

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

Monday September 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

The governing body of the City of Coldwater met in regular session, with the following present: Mayor Joe Ceballos presiding, Council members Mike Bushnell, Robert Cardoza, Cleta Lampe, Britt Lenertz and Ashta Rosson, Public Works Director Danny Shaw, Co-Lake Managers Don & Debbie Dutton, Chief of Police Devon Duffield and City Clerk Kristal Sherman.

Visitors: A. J. Prusa, Dixie Bailey and Jessie Pretty.

Mayor Ceballos announced there would be a Revenue Neutral Rate hearing, and with no citizens appearing for public comment, there were no objections relating to the revenue neutral rate and proposed tax rate. Mike made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-2 which allows the City to levy a property tax rate exceeding the revenue neutral rate, seconded by Robert, and result of the roll call vote: Michael Bushnell, Yes; Robert Cardoza, Yes; Cleta Lampe, Yes; Britt Lenertz, Yes and Ashta Rosson, Yes. Ashta made a motion to adjourn the Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing, seconded by Cleta and everyone voted Yes. Mayor Ceballos opened the 2023 budget hearing, and with no citizens appearing for public comment on the proposed 2023 budget, Ashta made a motion to approve the 2023 budget as published, seconded by Cleta and everyone voted Yes. Cleta made a motion to adjourn the budget hearing, seconded by Britt and all voted Yes.

Mayor Ceballos called the regular council meeting to order, City Clerk, Kristal Sherman conducted roll call. Minutes from the August meeting were approved as written, motion by Ashta, seconded by Mike and all voted Yes.

AJ Prusa first thanked the council members for serving on the city council, she told them it was a thankless job and appreciated their service. AJ said Becky and Victoria want to do a 5K walk/run on December 3rd, which coincides with Santa Day. She said usually the 5K's are held at the lake, but they would like to have it in the City, starting at Danny Bruckner's business and ending at "Thompson Hill". She said they had a hard time raising money for the annual fireworks show this year and Becky would like to use the money raised for the 5K to fund the fireworks. She also let the council know the annual community pep rally that is held during homecoming festivities, and is usually held downtown, is going to be held at the football field this year. The council thanked AJ for coming to the meeting and said they will discuss her request for the 5K toward the end of the meeting and Kristal will let her know their decision.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw told the council there has been higher than usual water usage at the pool and he has sent a camera down the water line in several different directions trying to find the problem, he said there is too much water getting in the sump pump and is still investigating the problem. He said he has tried to contact people that specialize in finding water leaks to help find the problem and had a company from Tulsa call him back, they charge \$3,200.00 per day with a two-day travel time. He said he will keep trying to get to the bottom of the problem. Mayor Ceballos said he put the Lead and Copper Rule on the agenda because he would like the water committee, who is Britt and Robert, and himself, to go to a seminar to learn about it. Danny will get information on the seminars and let them know dates and locations. Danny said he talked with the representative of Superior Home Improvement out of Dodge City who gave the quote of \$918.00 for the veteran's building gutter repair and \$3,875.00 for the addition of the snow clips around the roof of the building and said the quote was still current. After discussion, Cleta made the motion to accept the quote of \$4,793.00 total for repairing the guttering and addition of snow clips to the veteran's building, seconded by Britt and everyone voted Yes. Danny also told the council he has had a complaint about the trees on main street from a business owner not being able to open the front door to the business because the tree roots have caused the sidewalk to come up in front of the door. He also said it was right by Heritage Park as well. Danny asked the council about purchasing Linda Hart's property on

west main street. Mike asked if the water is good for the water well there on the property, and Danny said the water is good. Ashta made a motion the City purchase the property for \$15,000.00, seconded by Robert and everyone voted Yes. Danny will get with Skip and ask him to draft a contract. Mayor Ceballos asked a council member to call executive session for personnel. Britt made a motion the council go into executive session for 15 minutes for personnel reasons, with Danny and Kristal staying as well, the motion was seconded by Cleta and everyone voted Yes. After returning to open session, no decisions were made. Ashta asked Danny the status on the leaves & brush pile he was trying to get for citizens to dump their leaves & brush, she said the county commissioners were asking where he was on it and if he was still working on it. Danny said that KDHE has to approve his site and where he was wanting to put it, it wasn't going to work, he told the council if they had an idea of where it could go to let him know, but yes, he was still working on it.

Mayor Ceballos asked Dixie Bailey if she had something she wanted to say to the council, she said she did. Dixie Bailey told the council she had received a letter because she had tree limbs in her yard. She said she had Jessie Pretty cut them down and because of his health he was not able to haul them off and they hadn't been there very long, then she receives a letter. She told the council she was very upset that she received the letter, and the City should have a way that they help the elderly people in this town in instances like this. Mayor Ceballos told Dixie that the council doesn't see the letters before they go out, but said the City will work with you if you just call into City Hall Kristal will get a hold of the code enforcer, and he will work with you. Dixie said she had someone come and pick them up for her, but was upset that the city sent the letter in the first place and said again that there needs to be a policy in place for the City to help the elderly citizens in this town. Jessie Pretty said he wanted to speak to the council also. He said he didn't know if this was the right place to ask about the meals at Prairie Plaza or not, but said his mother-in-law has been staying with them and having meals delivered to her from there and the proportions are so small, it's barely enough for her to eat. The council said he needs to report that to Edwin Rogers who is the manager at Prairie Plaza and he could pass the message on to Eldercare, which is the company that takes care of the meals there. Jessie also said they like to go camp here at the lake, but the \$18.00 per night tent price is way too high, especially for residents of Coldwater, he said if he gets two or three tents out there for a weekend, he can't afford it. He said they like to camp and they try to go every weekend, but if they leave the tent price at \$18.00, he's going to have to go elsewhere to camp. Jessie also told the council he received a code letter also, he said he mows his yard and keeps the grass mowed under his vehicles, but the letter was actually for his vehicles in his yard. He said he is a mechanic and that is the only income he has right now, there were rumors that the City was going to come and go through those vehicles, he said he was not ok with that, he said that it's trespassing and invasion of his privacy and he will protect his property. He also said he was helping Dixie out by cutting down the limbs of her trees, but hurt his knee and couldn't get them hauled off, he said the City should come around once every two weeks with a truck and do one side of town one day and the other side of town the next day, put \$15 or \$20 on each person's water bill for the service they provide.

Lake Co-Manager Don Dutton asked the council if they planned on hiring him back for next year and if so asked if he could do what he's done in the past and work 20 hours per week during the winter, taking time off around the holidays. The council agreed to have Don back next year and stay through the off-season months working 20 hours per week. Don reported that Rodney Brozek from Protection wants to put a memorial out at the lake for his daughter, where she had her wreck. After discussion, the council agreed that before they would approve a memorial at the lake, Rodney needs to bring pictures of what he wants to put out there and where, so they can see what he wants to do. Don said he wants to work on repairing picnic tables over the winter months. Don also said him and Debbie would like to have a meeting with the lake committee before the October meeting to go over the lease agreement with a few proposed changes so it can be ready by the first of the year. Debbie

asked the council if it was okay her and Don take off next Monday thru Thursday (Sept. 19th thru Sept. 22nd), with the booth being closed because Melissa isn't able to fill in. The council agreed. Debbie said they had a good Labor Day weekend, and also told the council she is going to have her other knee replaced and is hoping she can do it next month so she'll be ready to go again in March. Debbie also let the council know that October 15th will be her last day this season.

Chief of Police Devon Duffield told the council since the last meeting he has written 27 tickets, 10 warnings and 1 arrest. Devon reported he sent out several code enforcement letters before the come home to Coldwater event. He also reported there have been some problems with the new patrol car on order, they haven't started production on the new Tahoe and the price has been raised to \$58,836.00 without the extras that were going to be included in the \$52,986.93 estimate from June. He said because of the rise in price, he will opt out of the new camera system and use the one from the existing car. The guy he has been talking to is going to look for other options and let him know.

Mayor Ceballos told the council the October meeting falls on October 10th, which is the Columbus Day holiday and asked if they would want to move that meeting to Tuesday, October 11th. The council agreed.

Bills in the amount of \$128,856.63 were presented for payment. Mike made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Robert and all voted Yes.

Under New Business and Response to Public Comment - Mayor Ceballos asked the council to consider AJ Prusa's request from earlier in the meeting to hold a 5K in the City on Santa Day. After discussion, Ashta made a motion to approve the 5K in the City on Santa Day, December 3, 2022, seconded by Cleta and everyone voted Yes. Mike reported he has received quite a few complaints about Dennis Daniel's place, across the street north from the courthouse. There were people here for the come on home festivities that complained about the danger of not being able to see going around that corner with vehicles on both sides, especially at night, plus being right by our courthouse and downtown doesn't make a very good statement when we're sending out all the other code letters. Mayor Ceballos said he will say something to Devon to send him a code enforcement letter.

With no other business presented, Ashta made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m., seconded by Mike and all voted Yes.