

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 13, 2019

The governing body of the City of Coldwater met in regular session with the following present: Mayor Penny Bruckner presiding, Council members Renee Blasi, Mike Bushnell, Joe Ceballos and Jason Martin, Public Works Director Danny Shaw, City Attorney Allison Kuhns and City Clerk Kristal Sherman. Council member Daniel Hess was absent.

Visitors included Chris Bruckner.

Minutes from the April meetings were approved as written, motion by Jason, seconded by Renee and the motion carried.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw reported there is a manhole between Mike Bushnell and Justin Ellis' house, and he would like to purchase a load bearing manhole cover for it at a cost of \$1,024.51. Joe made a motion to purchase the manhole cover for \$1,024.51, seconded by Jason and the motion carried. . . .next Danny reported on the ballfields, he told the council he had taken the big water cannon to St. John for repairs and took the small water cannon from the park down to the ballfields for them to use since the park doesn't use it, as of the meeting, he hadn't received an estimate on what the large water cannon was going to cost to fix. Mike Bushnell said he had attended a ballfield meeting, and they asked if the city would help to spray weeds and fertilize. Danny said he has been in contact with CSV to spray & fertilize the outfield and will ask if they will spray for weeds in the parking lot also. Danny also reported there were problems with both docks at the lake filling with water, he went ahead and replaced them at a total cost of \$5,450.00. Danny also reported that Harlow was finished with the restroom renovation and it looks good. Danny asked the council if they had reviewed the equipment rates he had recommended changing at the last meeting. After discussion, Jason made a motion to set the prices as Danny had recommended at the April meeting which are: Front-end Loader from \$60/hour to \$165/hour; Grader from \$60/hour to \$140/hour; Backhoe from \$60/hour to \$120/hour; Ford Tractor from \$20/hour to \$100/hour; Skid Loader from \$40/hour to \$50/hour; Dump Truck from \$20/hour to \$60/hour. Mileage from 48.5 cents a mile (all over five miles) to current IRS mileage rate which is 58 cents per mile; Mowing - \$150 per lot, not to exceed 7,500 ft. per lot, the motion was seconded by Joe and the motion carried. Danny reported the company that painted the pool last year was here and did their touch-up painting, and he started filling the pool yesterday which should probably be full by tomorrow. Danny told the council the hazard classification for the lake dam went from significant to a high hazard since there is a new house in the floodplain if the dam would breach, it also put our inspection of the dam to every three years instead of five. He also said he has had 3 people ask to hay the lake this year, Matt Turley, Cade Leeper and John Zielke, he told the council he would like them to help make the decision of who to offer the job to. After discussion, the council agreed to offer the hay job to Matt Turley since he hasn't had it before and then put those that are interested on a rotation. Danny asked the council, as the Prairie Plaza board, if they had thought about his proposal he made at the April meeting for Prairie Plaza to reimburse the City for expenses the City had paid for Prairie Plaza in the past, and pay for the repairs to the loader and roller. Joe told Danny they were going to deny his request because they just hired the Prairie Plaza manager full time and didn't think their budget could pay for his expenses as well. Danny asked the council to again consider putting "no truck" signs at the south end of Washington Street so the saltwater truck that uses it won't tear up the rock they just put down on that street. The council made no decision on the request. Danny asked the council for permission to put 3 pieces of equipment up for auction. Mike made a motion to approve the old street sweeper, bucket truck and old KDOT dump truck be put up for auction, seconded by Jason and the motion carried. Danny reported on problems with the electric gate at the Comanche Estates/Lake, he thinks the individuals having problems with it do not know how to use it properly plus the key code is being given to people who shouldn't have the code, it was supposed to be given out to emergency personnel only. He told the council he would like to do away with the keypad and give the cards out to emergency personnel. The council agreed. Danny said he's debating on whether to hire one full-

time employee or two part-time employees for summer help, which he's already hired one part-time summer employee who will start work when school is out. After discussion, the council agreed for Danny to hire 2 part-time employees for summer help. Danny told the council the 6 inches of rain we received has caused some flooding problems at the lake, he recommended pouring a cement slab at the edge of the black top where the water goes across the road. The council agreed. Mike asked Danny how he was doing with staying ahead of Circle C paving since they are coming next month. Danny said they were going to try and start on the street prep work tomorrow. Renee asked Danny about the employee issue he had a couple months ago. Danny said he would know more after Wednesday when that employee has a meeting. The council discussed installing street lights at Comanche Estates, saying there are some homeowners there that are against it, but they are needed for emergency situations. After discussion, Mike made a motion to install 9 street lights at Comanche Estates, seconded by Renee and the motion carried.

Council member Mike Bushnell told the council he has had several complaints about a problem with skunks at a vacant house where cat food is being set out by a lady here in town. After discussion, the council asked Danny to issue Ellen Erwin a verbal warning and give her a copy of the city code that says she is not to feed stray cats.

City Clerk Kristal Sherman told the council she had received the new health insurance rates that are to go into effect July 1st and the City's rates actually went down a total of 5% from the current rates. Jason made a motion to keep the current Blue Cross and Blue Shield policy for renewal July 1, 2019, seconded by Renee and the motion carried.

Council member Renee Blasi reported there are problems at the shooting range, some of the plywood is pretty shot up and there are posts that have been shot through. Danny said there are shotguns being used out there when it says in the rules they are not allowed. He also said Kelsey Thompson was paid to pour concrete out there and the job was never done, the council asked the city clerk to look back at the bill that was paid to Kelsey for concrete.

Mayor Bruckner told the council Rocky Watson had purchased a lot at Comanche Estates and never did build since he relocated because of his job. She asked the council if they would want to buy the lot back and offer him the amount of the back taxes owed on it, which she thought was around \$1,200.00. She said if it goes up for tax sale, then anyone will be able to buy it. After discussion, Mike made a motion to buy back the lot at Comanche Estates from Rocky Watson for the back taxes owed, seconded by Jason and the motion carried.

Mayor Bruckner also asked the council to think about raising the starting wage for city employees. The current starting wage is \$10.00 with a \$1.00 raise given after the 90 day probationary period. After discussion, Joe made a motion to start full-time city employees at \$12.00 per hour with a raise after the 90-day probationary period to be at the discretion of the employee's supervisor and approved by the council, the motion was seconded by Mike and the motion carried.

Council member Renee Blasi told the council they need to review Tyson Rosenberger's pay since they agreed to wait 60 days from the March meeting to review his evaluation. Renee made a motion to give Tyson a 15 cent per hour raise to \$24.40 an hour, seconded by Joe and the motion carried.

City Clerk, Kristal Sherman told the council she received a letter from Sara Stapleton with the United Methodist Church, asking the council to allow them to schedule their annual movie night for June 19th on the east side of the Ragtime Embroidery building. After discussion, Jason made a motion to allow the UMC to use the 1st block of North New York Street, veteran's building restrooms and extra city trash cans for their movie night on June 19th, seconded by Mike and the motion carried. The council wants Sara to know that Danny needs to be called plenty ahead of time to gather the trash cans & cones for them. Kristal said she will let her know.

Bills in the amount of \$160,021.06 were presented for payment. Jason made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Joe and the motion carried.

With no other business presented, Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm, seconded by Renee and the motion carried.