

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, June 25, 2018

The governing body of the City of Coldwater met in regular session with the following present: Mayor Penny Bruckner presiding, Council members Mike Bushnell, Joe Ceballos, Andrew Evans Daniel Hess and Jason Martin, Public Works Director Danny Shaw, Chief of Police Tyson Rosenberger, Lake Co-Managers Debbie Dutton and Sam McCleary, City Attorney Allison Kuhns and City Clerk Kristal Sherman.

Visitors included Chris and Katelyn Johnson, Sherry Gossett, Katrina Reed, Jesse Brumbaugh and Chris Bruckner.

Minutes from the June 11th meeting were approved as written, motion by Daniel, seconded by Joe and the motion carried.

Chris Johnson told the council he lives in the middle of the 200 block of west main street and is here on behalf of his neighbors because of the “city ditch” that’s on the east end of their block. He said the tall weeds and trash are making it a habitat for skunks and snakes which makes it dangerous for anyone to be around the ditch. He also told the council he appreciates the job the city maintenance crew does and said they have sprayed the weeds in the ditch one time this year, but it just left 6 foot-tall, dead weeds. He asked the council if the weeds could be cut down with a weed eater and said if they would start cutting the weeds down before they got tall it would be a lot easier to maintain. Sherry Gossett said she has lived in the house next to the “ditch” growing up and said her dad used to mow and maintain the ditch so it wasn’t a problem. She also said her dad always told her the property from the lilac bush east is the city’s, she said she would like to see it be sprayed and the weeds cut down to make it safe when her grandkids are over visiting her mother. Katrina also said her kids like to play down in the ditch when they are over at her grandmother’s house and doesn’t want to see anyone get bit by a snake. Daniel said he and Danny had looked at the ditch last week and said cutting the slope of the ditch back to where it could be safely mowed, would take it back almost to the Shelton’s house. Danny mentioned the right way to correct the problem would be to put a culvert in place and filling in the ditch. Mayor Bruckner said they will discuss the matter further at the end of the meeting and let them know what the council decides.

Lake Co-Manager Sam McCleary told the council he has checked around and can’t find a used golf cart for use at the lake for under \$3,500.00 and didn’t know how much they wanted to spend on one. Daniel suggested having Debbie fill her personal vehicle with fuel instead of purchasing a golf cart if she would agree to it. Mayor Bruckner said they would put the matter at the end of the meeting to discuss it further. Sam also told the council he has buoys to set out at the lake and will get them out with his boat before July 4th.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw told the council he was hoping he would have a bid for water well #5 by the meeting tonight, but he hasn’t heard back from the guy he contacted. Danny recommended they get someone to search for a grant for the water line project from town to Comanche Estates, he suggested contacting the EBH engineer that had worked up the figures for the project a couple years ago, the council also suggested contacting someone with the Rural Water Association to see if they know of any grants to apply for. Danny said he was asked to look into the costs involved with repaving the school parking lot and said he estimates it to cost around \$20,000.00 and that would be just the materials, no labor costs included. Daniel said he would let the school board know. Danny reported that he had been in contact with the Bryants about their elevator behind the grocery store, they are wanting to tear it down, but the fire department told them they couldn’t burn it even after they demolished it, so they asked if the City could help haul it away and also haul dirt to fill it back in. The council agreed to have the maintenance crew help them haul it off and haul dirt in. Danny asked once again about extra compensation for his employee’s when they are on-call. Kristal told the council she had emailed them the responses she received from other cities about how they handle on-call time. Mayor Bruckner asked those that hadn’t read the email, to read the responses and they will revisit this issue at the end of the meeting. Danny also reported a letter has been received from Kyle Long, project manager for Utility Maintenance Contractors, regarding the

painting at the pool, Kyle stated in his letter “After the pool is drained at the end of the season, UMC will once again dispatch personnel to perform a thorough examination of the pool floor and fix any areas of issue to ensure that this problem does not continue.” Danny said he feels confident they will keep their word and be back to fix any problems. Daniel made a motion to go ahead and pay Utility Maintenance Contractors with the condition they come back to work on the issues after the pool has been drained for the season, seconded by Jason and the motion carried. Danny said he has called Steve Heft with Heft & Sons to ask him for a bid to repave the city streets and hasn’t received a call back, Daniel said he has also tried to contact Steve with the same result. Danny also told the council he has sprayed the ditch on west main street twice, the council asked if they could stay on top of the weeds if they used a weed eater. It was suggested to take down the east side of the ditch and that would make the west side much easier to maintain. The council asked Danny to get prices and see what it would cost to put a culvert in.

Chief of Police Tyson Rosenberger passed around a proposed agreement between the City Police Department and the Comanche County Sheriff’s Department which enables Sheriff Lehl and his deputies to enforce city ordinances and enables Chief Rosenberger to enforce county and state laws outside the city limits of Coldwater. After discussion with Chief Rosenberger and Undersheriff Jesse Brumbaugh, Daniel made a motion to allow the City Police Department and Sheriff’s Department to share duties per the agreement, seconded by Jason and the motion carried.

Danny said he had another issue he had thought of: He said he knows of two places in town people are living in campers at their residence which is against our zoning ordinance. After discussion, the council agreed to have City Attorney, Allison Kuhns write letters to the individuals.

Council member Joe Ceballos asked Danny if he would send a code letter to the owner of the house at 106 N. Philadelphia, he said there have been complaints and they asked if the house could be boarded up where there are openings and clean up the yard. Danny said he was going to get with the owner and do a walk-around the house.

Mayor Bruckner told the council that she and Kristal had met all day last Wednesday with the City’s auditor Aaron Koehn from Vonfeldt, Bauer and Vonfeldt, and worked on a 2019 budget for them to review. Kristal told the council the only decision they needed from them tonight is to agree that they will not raise the proposed budget above the tax lid so an election wouldn’t be necessary. After the council reviewed the proposed budget, Daniel made a motion to not raise the proposed 2019 budget above the tax lid, seconded by Joe and the motion carried. The council did agree to ask Aaron Koehn to come to the July 23rd meeting to go through the 2019 budget with them.

Mayor Bruckner told the council there is a tournament at the ballfields on July 5th so the ballfields will be off limits for people to shoot off their fireworks that day. After discussion, Daniel made a motion to allow fireworks in the City from 9:00 p.m. to Midnight on July 5th since the ballfields are being used, the motion was seconded by Joe and the motion carried.

Bills in the amount of \$162,680.05 were presented for payment. Daniel made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Joe and the motion carried.

Under unfinished business: Mayor Bruckner asked the council if they had read the responses for on-call time. After discussion, Joe made a motion to keep the on-call time the same unless the employee is on-call for a holiday, then they will get an extra 2 hours for being on-call during the holiday, the motion was seconded by Daniel and the motion carried. Mayor Bruckner asked what they wanted to do about Debbie Dutton’s vehicle at the lake, either pay for her fuel or look further for a golf cart. After discussion, Daniel made a motion to allow Debbie to fill up once a week with a City Co-op fuel card, seconded by Jason and the motion carried.

Under new business, Mayor Bruckner reported that McCully & Associates is working on the website, she hopes to have a preview of the website at the next meeting.

With no other business presented, Joe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m., seconded by Daniel and the motion carried.