councilmembers Fox, Smith, Jordan and Wallace voted "nay". Mayor Brown voted "yea" to pass the motion.

Committee reports were as follows:

Ways and Means-The Economic Development Group has asked to raise the funding of a director from \$15,000.00 to \$25,000.00 per year. Moved by Councilmember Begnoche, seconded by Councilmember Wallace, to increase the City's contribution toward director's salary from \$15,000.00 to \$25,000.00 per year when a new director is hired. A discussion followed. At the present time the director's position is open while a search for someone to hire is being held. It was then moved by Councilmember B. Hess, seconded by Councilmember Fox, to table the above motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Councilmember Begnoche, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, to have Mayor Brown write a letter to EDG asking that she be on the Executive Board that hires a new EDG director. The motion carried unanimously.

The three year contract with City Attorney Ryan and Mullin is expiring this year. Council discussed whether or not to go out and seek bids for City Attorney or take no action. Ryan and Mullin have agreed to continue as City Attorney for the same cost to the City. Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Jordan to take no action and continue doing what we are doing with Ryan and Mullin. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee will study how the FEMA funds we are receiving will be spent. Total funds should be around \$120,000.00.

The City's Blue Cross and Blue Shield contract will have an overage in reserves at the end of June 30, 2008. The City will be getting a refund. The refund will go to pay several months of premiums.

Financing and engineering for streets and sewer for the Center Heights addition was reviewed with WasteWater Superintendent Jerry Davies.

Streets and Alleys-Committee received a bid for the replacement of three overhead garage doors at the Street Shop. A bid of \$5,805.00 from Bloom Construction was reviewed. Moved by Councilmember Begnoche, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to accept the bid from Bloom Construction for three overhead garage doors. The motion carried unanimously.

Building Permits-Moved by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve the following permits:

Raymond J. Orr for a garage and walkway at 1714 6th Street.

Gail Schooley for a 4 1/2' addition to garage at 1418 Lincoln Avenue.

The motion carried unanimously.

Airport-Resolution No. 1438 was reviewed. The Resolution gives Mayor Brown authorization to open and accept the lowest and best bid for the Airport project and to sign any necessary documents that the engineers will provide after review. Moved by Councilmember D. Hess, seconded by Councilmember Begnoche, to adopt the above mentioned Resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

Insurance-The Blue Cross and Blue Shield contract will have a 3.3% increase in premiums beginning July 1, 2008. Moved by Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, to renew the Blue Cross and Blue Shield contract for 2008 – 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business-Demolition of the condemned house at 1003 2nd Street was discussed. Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Begnoche, to allow Steve Blackwood, d/b/a 5 Creeks, to demolish the house as per 2006 bid letting. The motion carried unanimously.

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