

**CITY OF LOUISBURG, KANSAS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MAY 4, 2020**

The Council of the City of Louisburg, Kansas met at 6:30 p.m. in regular session via Zoom video conferencing. Mayor Marty Southard presiding.

Council Members: Steve Town, Kalee Smith, Sandy Harris, Donna Cook, Thorvald McKiernan

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

Finance Director Pat McQueen

Press

Visitors

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Louisburg City Council was held by a remote meeting tonight that took place over Zoom, a video and phone conferencing platform. This was a move made necessary by the coronavirus pandemic and allowed under the state's Open Meeting Act.

Councilmember Thorvald McKiernan inquired about a Louisburg Ford invoice. City Administrator Nathan Law said it looks to be repairs for Public Works. Law said he would send the information to McKiernan. Councilmember Sandy Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Kalee Smith, motion carried 5-0, approve the consent agenda to include adoption of the agenda, approval of the regular meeting minutes of April 20, 2020 and special meeting minutes April 22, 2020 and bills list.

VISITORS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Kelly Stohs said the Moratoria for the Resolutions approved on 4-20-2020 had been lifted. Councilmembers had discussion. Stohs said unless the Council wanted to extend the Moratoria, otherwise it is expired.

MAYOR'S REPORT

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Work Site Utility Vehicle or Utility Task Vehicle, & Golf Carts: City Administrator Nathan Law said during the last meeting Staff was asked to look into options to amend City Code to allow for off-highway vehicles. Staff presented information to help clarify various types of vehicles, safety considerations paid by other agencies, and for discussing draft ordinance.

Safety considerations discussed by staff include, generally, that these vehicles were manufactured with the intent of off-road use. Because of this, they do not follow National Highway Traffic Safety Administration requirements and regulations for safety restraints and other safety considerations. Off-road vehicles do not come equipped with roadway tires, and when combining pressure and design of these tires with a high center of gravity, these vehicles pose additional risk to the safety of an individual on roadways.

A draft ordinance includes consideration for work-site utility vehicles, utility task vehicles, and golf carts.

Councilmembers had a lengthy discussion. Councilmember Sandy Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Donna Cook to table this discussion to the next meeting in order to have additional consideration on registration and annual renewal fees, along with additional information on insurance requirements of owners. Councilmember McKiernan asked about property tax on vehicles. Motion carried 5-0, to table until the next meeting.

Governing Body Compensation: Staff was directed at the last meeting to provide an ordinance to amend the section of City Code to remove compensation for Governing Body. Councilmember Donna Cook said she would rather not give up pay and would rather spend the money locally. Mayor Southard said some members of volunteer boards stop showing up to meetings and he would hate for this to happen to Council if stipends were removed. Councilmember Harris asked why are we even doing this. Councilmember McKiernan said it costs more money to process than what the check is for. Councilmembers Smith agrees with Cook to keep the compensation. Councilmember Town said he often spends his on things, like snacks, for the public safety departments. Councilmember Harris asked McKiernan why do you want this changed. McKiernan said nothing has changed. No action was taken.

New Curb on Aquatic Dr. And Amity/K68: The City was approached by the school to see if there was anything we could do to help stop cars from cutting the corner when exiting off Amity/K68 south onto Aquatic Drive. A good solution would be to extend the existing curbs to Amity/K68. This would help the safety of the people trying to cross the highway as well. Other work would include cutting out and raising about 30ft of sidewalk. Some regrading on the west side of Aquatic Drive would have to be done as well.

Before further work is done the City was looking for direction or recommendations on this improvement. If approved, the next step would be to get cost estimates, coordinate with KDOT and come back to City Council for final approval.

Councilmember Cook asked if we could just put rock or shrubs there. Administrator Law said KDOT would not allow that. McKiernan asked if the school district was going to cost share with us. Law said he would reach out to the school. Councilmembers had discussion. Administrator Law will bring this back when more information is available from KDOT.

Out of City Limit Customers: The City has two potential natural gas customers that are requesting service that live outside city limits. Both properties have city-owned natural gas very near or on their property. It is requested that Council allow these two properties to attach to our natural gas system. Councilmember Cook asked who pays for the gas line. Administrator Law said the customer pays the connection fee. Councilmember McKiernan asked if this was an oversight to have this request follow some work to install services. Law stated yes. Councilmember Harris asked how often does this happen. Administrator Law said since he has been here, this was the first request he has seen. Councilmember Cook said are these two locations already hooked up by us. Why is this even on the agenda? Law said yes, the service line to at least one of the properties has been installed up to a meter, but is not yet connected to the house. The reason staff is bringing this up now is because staff makes a point to bring to Council's attention when a mistake has been made and to make sure requirements are followed whenever possible. Staff apologized for the delay in presenting this consideration for approval. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Thorvald McKiernan moved, seconded by Councilmember Steve Town and carried 5-0, to allow the two properties to attach to our natural gas system.

General Fund Revenue Presentation: City Administrator Nathan Law gave a presentation to Council regarding General Fund revenue sources and options. Please email Traci with a list of dates that everyone could attend for a workshop. City Attorney Stohs asked if she needed to attend. Law said he would leave it up to her own discretion.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember McKiernan: Councilmember Thorvald McKiernan inquired about guidelines for getting the pool open. Administrator Law said staff has concerns in limits of gatherings and recommended guidelines from health entities like the CDC. Law will bring back information at the next meeting to allow Council to make the decision to open or not.

Councilmember Smith: Councilmember Kalee Smith asked if there was going to be a make-up date for the bulk trash pickup. Administrator Law said we might be able to have one in the fall. One other option could be a dumpster that we put on City property and residents take their items to the dumpster.

Councilmember Smith said she got a phone call, asking why the sewer rates increased. Smith said she thought we weren't raising rates. Administrator Law said that is correct, rates are not intended to change this year, and if rates were increased, it would have to be approved by Council. There was just the sewer billing quantity change for the year, which was calculated by water usage during a 3-month average consumption.

Councilmember Town: Councilmember Steve Town asked if there was a completion date for the trails at Lewis-Young. Administrator Law said it all depends on weather, but more work is intended to occur this week or next. Town asked if the lake at L/Y was treated for moss. Law said he will talk to Public Works and let him know.

Town asked if the small soccer goals could be moved and grass replanted. Law replied the City doesn't move the goals, but he would check with Louisburg Recreation Commission director Diana Moore.

Councilmember Harris: Councilmember Sandy Harris asked what kind of material is the trail at L/Y. Law said it will be asphalt.

Harris said something has to be done at the City Lake near where he lives and asks if this is a city issue or a HOA issue.

Harris said the playground at the pool looks great. Good job to Public Works on putting it together.

Councilmember Cook: Councilmember Donna Cook asked how much sales tax revenue have we lost with the stay home orders. Administrator Law said the information isn't available yet but we should know more when sales tax distributions from collections during the time since stay home orders have been effective.

Cook asked if the gas line parts for N. Elm are in yet. Law said he will check and let her know.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:12 p.m. Councilmember Thorvald McKiernan moved, seconded by Councilmember Sandy Harris and carried 5-0, to adjourn the meeting.

Approved:

Marty Southard, Mayor

Attest:

Traci Storey, City Clerk