

Council Chambers
City Hall
February 3, 2009
7:30 P.M.

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

Cash balances for the month of December 2008 were presented. Revenue and Expenditures with balance of the budget for the month of December were presented.

Appropriation Ordinances Nos. 3263 and 3264, 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" from the Roxann Nigh family. Roxann recently passed away. She was the mother of Fireman Howard VanDyke.

City Attorney, Michael Ryan, presented items for action/review.

Ordinance No. 2221, entitled "AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING, ADDING TO AND MAKE A PART OF THE CITY OF CLAY CENTER, KANSAS, A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION SEVEN, TOWNSHIP EIGHT (8) SOUTH, RANGE THREE (3) EAST, ALSO KNOWN AS A PART OF RIVERVIEW ADDITION, ALL SITUATED IN CLAY COUNTY, KANSAS.", was and considered by sections. Moved by Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember D. Hess, to adopt Ordinance No. 2221, as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Councilmembers D. Hess, Baker, Smith, B. Hess, Jordan, Wallace, Fox and Begnoche voted "yea" and no Councilmember voted "nay".

Resolution No. 1439, was presented for review. The Resolution would recognize DBS Investments, Inc. as the developer in Center Heights for building not more than 48 apartments. DBS Investments, Inc. will file a housing tax credit application with the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation. The Council discussed the reason for a name change now. Moved by Councilmember Begnoche, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to table any action until the developer can come to a Council Meeting and explain their plan for the future. The motion carried unanimously.

Keith and Mindy Blake, representing the After Prom Committee 2009, appeared before the Council. The Committee expects 177 Junior and Senior students to attend this year's After Prom event. The event is planned as an entertainment for After Prom participants until early morning of the next day. Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Wallace, to donate the same amount as last year, \$1,500.00 and pay the amount out of the Special Park and Recreation Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee reports were as follows:

Ways and Means-Committee will be meeting with Hutchinson/Mayrath on February 10th to review the annual tax abatement application.

Streets and Alleys-Department has taken bids for a paint sprayer to use when painting parking lines downtown. Three bid proposals were presented. An approval to purchase will be made at the next Council Meeting.

Council discussed the amount of inventory on hand in each department. Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, that each department make an annual inventory list of everything their department owns and a video if possible, and give a copy to City Clerk. When there is a change in department heads the new department head

will sign off on the inventory list that is given to them. The motion carried unanimously.

Department opened bids for a new trash truck on February 2, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. They will make recommendations next meeting.

City needs more signage around school zones. A count was made and determined that 16 signs are needed. A discussion was held about what color of signs to purchase. Moved by Councilmember D. Hess, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, to purchase 16 black and yellow School Zone signs at a cost of \$1,644.32. The motion carried unanimously.

The burn site has been reopened.

Kansas One Call is passing some regulations in regard to requiring all underground utilities be located and mapped. There is a meeting in March sponsored by the Kansas Rural Water Association that will have programs concerning locates for sanitary sewer lines. Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, to pay registration fees and meals for Greg Jensen, Kent Hessling and Daton Hess to go to the Kansas Rural Water Association Annual Conference in Wichita on March 24 – 26. Councilmember D. Hess's registration fee will be reimbursed to the City. The motion carried 7-0-1. Councilmember D. Hess abstained.

City Property-Councilmember Fox has talked to John Cyr, with North Central Regional Planning Commission to discuss the possibility of funding to demolish the GT building. Mr. Cyr stated that the City should retain an engineer to write specifications for demolition so the project can be put out for bids. Moved by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to allow the Committee to contact engineering firms of Schwab and Eaton and Campbell and Johnson, to see if they would be interested in the demolition project. The motion carried unanimously.

Building Permits-Moved by Councilmember Baker, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve a building permit for Raymond J. Orr for a 110 square foot addition to the home at 1714 6th Street. The motion carried unanimously.

Airport-BWR in Kansas City has stated it would cost two to three thousand dollars to amend our current Airport Layout Plan. Council would like to amend our current plan to remove the crosswind runway. Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember D. Hess, to approve the expenditure to amend the Airport Layout Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Emergency Preparedness-Councilmembers were presented their ID badges. All other city employees have already received their ID badges.

Old Business-Mayor Brown handed out a membership notice from NCRPC for \$500.00 to join additionally with the County's membership. Council stated the County pays a membership for the whole county and the city does not need an additional membership.

Mayor Brown asked the Council if they wanted to join the Kansas Rural Water Association. Representatives were here at the December 16, 2008 Council Meeting to talk about their organization. The City can join at 50% of the regular fee because the Public Utilities Commission already belongs. Discussion followed. Moved by Councilmember D. Hess, seconded by Councilmember Fox, to go into an executive session for ten minutes to discuss personnel issues with City Attorneys Michael Ryan and Dustin Mullin and Mayor Brown present. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting went into an executive session for ten minutes.

The meeting reconvened after ten minutes.

Moved by Councilmember B. Hess, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to pay the Kansas Rural Water Association membership at an estimated cost of \$360.00 per year. The motion carried unanimously.

Council discussed issues about hiring a City Administrator. Moved by Councilmember D. Hess, seconded by Councilmember Begnoche, to go into an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel matters. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting went into an executive session.

The meeting reconvened after ten minutes.

The Council discussed briefly about the City Administrator applicants they called in to interview. Council felt they did not have a "good fit" for Clay Center among the applicants who met all of the qualifications and were interviewed. Council discussed waiting to hire a City Administrator because of economic issues. Moved by Councilmember Begnoche, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to broaden the advertising, maybe in other trade magazines and keep on taking applications. The motion carried 5-3. Councilmembers Jordan, Wallace and Fox voted "nay".

New Business-Mayor Brown received a request from Joshua Hanson to have a "Hogs and Dogs Variety Talent Contest" in Dexter Park on April 18, 2009. Council would like a representative to appear before the Council to explain the event.

Mayor Brown advised councilmembers to direct city operation questions to City Hall. Some citizens get wrong information outside of City Hall.

Mayor Brown would like to set up a Youth Council. Youth Council would consist of students reporting and attending council meetings for the purpose of keeping the Council informed about youth activities. Planning will begin toward making this project a reality if approved by Council at next meeting.

There was a brief discussion about allowing volunteers to do work for the City.

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