

Atwood City Council
March 18, 2021
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 7:00PM

Atwood City Council met in regular session March 18, 2021 in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Janet Stice. Present were Mayor Janet Stice, Councilmembers Gary Fisher, Mark Mosley, Sandy Mulligan, Mark Vrbas was present via Go To Meeting; City Clerk Dana Philpott, City Attorney Charles Peckham, City Superintendent Rick Kramer, and Rosalie Ross of the Rawlins County Square Deal. Councilman Dietrich Kastens and Chief of Police Brian Withington were absent.

The agenda was approved as circulated on motion of Councilman Mosley, seconded by Councilwoman Mulligan, approved by all.

The minutes of the regular meeting on February 18, 2021 were approved as circulated on motion of Councilwoman Mulligan, seconded by Councilman Mosley, approved by all.

The bills were approved as read on motion of Councilman Mosley, seconded by Councilman Fisher, approved by all.

No Public Comments

Appearances:

Tyrel Prideaux appeared before council to request on behalf of the Atwood Early Rod Run committee to shut down the downtown streets as in the past for Rod Run on May 21st & 22nd. Councilwoman Mulligan made a motion to approve roping off the streets for Rod Run on May 21st & 22nd as listed in the handout provided by the Atwood Rod run committee seconded by Councilman Fisher. Tyrel also informed the council of new RV plug-ins that were installed on the north bathhouse at the country club to provide additional electrical hook-ups for the big events such as Rod Run and Smokin on the Beaver.

Old Business: Obert Trust fence/landfill – City Attorney Charles Peckham had correspondence from the owner of the equipment that was parked on the property at the old city dump. Rick Kramer City Superintendent went to the site today and reported that the equipment had been moved off the property and the gate is now closed, and the sign put back on the gate but there was still debris left. Installation of the fencing will begin late summer and the shared cost for the city will be around \$6200.00.

New Business: Amend Charter Ordinance #7 -Councilwoman Mulligan recommended to amend charter ordinance #7 to have all city employees reside within the city limits. City Attorney Charles Peckham recommended to pass a new charter ordinance that would void charter ordinance #7. The Charter Ordinance needs to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the official city newspaper. The ordinance takes effect 61 days after the final publication. A Charter Ordinance requires an approval of a two-thirds majority of the elected governing body. Councilwoman Mulligan made a motion to amend back to the Kansas State statute **15-1602** that all appointed city employees are required to live within the city limits and to repeal charter ordinance #7, seconded by Councilman Mosley. Voting yea: Mulligan, Mosely, Fisher & Vrbas. Opposed none. Motion carried.

Zoning board recommendation for conditional use request for 807/809 Page – Zoning officer Rick Kramer reported that the board of zoning appeals voted in favor 5-0 to recommend the conditional use request. Councilman Mosley made a motion to grant the change for conditional use for case number Z21-02 as recommended by the zoning board of appeals, seconded by Councilwoman Mulligan approved by all.

Department Reports:

City Clerk Dana Philpott reported that the notice of city offices to be voted on at the general election is due May 1st to the county election officer, there are 3 open offices this year. City Council candidates have until noon on June 1st to file. The city-wide spring clean-up day will be Wednesday, April 28th. High School principal Matt Smith has volunteered to have some of the high school students help the city crew with the clean-up. Advertising for the clean-up day will be in the newspaper, on the city website, city water bills and Facebook. Citizen's will need to call city hall to get on the list for pick-up. City After Christmas party has been scheduled Sunday, April 25th at 6:00pm at Park Hill.

City Attorney Charles Peckham shared his actives for the month – worked on conditional use request for 807/809 Page Street and attended the hearing, talked to defendants regarding diversions, researched charter ordinance request. Jayhawk Theatre-the plan is to re-open the 1st week of June. The grant application to assist with loss of revenue to shuttered venues will be available early April.

Police Chief Brian Withington was absent but provided his report for the month. His department worked 21 reports, from February 19th to March 17th. There was 1 arrest made, 7 non-custodial arrests, 14 warnings given, 8 tickets issued, and 17 traffic stops. Other patrol activity included 342 public relations, 11 business checks, 68 miscellaneous complaints and 1 paper service.

City Superintendent Rick Kramer presented his report showing the areas where the city crew has spent their time since the last meeting. They have been doing some street repairs, equipment maintenance, street cleaning and began working on the pool and opened the restrooms at the park. The water report shows the amount of water pumped and sold for the month. The month of February showed 3,298,000 gallons used and 2,908,000 gallons sold. Zoning report – there were no building permits submitted this month.

Council Reports

Councilman Fisher had nothing to report

Councilman Kastens was absent.

Councilman Mosley reported that the airport board met last Monday. Reported they have a full board again with new members Garth Griffith and Brandon Dirks. Code Enforcement – Councilman Kastens provided a policy change to code enforcement to the council. Councilman Mosley noted that some of the changes would be that the nuisance officer will be an employee of the city and there will be more council involvement in the decisions. This will be a policy change as there will be no changes to the ordinance for code enforcement. We will go ahead and advertise for the part-time code enforcement as soon as possible. Councilman Mosley made a motion to adopt the policy as presented by Councilman Kastens for the nuisance control officer and to amend the policy when needed, seconded by Councilwoman Mulligan, approved by all.

Councilwoman Mulligan reported that the Rawlins County Economic board had a joint meeting with the extension board and extension agent and the office professional. Greason Industiral Park – have another strong possibility in getting the last lot sold this year. Grass Roots Garden Hub and Mallory Helms Beds & Biscuits are both up and running, they were both approved for E-Loans. There are 3 new board members on the Economic Development Board, they are Robert Binning, Rachel Finley & Kelsey Wahrman.

Councilman Vrbas had nothing to report.

Mayors Notes: Mayor Stice reported that Dana & Ana are busy working on nuisance letters for property owners to start cleaning and reminding those of their upcoming deadlines. Will be applying for a KDOT grant to replace sections of streets in need of repair. Rick contacted a contractor to get a bid. This is a 10% matching funds grant but noted that those who qualified last go round were those who put in a bigger percentage of matching funds we could do 15 to 20% matching funds.

With no further business to come before Council, Councilwoman Mulligan moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Mosley. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Dana Philpott, City Clerk

Janet Stice, Mayor