

March 9, 2020

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session on the above date at 5:30 P.M. in Council Chambers at City Hall.

Mayor Mark Kennedy called the meeting to order. Council members present were Darcy Hansen, Jessie Kootz, Stephen Magette, Tyler Renard and Wayne Scritchfield. Mayor asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also in attendance were Patrick Hoffman, City Attorney; Emil Halfhill, Chief of Police; Linda Denning and Joe Doubrava, Ellsworth County Independent Reporter; Ryan Harrison, Harrison Electric; Rick Sippel; Randy Choitz, Choitz Electric; Ronnie Tenbrink, Recreation Director; Joe Travnichek, Water & Sewer Superintendent; Clif McDonald, Kirkham Michael & Assoc.; Delvin Bettenbrock, Street Superintendent and Tami McGreevey, Ellsworth Chamber of Commerce.

Magette motioned to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Claims Ordinance A01-0220 and the omitted Diligent bill from February 10, 2020 claim ordinance. Scritchfield seconded the motion. When put to vote all vote aye. Motion carried.

Joe Travnichek would like the Council to create a committee to help decide what electrical wiring is actually needed for the new city shop. Mayor will work on getting a committee together.

Mayor stated under new business we have Don Osenbaugh listed and this will actually be an executive session at the end of the meeting.

Jon Halbgewachs from Kirkham Michael & Assoc. arrived at 5:40pm.

Delvin Bettenbrock invited Harrison Electric and Choitz Electric to come to the meeting to discuss their proposals for replacing the Streetscape wiring. Much discussion then followed. Scritchfield suggested creating a committee to figure out what needs to be done to fix this so we then can go out for bids on the project. It was decided to table this to another meeting.

Tami McGreevey informed the Council that the Tourism Committee is not in compliance and is requesting Council to approve the following ordinance so the Director of the Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce can be an ex officio member to chair the Committee. Discussion then followed.

Scritchfield motioned to approve the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING 3.16.080 Convention and tourism committee established – Terms OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ELLSWORTH, KANSAS.

Magette seconded the motion. When put to vote all vote aye. Motion carried. The ordinance was number 3100.

Mayor reported on the proposal from Dellinger Fence Co. This was part of an agreement entered into by the City with Great Plains Manufacturing for granting the City a temporary easement and extra right of way to construct the turn lanes on East Eighth Street and K156. Mayor is asking the Council for approval. Magette motioned to approve the Dellinger Fence Co. proposal for Great Plains Manufacturing not to exceed \$3115. Scritchfield seconded the motion. When put to vote all vote aye. Motion carried.

Jon Halbgewachs presented a proposal from Kirkham Michael & Assoc. for a topographic survey and grading plan designs for the new sport complex. Discussion then followed. Magette motioned to approve the proposal from Kirkham Michael & Assoc. for a topographic survey and grading plan designs for the new sport complex. Renard seconded the motion. When put to vote, Hansen, Kootz, Magette and Renard vote aye. Scritchfield abstained. Motion carried.

Joe Travnichек presented three bids for a 4inch trash pump and is recommending the Council approve the Honda Trash Pump from Northern Tool. Renard motioned for the water department to purchase the Honda Trash Pump from Northern Tool not to exceed \$1100. Hansen seconded the motion. When put to vote all vote aye. Motion carried.

Delvin Bettenbrock presented a bid from Kyler & Son to replace curb & guttering and some of the street at 215 E. Fourth Street. Discussion then followed. Renard motioned to approve bid from Kyler & Son to replace the curb & guttering and some of the street at 215 E Fourth Street not to exceed \$1130. Hansen seconded the motion. When put to vote all vote aye. Motion carried.

It was decided by the public through a Facebook poll to leave the graphics the same at the swimming pool water tower.

Patrick Hoffman informed the Council that LaVonne Shawley is interested in selling the City her property at 306 & 302 E. South Main Street. Discussion then followed. It was the consensus of the Council not to purchase it.

Jon Halbgewachs with Kirkham Michael & Assoc. reported on the City's Neighborhood Multi-Use Path project. Council gave Kirkham Michael & Assoc. permission to fill out the Form 1302.

Don Osenbaugh and John Deerdolf arrived at 6:40pm.

Joe Travnichек reported to the Council well #10 is done and he will have Mel Karst plug the old well. Pool tower project will start in a couple of weeks. He also asked the Council what they would like done with the splash pad. Council decided to remove all the paint on the splash pad and wait on fixing the leak under the turtle. Council would also like partitions put into the restrooms and get rid of the shower curtains.

Ronnie Tenbrink stated that Mid-America Pool Renovations will be here next week to start the pool renovation.

Emil Halfhill asked the Council about putting security cameras out at the recreation center and concession stand. INA is willing to give the City a complete return on the 4 port DVR which is currently out there and replace it with an 8 port DVR. Discussion then followed. Emil will go back and visit with INA again. He reported on microphones for the council members which will cost around \$2000 to \$3000 and wanted to know if this is something the council would like him to check into more. Council stated they are not interested. Free dump week is set for April 13 – 18, 2020. Emil wants to know if there is money available to cleanup properties through abatement or what direction the Council would like him to take. Emil will get information from other Cities on what they do.

Mayor and Patrick Hoffman will check into refinancing some of the City's bonds since interest rates are so low.

Hansen asked for something to be done about the old furniture left outside of a rental house on West Eighth Street and another property on West Eighth & St. Louis with windows broken out and raccoons living in it. Chief Halfhill will look into this.

Scratchfield and Kootz informed the other council members about the Governing Body Institute which will be held on a Friday & Saturday. If council members are interested in going the City of Ellsworth will pay for the registration, hotel and meal expense.

Magette suggested to Joe Travnicek to have the well on the dentition pond site to be plugged when he is having the other one done.

Patrick Hoffman stated he mailed out information on two drainage easements for Preisker Park and East North Main. The owner of the Starver property on East North Main Street gave the City the property. Council requested Patrick to file the deed. He is currently working on airport hangar lease agreements to eliminate subleasing. He informed the Council about possibly getting a free environmental study done on the Veterans Memorial Hospital bldg. through North Central Regional Planning Commission.

Magette motioned Council enter executive session with consultants Don Osenbaugh and John Deerdolf; and City Attorney at 7:15 P.M. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters related to non-elected personnel and the Council return to the regular meeting at 8:15 P.M. The executive session is required to protect the cities right to the confidentiality of its negotiating position, negotiating matters and public interest. Scratchfield seconded the motion. When put to vote all vote aye. Motion carried.

Council entered executive session at 7:15 P.M. and returned to the regular meeting at 8:15 P.M.

There being no further business on proper motion the meeting was adjourned until March 20, 2020.

Angela Mueller
Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer