

SEPTEMBER 4, 2012
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
7:00 P.M.

ITEM # 1 – Mayor Dennis Wilson called the meeting to order with councilpersons, Danielle Verkamp, Josh Cahill, Alan Sachs, Lowell Tonding, Margaret Roberts, Don Moore, David Watkins, and Jim White. Jeff Davis, City Administrator and Sarah Wheeler, City Clerk was also in attendance.

ITEM #2 – Mayor Wilson led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #3 – Councilman Sachs made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 6, 2012 Board meeting. Councilman Watkins seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

ITEM #4 – Councilwoman Roberts made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Councilman White seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

ITEM #5 – Mayor Wilson introduced Mark Fontana the new Administrator for the Veteran’s home. Mr. Fontana gave the Council a brief summary of his background and said he was very happy to take the new job.

ITEM #6 – The next item on the agenda was the citizen input. There were three citizens requesting to speak with the council. Mr. Denny Hatcher was the first to speak. Mr. Hatcher explained that his sewer main has been blocked for some time now and was backing up into his house. He had not reported it to the city the first two times that it had happened and had just fixed it himself. The last two times he had reported it to the City, however, the city’s insurance company had turned his claim down. At this point Mr. Hatcher would like the city to reimburse him \$400 for the cost of clean-up and parts.

City Administrator, Jeff Davis spoke to the Council from the city perspective and let them know that he had spoken with MIRMA about reimbursing Mr. Hatcher the \$400 and they advised against it since they had turned the claim down. MIRMA stated that if the city went ahead and paid the claim although it had been denied, the city would not be covered for a lawsuit and any future claims pertaining to this issue. MIRMA did say that the City could pay for or split the cost of installing a backflow device for Mr. Hatcher to help fix the issue. After some discussion Councilman Moore made a motion that the city does not reimburse Mr. Hatcher for the \$400 expense, but instead allowing the city to install a plug to help fix Mr. Hatchers backups with his assistance. Councilwoman Roberts seconded the motion. The voting was as follows: Councilman Moore “aye”; Councilman Roberts “aye”; Councilman Verkamp “aye”; Councilman White “aye”; Councilman Watkins “no”; Councilman Cahill “no”; Councilman Sachs “no”; Councilman Tonding “no”. Mayor Wilson voted with an “aye” to break the tie. The motion carried.

Jennie Wehmeyer and Jackie Kaufman spoke to the council next. They asked the Council to consider passing an ordinance that would allow the Police Department to enforce MODOT’s sign regulations, which do not allow business signs or yard sale signs on right-of-ways. Mayor Wilson stated that the council would double check the city code book and if an ordinance is needed they will look into it further.

ITEM #7 – Clerk Wheeler read aloud Bill No. 12-1034 levying the tax rate. Clerk Wheeler read Bill No. 12-1034 for the second and final reading. Councilwoman Roberts made a motion to approve Bill No. 12-1034. Councilman White seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all council members voted “aye”.

ITEM #8 – Administrator Davis presented the Council next with bids for utility poles and installation. After reviewing the bids, Councilman Moore made a motion to contract with Kiowa Line Builders for pole installation and approve the utility work to be done by Sachs Electric. Councilman Cahill seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted “aye”.

ITEM #9 – Administrator Davis gave the council an update on the easements for the sidewalk project, the comp plan, and Well #5.

ITEM #10 – Mayor Wilson mentioned that the new electric meters are now in place and the AMR system is being used, the Grape and Fall Festival and the Saint to Saint Run are both coming up, Tiger Shark Waterpark was mentioned in an international magazine, and he had received a letter from MPUA that the City would be receiving an award at this year’s conference. Mayor Wilson also mentioned that Jennie Miller with the Chamber had decided to retire and Dawn Thompson would be taking her place.

ITEM #11 – With no further business to discuss, Councilman Moore made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Watkins seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted “aye”.

Mayor, Dennis Ira Wilson

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Sarah Wheeler