

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING

Monday, June 12, 2023, 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, City Attorney Skip Herd, Public Works Director Danny Shaw, Chief of Police Devon Duffield and City Clerk Kristal Sherman.

Visitors: Teresa Brooks, Brian Smith and Chris Mills

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

Teresa Brooks told the council she has been working on her house and Brian Smith, who is helping her with her house, said the outside speaks for itself and the inside is cleaned up, he also has the material to fix the roof and it should be done in a couple of days. Devon told the council he's only seen the house from the outside, the City guys came and cleaned the yard, the hole in the roof has been patched and said they are making an effort to improve the property. City Attorney, Skip Herd, said "it would be good to give them a time frame because we have been dealing with this for a long time." He said "the way the statute reads is you need to give Teresa a hearing in front of the council, and then you have the opportunity to give her a time frame before we start anything in the court proceeding towards condemnation, so you can give her the time you think is necessary and once he gets the plumbing done then eventually you'll have to have it inspected to see if you can actually get the gas and electricity turned back on." After discussion, the council agreed to give Teresa 60 days to get the house fixed to be livable, and will evaluate the situation at the August 14<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw passed around the 3 bids he has for the water basin:

1. Mongan Painting & Blasting from Hume, MO – Option 1 is \$94,500.00 and Option 2 is \$73,500.00; 2. Utility Maintenance contractors from Wichita, KS - \$131,750.00; 3. Mayer Specialty Services from Goddard, KS - \$129,20.00. Danny also told the council that on top of each of these bids, we still need to buy a new pump which is between \$8,000.00 and \$10,000.00. Danny reported that a little over a year ago he put a new meter in water well #6 and it messed up, he sent it in and they did warranty work on it. In January it messed up again and they are not going to warranty it this time, he said replacement cost of another meter is \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00. Mike made a motion to approve a new replacement meter that is approved by KDHE up to \$4,000.00, seconded by Britt and everyone voted Yes. Mayor Ceballos asked Danny to get a few quotes for a new pump at the basin for the next meeting. Danny also reported he has the new basketball goal for the pool ready to go up, he had Cam McMoran do some welding on it, but come to find out it was lifeguards at the pool who were witnessed breaking the goal after hanging on it and bending it. After discussion, it was agreed that Cleta and Ashta, as the pool committee, will meet with the pool manager Kayla Snyder and let her know if it gets broke again by the lifeguards, it may not get fixed or the lifeguards may have to pay to have it fixed. Danny informed the council he will be having knee replacement surgery on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Britt asked Danny about the entrance light at the lake, he said he hasn't installed it yet.

Robin Keith told the council he has been staying over at Steve Pierce's house helping him out because he's been sick and found out, since he had been gone from his house, he had a water leak that filled the basement and he used 191,000 gallons of water. He asked the council to forgive the extra usage of the leak. Mayor Ceballos told Robin that in the past we've had people come in and ask for forgiveness for a water leak and we've never done that, he gave an example that he had a water leak during the winter where he waters his cows and it was his responsibility to pay for the water that ran out. The council agreed not to forgive his water bill.

Chief of Police Devon Duffield reported since the last meeting he has written 36 tickets and given 7 warnings. Reporting for code enforcement, he said he was giving people a break with the

recent rain that we've had and has sent out another condemnation letter for the house that's just south of the Kremee, so far they have not responded to the letter. Devon said he is going to Wichita this week to go to Mobile radio to see about getting his radio encrypted. Cleta said he needs to get his radio encrypted, the county officer's radios are encrypted and he can't converse with them. Devon also reported the new car is finally being built June 15<sup>th</sup>, they would like the radio and equipment brought up to them by the 15<sup>th</sup> and completion date is no later than the 22<sup>nd</sup> he said he will leave on the 14<sup>th</sup> and take everything up to them. Devon asked for a storage unit for the back of the car to store his equipment in, the cheapest one he could find is a cargo box with a sliding door for \$1,600.00, there is one that is a little more secure for \$2,000.00. Ashta made a motion to have Devon purchase the storage box for \$1,600.00, seconded by Cleta and everyone voted Yes. Devon reported there's a possible problem housing "vicious dogs" telling the council the Ashland Veterinary Center will only hold a dog that has bit someone for 10 days, so that means they need to have the court date set by the time the 10 days is up. City Attorney, Skip Herd said it was discussed doing a "doggy bond" where the family would take the dog after the 10 days from the vet and before the court date, something to further discuss with the municipal judge.

Mayor Ceballos asked the council to read the request from Andi Dale on behalf of the United Methodist Church, asking the council to allow them to schedule their annual movie night for July 26<sup>th</sup> from 7pm to 11pm on the east side of the Stick It Signs building and allow the UMC to use the 1<sup>st</sup> block of North New York Street, the council agreed to the request.

City Clerk, Kristal Sherman told the council it was expressed last year by a few council members they wanted to attend the 2023 budget meeting, which will be coming up before the July meeting. She reminded the council that if more than 2 governing body members are in attendance, it would have to be called a special meeting. She said she had spoke with auditor Aaron Koehn, and got some open dates for the meeting. Ashta made a motion to hold a special meeting to plan the 2023 budget on July 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m., seconded by Cleta and everyone voted Yes.

Council member Cleta Lampe told the council July 4<sup>th</sup> falls on a Tuesday this year and asked the council to consider giving the city employees Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> off as well as Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> giving them a 4 day weekend. She said it would be hard to come back to work on a Monday, and take Tuesday off. After discussion, Cleta made a motion to give full-time city employees July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup> paid holidays off, seconded by Britt. The motion carried with Cleta, Britt and Ashta voting yes – Mike and Robert voting no.

Bills in the amount of \$102,069.19 were presented for payment. Robert made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Cleta and all voted Yes.

Under unfinished business council member Britt Lenertz said we need to be seriously thinking about moving forward with the water improvement project, she would like to see another engineering firm come to the meeting. She said with the number of houses at Comanche Estates, she feels we need to get better water capability there. The council discussed raising water rates over a period of time, applying for grants and low interest loans to be able to fund the improvement project. They also discussed having a community meeting to explain the need for the project. The council asked Danny to contact more than one engineering firm to make presentations to the council at future meetings.

Under new business, Cleta and Britt reported they have been planning a "Last Blast of Summer" at the lake on the Saturday of Labor Day Weekend. They would like to have games, food trucks, possibly a band.....they would like to get the tradition started again of doing activities at the lake like they used to do over the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday years ago. They have contacted the Chamber of Commerce, since they were planning a car show that Saturday, to move that to the lake. They asked the council to be thinking of ideas of things to do and report back.

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