

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 18, 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.

Visitor: Barbara Crane, Pat Dunn, Kathy Bilyeu, Ty Theurer, Britt Lenertz, Robert Cardoza and his wife and Chris Bruckner.

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

Barbara Crane, representing the Civic Club, proposed to change the plan of adding a sidewalk to the City park, she said the club would like to purchase up to 7 trees for the park since there has been a number of trees removed there this year, she said they would also want the City to decide where they would go. Barbara said she got an estimate from Pratt Tree Farm and said they propose to plant oak trees and a pear tree because they do well here. Barbara asked for a volunteer from the council to work with her on getting these trees planted with Mike Bushnell telling her he would volunteer.

Kathy Bilyeu said she was back to complain about the skunk problem in her neighborhood, she is asking for the City's continued clean-up process on the lot to the west of her home. She said she has been setting live traps to hopefully trap the skunks.

Britt Lenertz introduced herself to the council as the newly hired emergency management director and invited everyone to the LEPC meeting tomorrow evening at 7:00pm here in the building. She said she hopes they all come out to the meeting and is looking forward to working with everyone.

Ty Theurer, principal of South Central High School, passed out a flier to let everyone know on Friday, January 24, 2020, USD 300 has scheduled a teacher in-service and is bringing in a poverty simulation exercise from Southwest Plains Regional Service Center. Ty invited the governing body to participate in the exercise.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw reported that Viking Industrial Painting has changed the plan for this year's water tower maintenance, they will be painting the outside of the water tower which is due to begin in the next week or two. Danny also reported he received the parts for the sewer lift station and also he's going to go ahead and get a trailer scheduled to bring the street sweeper back even though he still can't get an answer from Murphy Tractor about the street roller. Danny told the council that a valve wrench has been recommended for him to use at the lift station and the cost of it is \$2,700.00. After discussion, Joe made a motion to purchase the valve wrench, seconded by Renee and the motion carried. Danny reported that after the first of the year he is going to ask that Pueblo Concrete repair the spillway for \$14,000.00 which was a job that was approved and should have been done last year, and when they are here to fix the spillway, Danny said he was going to ask them to give him an estimate to pour concrete on the road at the south end of the lake where the water crosses the road when we get a big rain. Danny told the council he received quotes from both local banks on interest rates for purchasing a new pickup, Peoples Bank quoted a rate of 4.35% over six years and payments would be \$8,009.23 per year and Bank of Coldwater quoted a rate of 3.00% over six years and the payment would be \$7,682.28 per year. It was suggested Danny wait until the first of the year to purchase the pickup so no payments would have to come out of 2019 budget. After discussion, the council wants the auditor to be contacted to see if they went ahead and ordered the pickup in 2019 if any payments would have to come out of this year. Danny also reported they don't make a carport large enough for the salt shed, and they do not make custom ones but he did check with Mike at the Lumber Yard and to purchase trusses and a metal roof would cost about \$2,500.00. After discussion, Joe made a motion to spend \$2,500.00 for the salt shed, seconded by Renee and the motion carried. Joe asked Danny why the Swinehart Automotive bill was so high at \$788.23, Danny said it was for batteries for the larger equipment.

Barbara Crane asked the Mayor if the council could go ahead and vote whether or not to allow the Civic Club to plant the 7 trees in the park that she had asked them about earlier in the meeting so she would know whether or not to move forward. Mike Bushnell made a motion to allow the Civic Club to plant the 7 trees in the west park discussed earlier in the meeting, seconded by Joe and the motion carried.

City Attorney Allison Kuhns asked the council to go into executive session for attorney/client privilege to discuss the solid waste contract with the city clerk present also. Mike made a motion for executive session for 15 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 the generator hook-up be put on the agenda since the veteran's building is to be the staging area/shelter in case of a disaster, and didn't think the proper electric hook-up was installed. He said there are grants to help to get a generator if a double throw hookup is installed. Danny said the double throw hookup is in place, but the generator to be used sits down at the sheriff's office and in the past there has been discussion whether or not it is the one to be used in case of emergency. Mayor Bruckner said that will be a question to ask the new emergency manager so a proper generator can be designated for the veteran's building.

Mayor Bruckner presented a CMB renewal application from The Snappy Stop. Joe made a motion to approve the CMB renewal license for The Snappy Stop, seconded by Renee and the motion carried.

Council member Mike Bushnell reported on a recreation commission meeting he had attended discussing the condition of the ballfields and the fact the rec commission wants to have the fields ready for a ball tournament they want to host in April. He said the commission was trying to figure out estimated costs for the project so they can report to the council.

Mayor Bruckner said the next item on the agenda is the police officer. Council member Mike Bushnell made a motion the council go into executive session for non-elected personnel to protect the privacy of perspective employees for 15 minutes, seconded by Joe and the motion carried. After going into executive session again for 15 more minutes, and returning to open session, Mayor Bruckner said after conducting interviews for a police officer, she feels Devon Duffield was the best candidate and would like to appoint him to the position of Chief of Police with the starting pay at \$28,000.00. She added he will need to go to KLETC (Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center) to be certified and code enforcement will be added to his job description. Mike made a motion to extend the offer of Chief of Police to Devon Duffield, seconded by Joe and the motion carried. The council read through and discussed the new job description that was drafted for the Chief of Police position. After discussion, Renee made a motion to approve the job description with the following 3 amendments/additions: 1. Working peak holidays and taking a day off during the same pay period. 2. Keeping a running inventory of city-owned property. 3. Check in and check out daily with the Sheriff's office; the motion was seconded by Joe and the motion carried. Joe made a motion to make the starting wage for the Chief of Police \$28,000.00 per year, seconded by Jason and the motion carried.

City Clerk, Kristal Sherman presented an animal permit application from Steve Paul to allow six to eight cattle on his lot at 601 S. Leavenworth to keep the weeds down. Joe made a motion to approve the animal permit for Steve Paul, seconded by Jason and the motion carried.

Bills in the amount of \$194,500.34 were presented for payment. Joe made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Mike and the motion carried.

Allison asked the council to approve an ordinance she had drafted to clarify the utility service in the City. Renee made a motion to adopt the ordinance Clarifying the Utility Service in the City of Coldwater, seconded by Joe and the motion carried.

With no other business presented, Joe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m., seconded by Renee and the motion carried.