

Council Chambers  
City Hall  
March 17, 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.

Municipal Judge's receipts for the month of February were \$4,494.00.

Appropriation Ordinance Nos. 3269 and 3270, allowing claims which had been checked by the Council, were presented. Moved by Councilmember Begnoche, seconded by Councilmember D. 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, read a letter from Richard G. Piscal, Garrison Commander for Fort Riley. Fort Riley was expressing their desire to support the community development with areas covered under the Army Community Covenant. The City of Clay Center has signed a Covenant Statement of Support to encourage the quality of life for Fort Riley's soldiers, family members and civilian workforce.

City Attorney, Michael Ryan, presented a non-action item and an action item.

Mr. Ryan discussed with the Council about zoning for parking lots. There are many parking lots around the City but none specifically zoned differently than the area around them. The Planning Commission is aware and approves the use of residential land as parking lots. Parking lots help alleviate parking on streets.

The Planning Commission held a meeting (today, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.) at 104 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a variance for Leiszler Oil Company for fuel pumps that were installed partially on residential property. Four lots at 104 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street are zoned for commercial use but the next two lots west of them are not. All six lots were purchased by Leiszler Oil Company. The Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend a variance be given by the Council for the east 30' of Lot 5 in Block 73 of the Original Townsite. Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember B. Hess, to approve the variance request for the east 30' of Lot 5, Block 73 as stated above to allow the diesel pumps to be used where they have been installed. The motion carried unanimously.

Mike Holte, representative of Clay County CrimeStoppers, appeared before the Council. Mr. Holte was asking permission to install "CrimeStoppers" signs around town on the City right-of-ways. The group intends to install around sixty signs along streets and highways. They will also abide by City or State regulations relating to signs. Moved by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to grant the request from "CrimeStoppers". The motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports were as follows:

**Ways and Means**-Councilmember Smith read a statement he had prepared from public comments he has received since the last meeting. At the last Council Meeting the Council delayed voting on making the Mayor a full-time position. Several Councilmembers stated the public did not want a full-time Mayor but would rather see a City Administrator hired. Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, that the City aggressively pursue, seek and hire a City Administrator. Discussion followed. The motion carried 7-1. Councilmember Fox voted "nay".

Mayor Brown briefly explained her position concerning the hiring of a City Administrator versus her being a full-time Mayor. Mayor Brown wanted to make sure that all Councilmembers understood she had not asked for the motion to make her a full-time Mayor at the last meeting.

**Streets and Alleys**-Committee reported that the trash truck we planned to replace had the engine break down. The truck was repaired for \$5,500.00.

Kansas Department of Transportation has encouraged the City to add Highway #24 Via Duct as a stimulus program. The Mayor has sent in the application with information KDOT had accumulated for the cost of replacement.

Committee announced that the Spring Clean Up would begin on March 30, 2009. Clean Up would begin at the north end of town and work south.

**City Parks and Pool**-Department employees have been busy installing playground equipment. They would like to purchase more.

Moved by Councilmember Begnoche, seconded by Councilmember D. Hess, to purchase two pieces of playground equipment at a cost of \$1,350.63. The pieces would be a Stand-N-Spin and Jack Hammer. The purchases are to be made out of Special Park and Recreation Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

**City Property**-Federal Stimulus Funds may be available to demolish the GT building.

**Cemetery**-Committee has reviewed two bids for a new 60" mower. Moved by Councilmember Baker, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to purchase a 60" Grasshopper mower from Bruna Implement Company at a cost of \$7,110.00. The motion carried unanimously.

**Lights, Water and Sewer**-Kent Hessling, WasteWater Superintendent appeared before the Council to explain work needed at the Plant. Mr. Hessling described doing all the work at once or doing it in several stages. If all the work was done at the same time it would cost less in engineering fees. Moved by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve the work needed at the WasteWater Plant for \$59,500.00. The monies would pay for weir repair, engineering, and remodel of the aerator rotor. The motion carried unanimously.

**Building Permits**-Moved by Councilmember Baker, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, to approve the following permits for:

Travis Crutcher for a 30' x 32' pole building at 126 Court Street.

R & B Investment for a 3720 square foot storage building at 909 W. Crawford.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Airport**-Committee met with various officials to discuss the installation of an 8" water line to the Airport Industrial Park. Several different entities may help pay for the line.

**Police Advisory**-Department has a need for a new in car video camera. New cameras like the one currently used cost \$4,060.00 new. A reconditioned camera with an eighteen month warranty can be purchased for \$3,500.00. Approval to purchase a camera will be made at the next meeting.

Department has agreed to pay a registration fee for the Animal Control Officer, Amy Taylor, to attend a training workshop in St. Louis, Missouri. Ms. Taylor is planning a trip to St. Louis anyway, so it will not cost the City travel expenses.

**New Business**-Mayor Brown informed the media that if people do not separate their items for Spring Clean Up the City will not pick it up. If the residents do not pick up the piles of mixed items the Police Department will write nuisance tickets.

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

SEAL

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Calvin Wohler  
City Clerk

