

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

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, July 2, 2012**

MAYOR: Jim Gladden

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

EMPLOYEES

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

GUESTS: David Richardson, Kenny Burgess, Aryn Hedrick, Mark Detter, Clelia McCrory

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, July 2, 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 June 18, 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 with the following addition, (3) under New Business, appoint new Planning & Zoning Commission member. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Berridge, Fleming, Brown, Koon, Russell, McLemore, **NO:** None

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

CITY ATTORNEY Stan Juhnke – Absent

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Kenny Burgess brought a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission asking the City to hire a Compliance Officer to enforce the building and zoning regulations.

Burgess also explained how the Council has been invited several times to the Planning & Zoning meetings to go over the City's Comprehensive Plan which has been completed and will need to go to a hearing. Burgess informed the Council that if the Council does not participate in the process then a lot of time has been wasted for the members of the Planning & Zoning Commission members.

As Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Commission, Burgess requested approval to send the new members of the Commission to a Planning & Zoning Workshop in Wichita on August 18, 2012. The cost per person is \$95. City Clerk Schmitt will check the budget to see if the request can be granted. Burgess invited the Council members who would be interested in attending to join them.

OLD BUSINESS

Bond Refunding – Mark Detter with Central States Capital Markets presented updated information on offering for sale the General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series C, 2012 (the 1994 Library and 2002 Water Bonds). Currently the potential savings from refunding the Bonds would be approximately \$45,000 over the next 10 years with the fees and costs included in the savings. Discussion ensued.

Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Russell and Council Member Berridge to approve Resolution 2012-03 authorizing the offering for sale of the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2012 of the City of Nickerson. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Koon, Brown, Fleming, Berridge, McLemore, Russell,

NO:

NEW BUSINESS

Community Center Grant Discussion – Grant writer Clelia McCrory presented information on several grant options for the Community Center project. Ms. McCrory explained how a couple of Community Development Block Grant programs work as well as a KAN STEP program and provided application date deadlines. There will need to be preliminary engineering completed in order to apply. Discussion ensued. The Council and the Community Center Committee will consider these grant options.

Credit/Debit Card Utility Payment Options – Utility Clerk Sims presented information on two companies which the City could utilize to gain the ability to take credit or debit cards for utility payments. Sims explained the fee schedule options pertaining to the fees being paid by the City and the fees being paid by the customers. Discussion ensued. The Council directed Sims to check with other cities to see how they handle the fees and to survey the utility customers here in Nickerson to get a feel for how interested the public would be in this service. The Council will review the collected information at the next meeting.

Planning & Zoning member appointment – Mayor Gladden appointed Bob Mildren as the seventh member of the Planning & Zoning Commission. Motion was made and seconded by Council Member McLemore and Council Member Russell to approve the appointment of Bob Mildren to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Koon, Brown, Fleming, Berridge, McLemore, Russell,

OFFICERS REPORT

Council Member Koon thanked Maintenance Supervisor Gomes and the Maintenance Department for placing the tires, sand and rock around the water hydrants at the ball diamond and for moving the downed tree at the west diamond. Koon thanked Maintenance Supervisor Gomes and the Maintenance Department for repairing the Water Park so quickly after the vandalism. Koon also thanked Chief Kelsey for catching the suspected vandals.

Council Member McLemore referred to the report on the City Park expenses of \$175,000 to date and stated that he feels enough money has been spent on the Park.

Council Member Berridge also thanked Maintenance Supervisor Gomes and the Maintenance Department for repairing the Water Park so quickly and Chief Kelsey for catching the suspected vandals. Berridge reminded everyone that Klear Nearly is July 27th and 28th and that the band will be a local resident named Dave. Council Member Fleming confirmed the ice cream social will be on Friday night.

Council Member Fleming also thanked Gomes and Kelsey for their work on correcting City Park vandalism issue. Fleming reported that the United Methodist Health Ministry gives grants for health related projects and suggested checking into the grant for the exercise path at the City Park. Discussion ensued. Fleming will obtain an application and information on the grant.

Council Member Brown complimented Maintenance Supervisor Gomes, the Maintenance Department and Chief Kelsey for the excellent work on the City

Park vandalism issue and reported receiving excellent comments on the Water Park.

Brown reported receiving complaints about the vehicles being parked on the property where the City flag pole is located on Hwy 96 and Railroad. Brown would like to look into limiting the parking of vehicles in the flag pole area. Mayor Gladden suggested having them park further back off the grass in the dirt area.

Brown reported complaints from persons who would like to be involved with the Community Center committee in the earlier stages. McLemore and Brown agreed to have those wanting to be involved in the early stages contact McLemore.

Brown stated he has also received several complaints about the amount of around \$300,000 for the Community Center project, mentioned by Gary Grabber. Brown stated that everyone who spoke with him did not like the approach of "here's the amount of money, now go spend it all". Brown said they would prefer to spend a smaller amount and do grants and loans or whatever else we could do but not use all of it for the Community Center and use some for property tax reduction and have more funds for the City Park to have a walking path and more fixtures for the Water Park. Brown stated he would like to see a nice Community building as well but believes that if things are done correctly then all items could be accommodated. Brown explained that he disagrees with McLemore that no more of the 1% sales tax money should be spent on the City Park. McLemore declared that he was not at the meeting when Gary Grabber spoke and that the Community Center Committee, to his knowledge, has not ever given an amount to be spent. McLemore explained that all Gary Grabber was looking for was a commitment from the Council so that when it was time for money to be spent, the money would be there. Brown said he understood it has Gary was looking for an amount that could be spent. Brown went on to say that either the request was misunderstood or was explained improperly and the issue needs to be approached a little better and explained more carefully.

Maintenance Supervisor Gomes reported that the contractors have started the warranty patching on B Street. Gomes worked with City Clerk Schmitt and decided that a little more than half of the funding for the chip seal project would be spent this year.

Mayor Gladden asked Maintenance Supervisor Gomes about a rumor that he was retiring very soon. Gomes stated he would not be retiring for a minimum of a year or more out.

Council Member Koon asked about a repair made to a resident's driveway across the curb area and Gomes explained that it was the County who made to repair.

Koon also thanked Gomes for the culvert that was installed at the Ball Diamond so cars can get to the parking area in-between the ball diamonds.

Chief Kelsey updated the Council on the Water Park Vandalism case which is at the DA's office and two people have been charged with felonies due to the cost of the damage. The case will go to the District Court.

Kelsey also informed the Council that he has found a cell phone plan for \$12 per phone per month with no contract. He will get two phones to try out the plan. If the \$12 plan is not enough he will upgrade to the \$29 a month plan.

City Clerk Schmitt reported she has hired Eileen Fleury to fill the housekeeping position.

Mayor Gladden stated that Maintenance Supervisor Gomes reported that no one is living in three trailers parked at a home on Pierce in which a complaint about was received.

Gladden also reiterated that the vehicles parked on the grass area by the City flag pole should be moved back onto the dirt area to the west but not block the driveway because an occasional semi-truck will need to park across from the Maintenance shop.

Council Member Fleming asked about the property that Mr. Green had brought pictures of and complained about at the last meeting. Fleming stated she had driven by the property and it looked like it was in the process of being torn down. Maintenance Supervisor Gomes stated he has gone by the property several times and has not been able to get in contact with the owner since the owner lives in Hutchinson. The City will send a letter requesting the issue be addressed.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, motion made and seconded by Council Member Fleming and Council Member Berridge to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. A Motion was carried by a show of hands.

Official