

COLDWATER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Monday July 8, 2024, 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, Gary Haulmark, Leasa Huck and Britt Lenertz, Public Works Director Danny Shaw and City Clerk Kristal Sherman.

Visitors: Mike Jellison

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

Mike Jellison told the council he has been involved with the ballfields since they got started, and is currently on the Coldwater/Wilmore Recreation Board. He gave a brief history how the current ballfields came about, and said the ballfields are now in need of some work. Mike passed around a profit & loss statement from July, 2023 through June, 2024 and explained they get 1 mil for a budget and this year their portion of the 1 mil is \$22,702.96. He said Coldwater/Wilmore gets 60% and Protection gets 40%. He also noted that the City budgeted \$14,000.00 this year for the ballfields. He is asking the City to add \$19,895.00 to the 2025 budget to pay for some work that needs to be done to the ballfields. After discussion, the council told Mike they would further discuss the budget request later in the meeting when they go through the 2025 budget.

Public Works Director Danny Shaw told the council he had to order some expensive parts for the pool and is also going to need to get a part for the slide as well, he said he's hoping what's on there will last the rest of the pool season because it was going to take a few weeks to get the part here, he's planning to change it out when the season is over. Danny also told the council after doing some research he doesn't think we need jetties at the lake, they would just be a waste of money, and said we just need to put in some rock to break up the waves from washing out the shore, he said he has lots of broke concrete that would work for that. Mayor Ceballos asked Danny about trying to cut out some of the reed grass that has grown up so much around the lake. Danny said he would like to try to burn it down over the winter.

Mayor Ceballos presented a cereal malt beverage license renewal application for Midwest Supermarkets d/b/a Venture Foods for approval. Mike made a motion to approve the CMB license application for Midwest Supermarkets d/b/a Venture Foods, seconded by Britt and all voted Yes.

The proposed 2025 budget was presented. Kristal said that Mayor Ceballos along with herself and council members Britt Lenertz and Gary Haulmark met with the auditor, Aaron Koehn to put together the 2025 budget. Gary said he would really like to see the 2025 budget cut back to the revenue neutral rate of 77.303 mills, the proposed budget now stands at 87.403 mills, and is up from the 2024 mill rate of 82.733 because the valuation is up. Kristal explained to get to the 77.303 mill rate, \$42,512.00 would either need to be cut from the budget or revenues raised by that figure. After going through the new budget, \$20,000.00 was cut from the street budget for resurfacing oil, since the city contracts the street work, and \$25,000.00 was cut from the lake budget, deciding not to remodel a bathroom in 2025 since one is to be done this year. Instead of adding to the ballfield budget, Gary made a motion the City apply for the South Central Community Foundation grant of \$15,000.00 to go toward the work needed at the ballfields, seconded by Leasa and everyone voted Yes. Gary and Leasa are going to work on the SCCF grant for the ballfields. Britt made a motion to approve the amended 2025 budget for publication, and set the budget hearing for August 12, 2024 at 7:00p.m., seconded by Gary and everyone voted Yes.

Gary said people realize how important the lake is to the city and would like the "city's blessing" to organize a volunteer lake clean-up day on Saturday, October 5th. He said him and Stephanie will grill hotdogs for lunch for the volunteers. Gary made a motion to have a lake clean-up day October 5th, seconded by Britt and everyone voted Yes.

Mayor Ceballos told the council he has been in charge of putting the flags up downtown on the holidays for quite a few years now and has been using the same flags ever since. He said the wind and elements have torn them up and we're in need of new ones. He also said the brackets to hold the flags are not in good shape either. He's not sure how much the cost will be, he hadn't had time to look into that yet but will check into the cost and let everyone know. The council discussed alternative ways to display flags downtown with no decisions.

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 Monday, August 5th on the east side of the Stick It Signs building and allow the UMC to block off the 1st block of North New York Avenue. Gary made a motion to allow the Coldwater UMC to have their movie night on Monday, August 5th and block off the 1st block of North New York Avenue, seconded by Leasa and everyone voted Yes.

Mayor Ceballos presented an animal permit application for Ericka Shanniak, she is asking to put 4 horses of Danny Huck's in their pasture at 601 S. Leavenworth Ave, she noted that eventually he will be removing 2 horses. After discussion, Gary made the motion to approve the animal permit, seconded by Britt and everyone voted Yes.

Bills in the amount of \$177,508.75 were presented for payment. Gary made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Mike and all voted Yes.

Under unfinished business, the council discussed making a tree limb pickup policy. Mayor Ceballos and Gary both said they would like for limbs to be picked up by the City in emergency situations only (high wind storms or ice storms). Mike said he is in favor of still having a limb pickup day in the spring/summer even if no emergency storm. After discussion, Gary made a motion to have the City pick up limbs when needed because of weather situations, then withdrew the motion for lack of a second. The council agreed to table the matter. Mayor Ceballos told the council Patty Fose had given the City a check for \$300.00 after the tree limb pick up day because of the huge piles of limbs she had. The ballfield policy was tabled, the committee has not had a chance to meet yet. The council discussed the Chief of Police position, Gary proposes the City hire Tanner Maas by August 26th so he can patrol over Labor Day weekend. After discussion, Gary made a motion to have Mayor Ceballos send out a letter offering Tanner Maas \$45,000.00 starting salary with the appointment to the position being contingent upon successful completion of a drug/alcohol screen and a psychological evaluation, the motion was seconded by Mike and everyone voted Yes. Gary said the lines on the tennis courts still need painted for tennis & pickleball, and is going to ask Jim Blundell to paint the lines. The council agreed.

Under new business, Gary passed around a handout explaining the Kansas Department of Commerce program called "Love, Kansas" which is a program to encourage former residents to move back home. The 19 initial pilot communities will receive a \$5,000.00 grant to help with their efforts to bring Kansans back home and in addition to the first 19 communities, the next 31 communities will also receive \$5,000 to "kickstart" their campaigns. Mike thought the Economic Development Foundation had discussed it as well and the council agreed to discuss it with them to see if they or the City wanted to implement the program.

With no other business presented, Britt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m., seconded by Leasa and everyone voted Yes.