

**CITY OF NICKERSON
15 N. NICKERSON
NICKERSON, KS 67561**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, April 16, 2012**

MAYOR: Jim Gladden

COUNCIL: Brad Berridge – President, Linda Fleming, Dale Brown, Jim Koon, Skip Russell,
Mike McLemore

EMPLOYEES

PRESENT: Robin Schmitt, Phyllis Richardson, Mark Gomes, Rick Sims

GUESTS: David Richardson, Holly Thomas, Hank Yoder, Robert McClure

ATTORNEY: Stan Juhnke

ROLL CALL: Berridge, Russell, Koon, Brown, Fleming, McLemore

ABSENT:

The Regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Gladden at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 16, 2012 at Nickerson City Hall.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, AGENDA, & PAYABLES – each item limit to 15 minutes

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Russell to approve the April 2nd, 2012 Minutes. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** McLemore, Russell, Koon, Brown, Fleming, Berridge **NO:** None

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Russell and Council Member Berridge to approve the Agenda as written. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Berridge, Fleming, Brown, Koon, Russell, McLemore **NO:** None

Motion to approve the April 16th payables was made and seconded by Council Member Fleming and Council Member McLemore. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Brown, Koon, Russell, McLemore, Fleming, **NO:** None **ABSTAIN:** Berridge,

CITY ATTORNEY Stan Juhnke – Absent

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Kathy Kittle addressed the Council and spoke about the Nickerson Outreach Ministry Committee. The Outreach Committee consists of 7 local churches working together to assist individuals here in Nickerson with various needs. This committee puts together the Nickerson Make-a-Difference Day with and the next one is scheduled for May 12th of this year. There are sign-up sheets for volunteers and needed assistance at the City Office. Kathy thanked everyone who assisted at the last Make-a-Difference Day which was on October 22nd, 2011.

Mayor Gladden announced that there will be City employees taking off a day during the week so they can assist on May 12th with the Make-a-Difference Day event. Mayor Gladden verified that the Hazmat trailer has been ordered but has not been confirmed yet.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance 2012-04 Zoning Schedule of Fees. Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Russell and Council Member Brown to approve Ordinance 2012-04 establishing the schedule of zoning fees as approved on August 19, 2002 and incorporating the schedule and specific rules for handling the collected fees into the city code. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Koon, Brown, Fleming, Berridge, McLemore, Russell, **NO:** None

NEW BUSINESS

Stutzman Rate Increase. Holly Thomas with Stutzman Refuse addressed the Council with a request to increase the trash service rates. The last rate increase was in 2009.

Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Brown and Council Member Koon to approve Ordinance 2012-05 repealing ordinance 2009-03 changing the rates for trash service by residents and commercial users and amending section 15-423 of the code to the City of Nickerson, Kansas to reflect the new fees effective May 1st, 2012. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Koon, Brown, Fleming, Berridge, McLemore, Russell, **NO:** None

Hank Yoder with Stutzman also addressed the Council to offer a program from Recycle Bank which is already being utilized in Hutchinson and has been very successful for Hutchinson. Recycle Bank is a company which Stutzman has joined with to offer a coupon program in which coupons are earned by the residents based on the weight of the recycle material picked up from the individual residents. The coupons are for various discounts for merchandise and services. Holly will be emailing the details to the City Office to be provided to the Council for their consideration.

Mason trailer discussion. Berridge reported the Mason's chose not to come to the Council Meeting due to health issues. Discussion ensued. The Council decided to hold a workshop on Tuesday, April 24th at 7pm to discuss the issue.

OFFICERS REPORT

Council Member McLemore clarified how the purchase process works for purchasing a Highway Patrol vehicle. Once a vehicle is within the mileage range for replacement a new vehicle is then ordered for the Highway Patrol officer. A request for the vehicle being replaced must be made by the entity wanting to purchase the vehicle. The vehicle stays in service with the Highway Patrol until the newly ordered vehicle is ready. Chief Kelsey has signed up to purchase a 2009 Crown Victoria which is being replaced by the Highway Patrol. The vehicle will be ready to pick up in a few weeks and will cost around \$14,500. Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Koon and Council Member Russell to allow Chief Kelsey to purchase the Patrol vehicle when it comes available. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Russell, McLemore, Berridge, Fleming, Brown, Koon, **NO:** None

Mayor Gladden recognized the Mason's who arrive late to the Council Meeting and explained to them that the Council has decided to hold a workshop on Tuesday, April 24th at 7pm to discuss the issue with the camper trailers on the Mason's property. The Mason's were invited to attend the workshop as well.

Council Member Berridge thanked the Maintenance Department for placing the flower pots on Main Street, the manicured City Park for the Easter egg hunt and for the planting of the trees on the railroad easement. Berridge reported comments received from residents requesting the old playground equipment not be stored at the old sewer plant but be placed somewhere else in the City so it can be used. McLemore reported getting the same comments also. Discussion ensued. Maintenance Supervisor Mark Gomes confirmed the equipment is being held at the south shop until determination is made as to which piece will be reused or not.

Council Member Fleming has been asked with Water Park will be opening. Maintenance Supervisor Mark Gomes confirmed it should tentatively open the second week of May.

Council Member Brown brought a discussion about the large playground equipment. Brown would like to see the large playground equipment replaced this summer as well. The 1% Sales Tax funds are down to about \$9500 and will not be enough to replace the additional playground equipment by this summer. Brown suggested doing a lease purchase to get the equipment sooner which was confirmed by the auditor could be done if the Council agreed. Discussion ensued. Maintenance Supervisor Mark Gomes stated the price for the new

equipment will vary depending on which equipment being held at the south shop will be selected to reinstall.

Brown also reported an incident involving a trailer being disconnected from its vehicle and abandoned on Holiday Street where the speed bump is located. The Maintenance Department will pick it up and move it to the south shop. Brown acknowledged how nice the new trees on the railroad right-of-way look.

Council Member Koon reported an inquiry he received about the sidewalks. There are citizens that use the jogger baby strollers who would like to have sidewalks to utilize while out exercising.

Koon thanked McLemore, Brown and the citizens who attended the meeting at the Reno County Commissioners office to help with stopping the shooting down at the river.

Koon spoke with the director of the Maize Recreation Commission who told Koon that it is a definite advantage to have our Recreation Commission with the school district and not the City. Discussion ensued. Brown stated he has contacted some people and is in the process of speaking with South Hutchinson but has not spoken with Nickerson's Rec Commission or the school board yet. Brown believes they should have everything in order before they go to present the suggestion of moving the Rec Commission to the school district.

Maintenance Supervisor Mark Gomes asked the Council to thank the Nickerson Coop and Land O'Lakes for the generous donation which funded the new trees along the railroad right-of-way.

Gomes also notified the Council that during the excavation of the playground equipment a lot of debris has been dug-up and will require removal.

Gomes reported the Water Park fence will be going in the last week of April and they will be adding crushed rock around the interior of the fence to assist with preventing erosion.

City Clerk Schmitt reported she will be going on vacation this month and will be having a surgery in May.

Phyllis Richardson reported they have had excellent success with the ball program this summer. The Rec Commission reduced the rates and they have 55 students enrolled for ball. Phyllis praised Rick Sims for being especially helpful with taking the applications. Brown also reported has had several good comments about how Travis Beshears is taking such good care of the ball diamonds.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, motion made and seconded by Council Member Fleming and Council Member Berridge to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. A Motion was carried by a show of hands.

Official