

HASKELL CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2012

The regular meeting of the Haskell City Council was held at the Haskell City Hall at 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 12, 2012.

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

Mayor Arey called the meeting to order, and declared a quorum present. He asked the Recorder to read the minutes of the February 13, 2012 meeting. Brad Graham made the motion, seconded by Ronnie Ballard, 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 that the problem areas have been corrected, and the new sewer plant is in operation.

STREETS Mayor Arey reported that the Street Dept had replaced four STOP signs, three STREET name signs, and have ordered several others. They installed three SPEED LIMIT signs, two CITY LIMIT signs, one CHILD AT PLAY sign and one

DANGEROUS WHEN UNDER WATER sign. Culvert maintenance was done on Dodson Creek, East Elm, Grand Avenue, and North Harding. Ditches were cleared on North Harding, East Elm, Grand Avenue, and South Parker. Potholes were patched and road cuts were done on East Elm, Dodson Creek, and Grand Avenue.

FIRE & RESCUE Fire Chief Brian Cotten gave the fire report; a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The Chief also reported that two more firefighters were added, giving the total of active firefighters at nineteen.

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

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

PLANNING COMMISSION A copy of the March 6, 2012 Planning Commission minutes was included in the Council packet, and are filed with these minutes.

CODE ENFORCEMENT A copy of the report was made available at the meeting, and is filed with these minutes.

AT THIS JUNCTURE IN THE MEETING, BRAD GRAHAM ASKED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF AN EMPLOYEE. MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY YEA VOTE.

NEW BUSINESS:**Resolution 04-2012**

A Resolution to Amend the 2012 Budget, Street Fund, Construction Material, Increasing the Budgeted Amount from \$100,000.00 to \$130,000.00 to Accommodate Seeking Bids for Asphalt Paving in the Amount of Approximately \$100,000.00. As this was previously discussed at the February meeting, Ronnie Ballard made the motion, seconded by Brad Graham, to approve Resolution 04-2012. The motion passed unanimously by yea vote.

Haskell Water System Telemetry

In December and January, the Council was advised and had discussion regarding the need to upgrade the Haskell Water's Telemetry. The City's current telemetry system, which monitors the pump station and water tanks approximately every two minutes to give updated information on the daily activities within the system, was installed in 1994, and has not been upgraded.

Public Works Director, Bobby Westbrook advises that we are having trouble with the system now due to old and outdated components; the modems used are no longer available. Supt. Westbrook had five companies that install the systems come to see our current system and give prices of their system, including installation. Mr. Westbrook is proposing that the Council approve the hiring of C & F Controls and Automation to supply a new SCADA System, at a cost of approximately \$36,000.00.

After a brief discussion, Brad Graham made the motion to approve the purchase of water telemetry equipment from C & F Controls, not to exceed \$36,000.00, and for the money to come from the Capital Improvement Fund-Water. Allen Nash seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously by yea vote.

OLD BUSINESS: City of Haskell vs Hudspeth

Mayor Arey reminded the Council that Ray Bennett came before the Council in November asking the Council to take action in having a building removed that was built on his property. In the December meeting, City Attorney Sam Ed Gibson advised that Mr. Hudspeth had a hearing on November 29, 2011, at which time Judge Curtis Rickard suspended imposition of sentence on Mr. Hudspeth until February 21, 2012.

Included in this month's Council packet is a letter from City Attorney Sam Ed Gibson regarding this matter, as well as a precedent for Order. Mr. Hudspeth pled "no contest" to failure to obtain a building permit prior to commencement of construction; Judge Rickard found the defendant guilty and set a fine and court costs. Mr. Hudspeth made mention to Judge Rickard that he is going to get a building permit in order to move the building. A discussion followed. The Council took no action at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mayor Arey announced that there would be a meeting tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. at the Haskell City Hall with Arkansas Parks Director John Beneke. This is a pre-construction conference regarding the improvements we want to make at the Park.
- Thursday, March 29th at 1:00 p.m. - Safe Routes to School Project Kickoff Meeting
- Keep Arkansas Beautiful Clean-Up Day
Mayor Arey announced plans for a Haskell Clean Up day on May 12th. Saline County Solid Regional Waste District will provide a couple of roll-off dumpsters. Mayor Arey noted that the Haskell Youth Council has adopted an area to clean (trash bags will be provided) and he asked for any others that would help to please join in.

There being no further business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Janie Lyman, Recorder