

**CITY OF LOUISBURG, KANSAS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2020**

The Council of the City of Louisburg, Kansas met at 6:30 p.m. in regular session in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Marty Southard presiding. Councilmember Thorvald McKiernan was absent.

Council Members Steve Town, Kalee Smith, Sandy Harris, Donna Cook
City Administrator Nathan Law
City Clerk Traci Storey
City Attorney Kelly Stohs
Police Chief Tim Bauer
Fire Chief Gerald Rittinghouse
Communications Coordinator Jean Carder
Public Works Supervisor Craig Hufferd
Press Doug Carder
Visitors Boy Scout Troop 101, Nathan Thompson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Boy Scout Troop 101 led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Steve Town moved, seconded by Councilmember Kalee Smith. Councilmember Harris asked a question regarding one of the bills. Motion carried 4-0, to approve the consent agenda to include adoption of the agenda, approval of the regular meeting February 3, 2020 minutes and bills list.

VISITORS

Nathan Thompson presented information asking for Council permission to close part of the street from 1208 Starbrooke Drive to 1217 Starbrooke Drive to welcome home a neighbor that has been serving in Afghanistan. Thompson has signatures of all 6 homeowners that would be affected by the closing of the street. The homecoming is scheduled for the end of March. Chief Bauer and Chief Rittinghouse had no concerns. Councilmember Sandy Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Donna Cook. Councilmember Town asked if traffic could still get around by using the next street. Yes, Thompson said that would be open for all

other traffic. Motion carried 4-0, Council asked Thompson to get in touch with the Police Chief once they know that actual date.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Fire Department: Fire Chief Gerald Rittinghouse presented information on new furniture for the day room at the Fire Station. Councilmember Harris asked if firefighters usually spend time there. Chief Rittinghouse said volunteers will come and go during the day. If they have been on a fire call, some may spend up to three hours sitting and talking at the picnic bench located in the bay area. Councilmember Kalee Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Donna Cook and carried 3-0-1, (Town abstained) to approve the dayroom updates for the Fire Station.

Police Department: Police Chief Tim Bauer said he has been working to fill a full-time police officer position with a qualified candidate to serve the Louisburg community. Pamela Talley has applied and successfully completed the Police Department's hiring process to become a police officer with a paygrade of 2-4-B. Councilmember Cook asked if officers had to live inside the city limits. Chief Bauer said there is no residency requirement, but officers have to learn the Kansas laws and graduate from the Law Enforcement Academy. Mayor Southard mentioned the Academy's graduation ceremony is very nice and encouraged council members to attend future ceremonies, if possible. Councilmembers asked how many full-time and part-time officers are there. Chief Bauer said including himself there are 8 full-time, 3 part-time and 2 officers on medical leave. The department was approved for 13 full-time officers in 2020. Councilmember Steve Town moved, seconded by Councilmember Sandy Harris and carried 4-0, to accept the hire of Pamela Talley as requested.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Harris: Councilmember Sandy Harris said that the stormwater work on Broadmoor at the Lake is looking fantastic.

Councilmember Smith: Councilmember Kalee Smith asked if that huge pothole by Price Chopper has been reported. City Administrator Nathan Law said office staff has been in contact and property owners were receptive to fixing it. Mr. Law reminded council members the access road is on private property.

MAYOR'S REPORT

2020 Appointments: Mayor Marty Southard presented the 2020 Appointments. Councilmember Cook asked about how vacant positions on commissions are filled. Mayor Southard responded that information is posted on our City Website, Facebook and in the quarterly newsletter. Mayor Southard said there will be an opening on the Park Board in a few more months. Councilmember Cook asked what are the responsibilities of being a council liaison. Mayor Southard said Councilmember Cook is on finance and without regular meetings there isn't a whole lot for finance. Councilmember Harris asked about the Fox Hall and Cemetery Board. How often do they meet? Communications Coordinator Jean Carder said they are meeting at least once a quarter since the remodeling of the Fox Hall. Councilmember Smith said she likes it when the Councilmember goes to the commission/board meetings and reports back to the Council. Mayor Southard encouraged Councilmembers to continue with those reports. Councilmember Kalee Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Sandy Harris and carried 4-0, to approve the 2020 Appointments.

Mayor Pro-Tem: Councilmember Kalee Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Sandy Harris and carried 3-0-1, (Town abstained) to elect Steve Town as the Mayor Pro-Tem.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Land Lease Agreement for Lewis-Young Park: City Administrator Nathan Law said since 2017 there has been a process to accommodate bidding of a multi-year lease for hay ground at Lewis-Young Park. Staff placed an ad in the paper January 8, 2020, to solicit closed bids to farm this property. The bidding process ended at noon February 1, 2020. The ad stated that this lease would be for a five-year period (March 1, 2020 through March 1, 2025). The City received one closed bid. The bid came from Babe Cutshaw amounting to an annual payment of \$350 for a five-year lease. Councilmember Cook asked about fertilizer for that land. Administrator Law said that is up to Cutshaw to make that decision.

Councilmember Kalee Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Donna Cook and carried 4-0, to approve the land lease agreement for haying operations with Babe Cutshaw and have Mayor Southard sign the agreement.

Farming Agreement for City-Owned Property: Administrator Law said there has been a process to accommodate bidding of a multi-year lease for farm ground located on S. Rogers Road since 2017. The last contract signed February 6, 2017, was a three-year lease agreement to farm approximately 21 acres at 29146 South Rogers Road with Greg Foote Farms, and will expire on March 1, 2020. Foote Farms has been farming the land since 2000 and under this agreement paid the City \$2,783 each year for use of the land. Staff placed an ad to solicit closed bids to farm the property. The ad stated that this lease would be for a five-year period (March 1, 2020 through March 1, 2025.) The City received two bids. The highest bid returned was from Greg Foote Farms, amounting to an annual payment of \$2,105 for a five-year lease. Councilmember Kalee Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Sandy Harris. Councilmember Town found a typo in the agreement that will be corrected. Motion carried 4-0, to approve the land lease agreement for farming operations with Greg Foote Farms and have Mayor Southard sign the agreement.

Thank You Notes: Mayor Southard read a thank you note from Nathan Law's Family in regards to the flowers sent to his father's funeral.

Mayor Southard thanked City Staff for hosting the open house for Fox Hall. It was well attended by the Community.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Sandy Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Steve Town and carried 4-0, to adjourn the meeting.

Approved:

Marty Southard, Mayor

Attest:

Traci Storey, City Clerk