

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

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Monday, April 20, 2015**

**MAYOR:** Jim Gladden

**COUNCIL:** Brad Berridge – President, Brian Rife, Jon Rohling

**Outgoing Council:** Linda Fleming, Jim Koon, Lynnette Lewis,

**Incoming Council:** Jane Jenkins, Trent Gilbert, Angela Cottrell

**EMPLOYEES**

**PRESENT:** Phyllis Richardson, Mark Gomes, April Beshears

**GUESTS:** Christina Henson, Sarah Gilbert, Danny Schmitt, Dennis Payton, Katie Bredfeldt, Thomas Burris, Peggy Ruebke, Teresa Rife, David Richardson

**ATTORNEY:** Stan Juhnke

**ROLL CALL:** Berridge, Rohling, Koon, Rife, Fleming, Lewis  
Gilbert, Cottrell

**ABSENT:** Jenkins

The Regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Gladden at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2015 at Nickerson City Hall.

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

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Rife and Council Member Berridge to approve the March 24, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Lewis, Rohling, Koon, Rife, Fleming, Berridge, **NO:** None

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Fleming and Council Member Lewis to approve the March 16, 2015 Minutes. Mayor Gladden asked Superintendent Gomes if the tornado siren maintenance and battery change was completed. Gomes confirmed it was.

Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Berridge, Fleming, Rife, Koon, Rohling, Lewis, **NO:** None

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Rohling and Council Member Fleming to approve the Agenda as written. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Rife, Koon, Rohling, Lewis, Berridge, Fleming, **NO:**

Council Member Rife confirmed that the payable to Swindol, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd, for the W-2's and 1099's in the amount of \$463.75 was due to the new software going into effect January 1 of this year. The W-2's and 1099's will be done in house starting in 2015.

Motion to approve the April 20, 2015 Payables was made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Rohling. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Koon, Rife, Fleming, Berridge, Lewis, Rohling, **NO:** None  
**ABSTAIN:**

## **CITY ATTORNEY**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Chamber of Commerce** – Peggy Ruebke updated the Council on the progress of planning Klear Nearly Days and requested to have Main Street (Nickerson Street) closed on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> from 7 am to midnight between Railroad Avenue and Avenue C. There will be vendors, inflatables, and games for the kids. Peggy also requested the use of the Library water spigot for the water inflatables.

Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Rife and Council Member Lewis to approve closing Main Street from Railroad Avenue to Avenue C from 7 am to midnight on July 25<sup>th</sup> and to allow the Chamber use of the Library water spigot for the water inflatables. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Fleming, Berridge, Lewis, Rohling, Koon, Rife, **NO: Abstain:**

**Chamber of Commerce Membership and Klear Nearly Donation** – Council agreed to pay \$25 for the Chamber membership and to donate \$200 to the Chamber for Klear Nearly Days.

Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Fleming to approve \$25 for the Chamber membership and \$200 for Klear Nearly Days donation. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Rohling, Lewis, Berridge, Fleming, Rife, Koon, **NO: Abstain:**

Mayor Gladden announce the conclusion of the old business and recognized and thanked the retiring council members, Linda Fleming, Jim Koon and

Lynnette Lewis for their time and effort expended on the council meetings and City business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Seat New Council Members** – Clerk Schmitt administered the Oath of Office to reelected Mayor Gladden and elected Council members, Trent Gilbert – Ward 3 and Angela Cottrell – Ward 1. Jane Jenkins from Ward 2 was down with the flu and could not attend this meeting.

Mayor Gladden introduced the appointed officials to the new Council members and the attending citizens. April Beshears – Utility/Court Clerk, Phyllis Richardson – City Treasurer, and Mark Gomes – City Superintendent.

**Council President Election** – Council Member Rife nominated Jon Rohling and Council Member Gilbert seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The nomination passed by the following vote: **YES:** Berridge, Gilbert, Rife, Cottrell, **NO: Abstain:** Rohling,

**2014 Audit Review** – Christina Henson with Swindol, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd presented the 2014 Audit information. Christina reported that there were no control deficiencies which resulted in a very clean audit. On the financial side, there were no budget violations. Christina explained about needing cash carry over that covers 3 to 6 months of expenditures. The General Fund is looking good for carryover but the reserve funds are low in cash carryover. The Water and Sewer Funds appear to have a lot of extra cash carryover but this is needed in order to continue making the transfers to pay the City's debt. The carry over in the Sewer Fund in particular has been dropping every year due to the required debt transfers.

Council Member Rife asked if the matching funds of the grant for the Community Center project will be listed with the Long Term Debt on the financial statements for next year. Christina said it would not because part of it is being paid with the 1% sales tax and the rest is funded by the grant, therefore, it is not considered debt. Project expenditures that come in faster than the 1% Sales Tax distribution can be paid from other funds and then reimbursed once the sales tax money is collected.

**Paws Donation** – Reno Valley Middle School parent association asked the Council to consider supporting the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students by sponsoring their promotion shirts with a \$100 donation.

Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Rohling to donate \$100 to PAWS. Motion carried by the following vote:

**YES:** Cottrell, Rohling, Gilbert, Rife, Berridge, **NO:**

**Abstain:**

**City Hall Renovation** – Council Member Rife brought discussion about the new Council table that is being built by the shop students at Nickerson High and how the office will be rearranged once the table is delivered. By having clerk Schmitt relocate to the back office and moving the current city clerk office wall back 3 feet, there would be 3 feet gained for space where the new Council table will go.

Council Member Rife also reported how the EMS building carpet was ruined by a cat that became trapped in the building. The insurance deductible is \$5000 so it will not be cost effective to claim it on the insurance. Karyl White has been in contact with Clerk Schmitt about needing to replace the carpet in the EMS building and Rife stated he hopes they could get a better price on the carpet if it was done at the same time the City Hall carpet is replaced. The EMS group will be installing the carpet themselves in order to save on labor costs and Rife thought he understood that the City employees would do the same for the City Office. There is a need for a new utility desk as well, one that would allow better access for persons in wheelchairs and scooters.

Rife asked the Council to consider moving the wall back to the brick area in the office and the carpet for City Hall and the EMS building and a utility desk. Mayor Gladden stated he agreed with the suggestion.

Discussion ensued.

Clerk Schmitt will get bids on moving the wall back and the carpet for both buildings and a utility desk.

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

Berridge – thanked the maintenance crew for trimming the trees coming into town and cleaning up the area. With the good financial report, Brad thanked the staff for keeping everything in line.

Rife – thanked the outgoing Council members for their hard work over the years and acknowledged that it can be a thankless job. Rife welcomed the incoming Council members also.

Rife asked if the maintenance department has the equipment to remove the tree stump in the Community Center construction site, and Superintendent Gomes reported that Rick's Dozer Service will remove the stump while they are prepping the site at a cost of \$200.

Rohling – thanked everyone who is working on the community center project. Reported that there has been trash dumped at the brush-site.

After conferring with Clerk Schmitt and Superintendent Gomes, the City Attorney, Stan Juhnke, was called about the home next to the Kwik Shop not having the stem wall and siding completed in a timely manner. Since the building permit is up for renewal, a letter will be sent stating that the stem wall and siding must be completed before any other work can be started.

Cottrell – thanked everyone for the warm welcome to the Council, thanked Clerk Schmitt for putting together the orientation packets and thanked Superintendent Gomes for picking up limbs with the brush truck.

Gilbert – also thanked everyone for the welcome and Clerk Schmitt and Superintendent Gomes for their work.

Confirmed that the City crew will be attempting to get all the storm drains cleared, Superintendent Gomes reported that the vac-truck had a break down but they are attempting to get the drains cleared.

Superintendent Gomes – reported that the City brush site will close for a minimum of one week due to items other than brush and limbs being dumped in the brush site. It is necessary to make sure nothing other than brush is dumped in the brush site because the State does random inspections and will pull the City's permit if the inspector finds debris other than brush and tree limbs.

Mayor Gladden – reported that he visited with Mr. Taverner whose class at the High School is building the new council table and podium and the podium will cost about \$60.

Thanked Clerk Schmitt for putting together the materials for the new council orientation.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS**, motion made and seconded by Council Member Gilbert and Council Member Berridge to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Motion carried by show of hands.

Official