

HASKELL CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FEBRUARY 13, 2012

The regular meeting of the Haskell City Council was held at the Haskell City Hall at 7:00 p.m., Monday, February 13, 2012.

ROLL CALL: Aldermen present were Ronnie Ballard, Terry Babbs, Rose Marie Wilkinson, Brad Graham, Dwayne Hippensteel, Gary Vice, Allen Nash, and Hal Baker. Others present were Mayor Jeff Arey, Recorder Janie Lyman, Fire Chief Brian Cotten, Water/Sewer Superintendent Bobby Westbrook, Police Chief Mike Holt, and Raymon Keech.

Mayor Arey called the meeting to order, and declared a quorum present. He asked the Recorder to read the minutes of the January 9th meeting. Gary Vice made the motion, seconded by Brad Graham, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously by yea vote.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

WATER/SEWER Supt. Bobby Westbrook gave the water report; a copy of which is filed with these minutes. He also reported there are still a few problem areas being worked on at the new sewer plant

STREETS The Street Dept. continues to fill pot holes and replace street signs

FIRE & RESCUE Fire Chief Brian Cotten gave the fire report; a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The Chief also reported that there are two firefighters at the Fire Station seven days a week from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

POLICE Police Chief Mike Holt gave the police report for December, 2011 and January, 2012. A copy is filed with these minutes.

COURT Mayor Arey gave the court report; a copy of which is filed with these minutes.

PARKS A copy of the Parks January 16, 2012 meeting minutes was included in the Council Packet, and are filed with these minutes. Mayor Arey asked if there were any comments or questions; there were none.

PLANNING A copy of the February 7, 2012 Planning Commission minutes was included in the Council packet, and are filed with these minutes. Mayor Arey asked if there were any comments or questions; there were none.

CODE ENFORCEMENT A copy of the January report was included in the Council packet. Mayor Arey asked if there were any comments or questions. Ronnie Ballard responded that he would speak with the Mayor after the meeting to give some locations to be added to the list.

NEW BUSINESS:

RE-APPOINTMENT OF BRAD GRAHAM TO THE HASKELL PLANNING COMMISSION.

Mayor Arey requested that the Haskell City Council re-appoint Brad Graham to the Haskell Planning Commission. Hal Baker made the motion, seconded by Rose Marie Wilkinson, to approve this request. The motion passed unanimously by yea vote.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION

Mayor Arey advised that he had received notification from Scott Bennett, Director of Highways and Transportation, that the City of Haskell was awarded \$35,189.00 for our application for the Safe Routes to School Program. Before we begin construction, we must have a contract with the Arkansas Highway Department approving our scope of work and our budget. Then we have to submit the engineering plans, and have them approved.

As this was not the amount we had applied for, we had to revise our scope of work and budget. After meeting with engineer Vernon Williams, the cost to continue the sidewalk from Mitchell Drive to Vulcan Road (1 concrete sidewalk, 2 concrete driveways, 3 signs, and 4 pavement markings) would be \$40,065.00. The revised budget exceeds the 2012 Budget amount of \$30,000.00.

It is the Mayor's proposal that the City of Haskell provide any additional funds necessary to complete the project. Our goal would be to have this sidewalk completed before school resumes in September, 2012 so that we can reapply by the December, 2012 deadline for another grant. Therefore, Mayor Arey would like the City of Haskell to provide the funds necessary to pay for the engineering services directly and avoid using any SRTS funds for engineering fees.

After a lengthy discussion, Terry Babbs made the motion to accept the Mayor's proposal to revise the budget to encompass the additional funds necessary to complete the project, including the expenses needed to retain engineer Vernon Williams to provide the engineering plans. The motion was seconded by Dwayne Hippensteel. The motion passed unanimously by yea vote.

OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT

Mayor Arey announced that he had received notice from Governor Beebe that Haskell was approved for a fully funded 50/50 matching grant in the amount of \$30,927.00. These funds will be used to continue the sidewalk around the ball fields and construct a walking trail at the Ballpark. Mayor Arey noted that he has not yet received the Grant Agreement from the Arkansas Parks & Tourism; we must have this document before we can put this project to bid.

SELLING OF USED TRUCKS BELONGING TO THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Mayor Arey announced that, as per the 2012 budget, the Public Works Department purchased four new work trucks. We plan to sell three of the old trucks (1999 Dodge Truck, 2003 Dodge Durango, 1998 Ford F250) by sealed bid within the next 30 days. There will be minimum bid requirement.

STREET FUND BUDGET/ASPHALT BIDDING

Mayor Arey is requesting that the budget line item for Street Construction Material be increased from \$100,000.00 to \$130,000.00, and that he be authorized to seek bids for asphalt paving in the amount of \$100,000.00. Mayor Arey provided a short budget summary, showing there are adequate funds for this project. Two of the streets being considered for this asphalt is from 449 Grand down to the railroad tracks, and East Elm from Hwy 229 to the Ballpark. After discussion, Ronnie Ballard made the motion, seconded by Allen Nash, to approve the increase in Street Construction Material line item to

\$130,000.00 and authorize the Mayor to seek bids for asphalt paving. The motion was passed unanimously by yea vote.

REQUEST BY BRENDA MASHBURN, HASKELL DISTRICT COURT CLERK, FOR APPROVAL FOR DESTRUCTION BY SHREDDING OF 81 UNIFORM TRAFFIC CITATION BOOKS ISSUED 2004-2008

Rose Marie Wilkinson made the motion, seconded by Brad Graham, to approve the request for destruction. The motion passed unanimously by yea vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

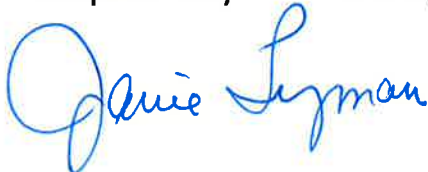
NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Raymon Keech came before the Council to address Mayor Arey concerning his recent termination

There being no further comments or questions, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Janie Lyman, Recorder