

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

Monday May 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

The governing body of the City of Coldwater met in regular session, with the following present: President of the Council Britt Lenertz presiding, Council members Mike Bushnell, Makenzie Dunn, Gary Haulmark and Leasa Huck, Public Works Director Danny Shaw, Lake Co-Managers Debbie and Don Dutton and City Clerk Kristal Sherman.

Visitors: Nicole Pretty, Christie Mazurowaski, Hannah Sparks.

President Britt Lenertz called the regular council meeting to order, City Clerk, Kristal Sherman conducted roll call, Mayor Joe Ceballos was absent. Minutes from the April meetings were approved as written, motion by Gary, seconded by Leasa and all voted Yes.

Phyllis Waharockah-Tasi, regional director with Witt O'Briens met with the council over a zoom call and told the council about the Kansas Infrastructure Hub (kshub.org) which connects Kansans to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and helps Kansans make the most of federal funding that may be available.

Christie Mazurowaski, manager of the Comanche Inn asked the council about the transient guest tax being considered by the council. She said she understands the City needing to upgrade the water system, but said an additional 6% tax would make the room rates go up and is afraid it would cost the motel some business. She said they have already lost business from the hunters that used to come and stay during hunting season, some of them have purchased their own land/houses and don't stay with them anymore. Christie said if they approve the tax, she would appreciate it if it would be lower than 6%.

Nicole Pretty, manager of the Foxtrot Inn, said she's also afraid the tax would make the motel lose some business and that to be competitive she would rather not have to raise their rates. President Lenertz told both motel managers the council would further discuss the tax toward the end of the meeting.

The council held a teleconference with Javon Baker with the Kansas Rural Water Association, he said he offers technical assistance for rural water and wastewater systems and discussed the city's water rate structure. He said the City's water base rate of \$35.00 is about average, but the \$2.50 per thousand gallon charge is on the low side. He explained that KRWA works free of charge with cities, they are funded through the USDA, and said if the council is interested he would set down with the city clerk and go over some numbers for a new rate structure. The council agreed.

Hannah Sparks with Great Plains Development based in Dodge City said they serve 28 counties in Southwest Kansas. She said she applies for CDBG grants, the bipartisan infrastructure law grants that Phyllis talked about earlier, and Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks grants for jetties for the lake that Danny is looking into. She said they are paid by a percentage of the grant amount itself.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw told the council he has received two bids for the replacement of the expansion material on the lake spillway and caulking the deck at the pool: Apache Fiberglass (George Hutchens): spillway - \$5,492.30 pool - \$3,797.00; Mongan Painting LLC: spillway - \$34,285.00 pool - \$8,570.00. Mike made a motion to approve the bid from Apache Fiberglass for the lake spillway - \$5,492.30 and pool - \$3,797.00, seconded by Leasa and everyone voted Yes. Danny also reported the need for a new canopy at the pool, he priced one at \$2,200.00 plus shipping. After discussion, Leasa made a motion to approve a new canopy for the pool at a cost of \$2,200.00 plus shipping, seconded by Gary and everyone voted Yes. Danny said he would like to put a limit on the amount of loads of limbs that could be picked up from one property, he is planning

to schedule a couple of days in June for limb pick up. After discussion the council recommended only giving a couple weeks notice of the limb pickup, that way someone wouldn't go and trim or cut down a bunch of their trees and expect the city to pick them up. Danny told the council he has had conversations with the offices of the Corps of Engineers, Kansas Division of Water Resources, and Kansas Wildlife and Parks regarding the jetties at the lake, which are to help reduce shore erosion, he said he wants to gather more information before he makes a recommendation.

Lake Co-Manager Don Dutton reported that one of the campers had moved a dumpster so he could put his cargo trailer where the dumpster was. After discussion, Mike or Leasa (members of the lake committee) will talk to the camper about moving the dumpster back where it was originally. Don asked the council what he could do without an officer and speeders at the lake....the council told him to contact the sheriff's office, President Lenertz said she would talk to the county officers about taking a drive around the lake, especially during the upcoming Memorial Day holiday weekend to cut down on the speeding. Lake Co-Manager Debbie Dutton reported the lake campsites and cabins are full for all the summer holidays and the cabins are full every weekend until after Labor Day.

Council member Gary Haulmark said he had asked for the Southwest Kansas Community Foundation Grant to be put on the agenda, he said there's \$1,000.00 grant available to help fund renovation of the tennis courts in Coldwater, he said he would like to have the okay to pursue this and will go to the county commissioners and school board meetings to get their permission as well to hopefully share the cost to build four new tennis courts. Mike made a motion to allow Gary to apply for the \$1,000.00 grant, seconded by Mackenzie and everyone voted Yes.

Bills in the amount of \$204,302.27 were presented for payment. Leasa made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Mike and all voted Yes.

Under unfinished business, Gary reminded the council that the transient guest tax would be paid by the out-of-town guests of the motel and not the motels themselves. Gary made a motion the city adopt a charter ordinance for a 4% transient guest tax to be used for water system upgrades, seconded by Mackenzie. Gary and Mackenzie voted Yes, Leasa, Mike and Britt all voted No, the motion was voted denied 2 to 3. President Lenertz said the council could revisit the matter at a later meeting. The Land Bank topic was discussed and tabled.

With no other business presented, Gary made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m., seconded by Leasa and everyone voted Yes.