

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 10, 2020

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, Robert Cardoza, and Cleta Lampe, City Attorney Allison Kuhns, Public Works Director Danny Shaw, Chief of Police Devon Duffield and City Clerk Kristal Sherman. Council member Ashta Rosson was absent.

Visitors: Vanita Blundell and Chris Bruckner.

Mayor Bruckner called the meeting to order and minutes from the January meeting were approved as written, motion by Mike, seconded by Robert and the motion carried.

Vanita Blundell with United Country Real Estate told the council she has an issue with the utility account for the Comanche Motel, she explained there is a contract pending on the motel and there is an outstanding water bill of over \$500.00 which was not paid by the previous owner. Kristal said it had not been paid because the current owners had never applied to turn the water on so the bill is still outstanding, Tara Herd refused to pay the bill when she sold it to Bernardo Salas, so it has stayed with the property. Vanita told the council she feels the previous owner should be responsible for the water bill, not the people that are trying the purchase the motel. City Attorney Allison Kuhns told the council she can file a judgment against Tara to make her responsible for the bill. After discussion, Mayor Bruckner told Vanita they will discuss the matter later in the meeting and let her know their decision.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw reported the sewer lift station is up and going good, they have been working on the new fence at the shop, Kristal received the check for the roller and they have been doing dirt work at the ballfield. Danny asked the council to reconsider purchasing the new pickup for the public works department. He said the transmission is going out on one, and another needs a new air conditioning system, he would be selling three and that would leave him three including the new one. After discussion, Robert made a motion to purchase the new pickup in the amount of \$41,512.00 which includes a utility bed, seconded by Cleta and the motion carried. The council agreed to go with the Bank of Coldwater for the pickup loan since they had the lowest interest rate. Danny said he will sell the three pickups on an auction site. Danny also reported he is helping the recreation commission with dirt work on the ballfields since they are contracting with someone to come in and work on one of the fields. Mike reported the rec commission is asking the city to donate a cabin for the guy they have contracted with to work on the ballfield. Mike made a motion to allow the contractor up to 12 consecutive days stay at the cabin while he's here to work on the ballfield, seconded by Renee and the motion carried. Mike asked Danny how the south road at the lake is coming along and if the plan is to seal the road when they are finished laying the rock.....Danny said it's going slow, Harley Haas doesn't have all the rock hauled on it yet.....and yes the plan is to seal the road, along with Washington Street at the same time, when they are finished.

Chief of Police Devon Duffield reported he received confirmation that he's going to KLETC on March 16th, that means he will be finished with the academy on June 22nd. He also said he's losing his babysitter on March 1st, so he may need to change some of his schedule around before he goes to KLETC. Devon asked the council if he could take time off from March 11th through the 15th so he can spend time with his family before he starts at the academy. Mayor Bruckner told the council they could think about it and discuss it toward the end of the meeting. Devon told the council he thinks everything is going well with the Sheriff's office.

Mayor Bruckner presented Resolution No. 2020-1 which waives the Generally Accepted Accounting Principals to prepare financial statements and reports for the City of Coldwater for the year 2020. Cleta made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-1, seconded by Mike and the motion carried.

City Clerk Kristal Sherman explained her and Danny have been discussing the renovation at City Hall, wondering when the best time would be to install the new flooring. She told the council she was planning to take a couple vacation days on March 16th and 17th and Danny thought that would be a good time for him to get the new flooring installed. Kristal asked the council if it would be ok to close City Hall for those two days to make it easier to get the floor installed. The council agreed.

Mike told the council he had asked for the water bill admin fee to be put on the agenda, and he suggested the fee be raised from 25 cents to \$2.25. Kristal told the council the fee was put into place around 15 years ago to help with billing costs and has never been raised. After discussion Cleta made a motion to raise the fee \$1.00 to \$1.25, seconded by Robert and the motion carried.

Bills in the amount of \$90,386.43 were presented for payment. Cleta made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Robert and the motion carried.

Under new business, the council discussed the Comanche Motel water bill. It was agreed to let Allison file a judgment lien against the previous owner and not make the person that's purchasing the property owe the bill. Mayor Bruckner said she will inform Vanita of their decision. Kristal let the council know the auditor will be here this week to conduct the 2019 audit.

With no other business presented, Robert made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Cleta and the motion carried.

City Clerk, Kristal Sherman asked if the council was going to allow Devon his time off he asked for. Robert withdrew his motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Cleta and the motion carried. Renee made a motion the council go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel to discuss benefits for 10 minutes, seconded by Robert and the motion carried. After returning to open session, Mike made a motion to pay Devon 3 days' wages, charge him 2 days of vacation and let him regain the negative vacation balance while at training, the motion was seconded by Robert and the motion carried.

With no other business presented, Cleta made a motion the council adjourn, seconded by Robert and the motion carried.