

May 21, 2020

Atwood City Council

Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

Atwood City Council met in regular session May 21, 2020 in Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Janet Stice; Councilmembers Gary Fisher, Dietrich Kastens, Mark Mosley, Sandy Mulligan, Mark Vrbas; City Clerk Keri Riener; City Attorney Charles Peckham and City Superintendent Rick Kramer. Police Chief Brian Withington was absent.

The agenda was approved with the addition of new business line items (f) executive session and (g) department appointments. Councilman Mosley moved to approve, seconded by Councilman Vrbas, approved by all.

The minutes of 4/16/20 were approved as circulated on motion of Councilman Kastens, second by Councilman Mosley, approved by all.

The bills were approved as read on motion of Councilman Vrbas, second Councilman Mosley, approved by all.

There were no public comments.

Apparences: Tim Hansen, NWLEPG appeared to talk about septic tanks on airport land. He said the LEPA permits septic /holding tanks to be installed with a permit. They determine if there is enough space and how close to other septic tanks they will be. A motion was made by Councilman Kastens to have the city attorney write up a policy for future use regarding septic use on leased property around the airport. Seconded by Councilwoman Mulligan, approved by all.

There was no old business.

New Business:

The Library sent a proposal for the 2021 budget of \$74,200.00.

With the closing of the Rawlins County Square Deal, the city needs to designate a paper for their legal publications. After discussion about the number of times a paper was printed per week, Councilman Kastens moved to pass Resolution 20-04 designating the Colby Free Press as the official newspaper for the City of Atwood, seconded by Councilwoman Mulligan, approved by all.

The next two items on the agenda was the City Hall Sidewalk/Parking and the City Hall back fence. The council moved outside to view the areas. City Superintendent Kramer walked the council through the previous proposals of a 5' sidewalk on the north side of city hall, with a curb and reducing the slant where vehicles park. The sidewalk on the east side needs to be made more handicapped accessible until such a time as the old building is removed and a new parking lot installed that will make

accessability easier. The City Superintendent will contact the two previous bidders to make sure they are aware of what is wanted so they will bid on the same thing.

The previous recycling fence between the building and the neighboring house has blowdown areas, broken slats and become a eyesore. City Attorney Peckham recommends the fence be replaced with a wooden 6' high fence as a safety precaution for victims coming to the police department and preventing possible escapees from accessing the neighbor door. Contractors will be notified for bids.

Upon returning to council chambers, the motion was made by Councilman Mosley to reopen the bids on the sidewalk areas and to replace the back fence with a wooden 6' high fence, seconded by Councilman Fisher, approved by all.

The city park security cameras were discussed and decided that there is enough cameras already there.

On motion of Councilman Kastens and second of Councilman Mosley and approved by all, the meeting went to executive session to discuss non-elected personnel to not exceed 20 minutes beginning at 7:50 PM. The council came out of executive session at 8:10 PM. Councilman Kastens moved to return to executive session for an additional 15 minutes, seconded by Councilman Mosley, approved by all. Session started at 8:10 and came out at 8:20. The regular meeting resumed at 8:20.

The Mayor presented her Department Appointments which will be until January 2021 when the new charter ordinance takes affect. City Clerk, Dana Philpott; City Treasurer, Denise Maaske; City Attorney, Charles Peckham; Chief of Police Brian Withington; Municipal Judge, Richard Ress; City Superintendent, Richard H. Kramer and Fire Chief, Terry Britt. Motion was made by Councilwoman Mulligan to accept the Mayor's appointments, seconded by Councilman Vrbas, approved by all on a 5-0 vote.

At this time City Clerk Riener left the meeting.

Department Reports:

City Attorney Peckham presented his report of meeting with the LEPC representative regarding septic tanks at the airport; he negotiated with attorneys, prepared journal entries, sent out 30 day notices, responded to the FBI on old Atwood arrests and made calls regarding tickets.

The Jayhawk theater took in over \$1000 the night of the Senior Cruise. The theater is planning on reopening for the summer when conditions allow.

Police Chief Withington was absent but left a report for council of what all his office had done during the month.

City Superintendent Kramer presented his report of where their time was spent and the amount of water pumped. Rick reported that the probe on well #6 quit working. A new probe was installed and lasted only 3 days. Another new probe will be sent to replace the previous new one under warranty.

Council Reports: The Mayor left council assignments the same with the exception of adding finance to Councilman Kastens and adding code enforcement to Councilman Mosley. Recycling was removed since

it is County owned now.

Councilman Fisher reported there would be no new trees planted this year for Arbor Day due to social distancing restrictions.

Councilman Kastens reported there have been a number of building permits issued. The pool is slated to open June 8th unless the Governor decides different. The fire truck was tested.

Councilman Mosley reported the airport board will be taking generator bids. Under the CARES Act the airport could receive \$30,000 federal funding with 4 years to use it. The airport accepted Vic Innovations proposal for \$2900 to go forward with changing phone systems.

Councilwoman Mulligan reported that RCED had denied an E-Loan. The remaining Greason lot is on hold for the EMS if things work out. The deed will be issued to the County.

Councilman Vrbas, nothing to report.

Mayor's notes: Nothing more to add.

With no further business to come before Council, Councilman Mosley moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Fisher. The meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.

Janet Stice, Mayor