

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

Monday 11, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

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, Cleta Lampe, and Ashta Rosson, Public Works Director Danny Shaw, Chief of Police Devon Duffield and City Clerk Kristal Sherman.

Visitors: Steven & Angie Carrithers, Vanita Blundell and Chris Bruckner.

Mayor Bruckner called the council meeting to order, City Clerk, Kristal Sherman conducted roll call. Minutes from the December meetings were approved as written, motion by Robert, seconded by Renee and all voted Yes.

Steven and Angie Carrithers told the council they would like something done about the curved street in front of their house which is in the 500 block of North Baltimore. Steven said there are times when two school busses have nearly collided head on, and after this last snow, someone came close to crashing their car into a tree in their yard from rounding the corner too fast. Danny said it has been a hazardous street for a long time, with many close calls. The council discussed a few different ways to fix the problem, and then tabled the matter to discuss further later in the meeting.

Vanita Blundell with United Country Real Estate told the council she has an offer from Shawn and Amber Harmon from Cimarron, for the Comanche Estates lot 2003 on Prairie Parkway, and they would also like to purchase the lot across the street the city owns where the oil well is as well. She said they would give a 30 foot easement for access to the oil well and are offering \$11,000.00 for both lots. The council asked Vanita what their plan was and why they would want to purchase the lot with the oil well. She said they wanted to make a "walking path" for access to the lake and will offer its use for the other homeowners as well. The council agreed to discuss the matter further, later in the meeting. Vanita also asked the council if they want to renew the agreement to have her market the Comanche Estates lots, she said when she first took it over, there were 22 lots and is now down to 16. Cleta made a motion to retain Untied Country to market the Comanche Estates lots, seconded by Ashta and all voted Yes.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw told the council the trees on main street really need to be trimmed, he said they are "playing havoc with the mirrors on the equipment". The council told Danny to ask Prairie Plaza Manager, Melissa McGuire who they used to trim trees, said he did a good job and was reasonably priced. Danny said he will get his contact information and get an estimate. Danny also told the council "if we're not going to be doing our own streets anymore, would you want to sell the oil truck and chat spreader". He said the oil truck is the one that was jointly purchased with City of Protection. Danny and Penny both said they have tried contacting Protection's Mayor to see how they would want to handle it and he won't get back with them. They agreed to go to Protection's City Council meeting tomorrow night and discuss it with their council. Danny asked the council to discuss raising water and sewer rates. Mayor Bruckner asked the council if they would like to set a special meeting to discuss raising water and sewer rates, the council agreed and set the special meeting for next Tuesday, January 19th at 6:00 p.m.

Chief of Police Devon Duffield told the council code enforcement resolutions have been done and served, with clean-up still to be done. He said Johnny Gean has been notified to come pick up the vehicles that have expired tags. Devon also told the council he agrees with the Carrithers that something needs to be done with their street in front of their house, he has seen many issues with that street. Devon also reported he is having problems with the city patrol car, he said when he "steps on the pedal" it doesn't want to run. He is hoping it is not the motor, but has shopped around for a new motor. He has also shopped around for a new vehicle and provided estimates on a replacement vehicle which run anywhere from \$37,500.00 to \$48,900.00. Devon said he is hoping the issue he is having is just a spark plug issue.

Cleta made a motion the council go into executive session with Devon, Danny and Kristal, regarding zoning enforcement for 15 minutes, seconded by Renee and all voted Yes. After returning to open session, no decisions were made.

Mayor Bruckner asked the council to review the annual appointments as follows:

Official banks: Peoples Bank and Bank of Coldwater

Official paper: The Western Star

Municipal Judge: Rustin Martin

City Treasurer: Johnita Stalcup

City Clerk: Kristal Sherman

Clerk of the Municipal Court: Kristal Sherman

City Attorney:

Building inspector: Danny Shaw

Chief of Police: Devon Duffield

Code Enforcement/Public Officer: Devon Duffield

Animal Control Officer: Danny Shaw

Meeting time: second Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the City Building

Mileage reimbursement rate: 56 cents per business mile (IRS Rate)

Mayor Bruckner told the council the City Attorney is left blank because Allison Kuhns emailed her letter of resignation earlier today, saying she had moved to Meade and was no longer qualified to remain as the City Attorney. K.S.A. 15-209 requires that a city attorney to “be a qualified elector of the county in which said city is located or of an adjoining county.” Mayor Bruckner said she has contacted Charlie Herd, he gave her a list of what he would charge, but does not know if the city can afford what he would charge. Cleta made a motion to approve the appointments listed, seconded by Robert and the motion carried. The council discussed trying to contact a few attorneys to see if they would be interested in the City Attorney position and discuss it further at the special meeting on Tuesday, January 19th.

City Clerk Kristal Sherman told the council she has the seasonal camper letters ready to be mailed, but needed the council to review the lake rates and asked if they wanted to put the vehicle, boat & jet ski permits on discount the last two weeks of the month as has been done in years’ past. After discussing the lake rates, Mike made a motion to raise the monthly camping rates by \$25.00, seconded by Robert and all voted Yes. The council then discussed boat, jet ski and golf cart rates. Ashta made a motion to raise the seasonal boat and jet ski rates from \$100.00 to \$125.00 which includes one vehicle permit; raise the 3-day boat and jet ski rates from \$30.00 to \$40.00 and to raise the golf cart permit rate from \$30.00 to \$50.00, the motion was seconded by Cleta and all voted Yes. The council agreed to discount the vehicle permits to \$10.00, and the boat and jet ski permits to \$100.00 from January 19th through January 29th.

Mayor Bruckner presented the 2021 “engagement letters” with the auditing firm of Vonfeldt, Bauer and Vonfeldt. Mike made a motion to approve hiring Vonfeldt, Bauer and Vonfeldt as the City’s auditing firm for the 2021 year, seconded by Ashta and all voted Yes.

Mayor Bruckner presented Resolution No. 2021-1 which waives the Generally Accepted Accounting Principals to prepare financial statements and reports for the City of Coldwater for the year 2021. Cleta made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-1, seconded by Renee and all voted Yes.

Bills in the amount of \$90,561.04 were presented for payment. Renee made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Ashta and all voted Yes.

Under new business, the council discussed the curve at North Baltimore in front of Carrithers house. They agreed the best solution would be to block the street off at the curve both ways. Danny said he will talk to the homeowners it would affect and also talk to the transportation director at the school. The council also discussed the offer from the Harmons of the Comanche Estates lots Vanita presented, after discussion, the council agreed to the purchase price of the 2003 lot, but would like further clarification on what the Harmons’ plans are with the lot with the oil-well. Penny will contact Vanita so she can contact Shawn & Amber Harmon for clarification.

With no other business presented, Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m., seconded by Robert and all voted Yes.