

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, October 15, 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 Daniel Hess, Public Works Director, Danny Shaw, Lake Co-Managers Don and Debbie Dutton, City Attorney Allison Kuhns and City Clerk Kristal Sherman. Council member Jason Martin was absent.

Visitor: Robert Cardoza.

Minutes from the September meeting were approved as written, motion by Daniel, seconded by Mike and the motion carried.

Lake Co-Manager Debbie Dutton reported the lake had a pretty good year and said the cabins are pretty well occupied until the 1st of the year. The council told Debbie she and Don have done a great job at the lake this season, telling her they received no complaints. Mike told Debbie that Don was at the September meeting and said he was planning to return as Lake Manager next year and he asked her if she planned on being manager again as well. Debbie said she was planning to return also.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw reported he called Murphy Tractor yet again concerning the street roller, he told the council they still want \$2,000 just to put the roller back together after they've torn it apart. He said they were waiting to hear from their overseas company who they get their parts from to see if there's warranty with the parts. Danny told the council that if Circle C was going to seal streets again next year he will be looking to get that here right after the first of the year to be ready for them. Danny also reported the main sewer lift station is having quite a few problems and parts to fix the problems are going to cost around \$8,000.00, he has gone ahead and ordered the parts which will take 11 weeks to get here. Danny told the council he still thinks the city would be better off getting a new pickup now and trading in a couple of the older pickups they have. He said he had called around to a few car dealers and has been quoted \$42,000.00 to \$43,000.00 for a new pickup, he said the auditor suggested if they buy a new vehicle to finance it and make yearly payments on it. After discussion, the council asked Danny to talk to both local banks and get interest quotes from each. Danny reported the salt shed is deteriorating and he is looking to get prices on a metal "carport" building to put over the top of the footing of the existing building.

City Attorney Allison Kuhns told the council she had sent UniFirst Corporation a letter back in May to cancel the contract between them and the City for the maintenance employee uniforms and rug cleaning, but the service has continued and UniFirst sent the City a bill for "liquidated damages" for \$5,035.99, the amount it would be to finish out the contract if they go ahead and cancel. After discussion, Daniel made a motion to cut down on their uniforms and rugs until we are ultimately down to nothing, seconded by Joe and the motion carried. Allison also told the council that Rocky and Paula Watson answered the council's offer to purchase their Comanche Estates lot for the back taxes they owed, which they turned down. She said they had a couple options of how to move forward with that situation....1. The City could file some kind of quiet title action in district court....2. They could buy back the lot at full price (\$10,000.00)....3. If the Watson's do not pay their taxes, they could wait until the next tax sale and purchase the lot that way. After discussion, the council agreed to wait until the next tax sale. Daniel made a motion the council go into executive session with the City Attorney to discuss attorney/client privilege for threatening or pending litigation for 5 minutes, seconded by Joe and the motion carried. After returning to open session, no decisions were made.

Council member Mike Bushnell said he asked for pool manager pay be put on the agenda. He thought it might be a good idea to move the pool manager pay to hourly instead of salary, thinking it would be more fair to have the manager paid for the time they were actually at the pool. After discussion, Mike made a motion to move the pool manager pay to an hourly rate of pay instead of salary, seconded by Daniel and the motion carried. The hourly rate will be determined by the council next year when wages are discussed.

Mike also asked for the solid waste contract to be mentioned since the contract will be up for renewal January 9, 2020, and it had been discussed in prior meetings about needing to rework the contract. Allison said she will make a draft of changes she thinks should be made, and then the council can get with Justin York to work out the details before the January renewal date. Allison asked the city clerk to put the solid waste contract on the agenda under her for the next few months.

A letter was written to the city council from the Coldwater Methodist Church asking the council to waive the Veteran's Building rental fee when they used the building on September 27th and 28th for a mission project. After discussion, Daniel made a motion to waive the rental fee for the Coldwater Methodist Church using the building on September 27th & 28th, seconded by Mike and the motion carried.

Mayor Bruckner told the council the November meeting falls on November 11th which is the Veteran's Day holiday and asked the council if they wanted to move the meeting to a different day. After discussion, Daniel made a motion to postpone the November meeting a week to Monday, November 18th, seconded by Mike and the motion carried.

Mayor Bruckner said she had reached out to Curt Skoog from the Kansas City area regarding code enforcement, she sent him pictures of several houses which need to either be torn down or rehabilitated and he quoted a price of \$950 to handle that job. The council discussed options and ideas they had for code enforcement and after discussion, Mike made a motion to put code enforcement as part of the chief of police job description, seconded by Joe. Mike and Joe voted yes and Daniel and Renee voted no, Mayor Bruckner said the motion failed to pass. The council discussed asking the candidates when they are interviewed for the chief of police position whether they would be interested in having code enforcement be a part of their job.

Bills in the amount of \$124,527.79 were presented for payment. Daniel made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Joe and the motion carried.

Under unfinished business Mike and Joe said they were working on the police job description and will have a draft for the council to review at the next meeting.

With no other business presented, Daniel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Renee and the motion carried.