

**Unofficial Minutes of the  
Regular City of Dighton Council Meeting held  
Monday, March 8, 2010**

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall. Those present included Council members Jeff Schmalzried, Dan Wick, George vonLeonrod, Jennifer Marsteller, and Logan Campbell. Also present were Dennis Burgess, Dan Hartman, Mary Hartman, City Superintendent Eugene Wilson, Deputy Clerk Nikki Strobel, City Attorney Dale Pike, and City Clerk Chelle Anderson.

Councilwoman Marsteller made the motion to approve the consent agenda as printed, Councilman Wick seconded, discussion was held, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilman vonLeonrod made the motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of consulting with an attorney for 20 minutes beginning at 5:35p.m. Such session is necessary to protect Attorney-Client privilege and the public interest, Schmalzried seconded, yeas by all motion carried. Those in attendance were R. Campbell, Schmalzried, Wick, Marsteller, L. Campbell, vonLeonrod, Attorney Pike, and Dan Hartman.

Councilwoman Marsteller made the motion to return to regular session at 5:55p.m., Councilman vonLeonrod seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Mayor Campbell asked for visitors. Dan Hartman with Dighton/Lane Co. Economic Development met with Council to discuss Economic Development issues. Hartman stated that he and Bill Taldo will be facilitating a mediation between USD 482 officials and USD 468 officials for the purpose of a sports coop agreement. Hartman stated that Dan Sharp with Sharp Brothers Seed Company has met with officials from Modern Turf and Sharp is definitely interested in working with them and bringing them to the community. Hartman reported that Prairie Fire Bio Energy at Healy has ceased operations. Hartman stated that he doesn't know if it can be restructured since the debt load is extremely high. The status of the industrial park was discussed. Hartman said that all government stimulus money is gone and the grant amount that they originally had applied for (\$169,800) is going to be less (\$129,800) since they had budgeted \$40,000 for 3 phase electricity service. He said that they were going to try and apply for \$300,000 but there are no funds available at this time. Hartman stated that it could be a month or less before they hear anything on the status of the grant. Hartman reported on wind energy and the transmission line issue and stated that all is going well with the project. Dan will be attending a meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and giving a presentation to the Kansas Transmission Electric Authority. Hartman also wanted to know how Council felt about supporting an Energy Manager Grant in the amount of up to \$100,000 to fund the salary requirements for an energy engineer. Hartman stated that it would be a coalition between cities and counties with possibly Dighton, Ness City, Wakeeney, Lane Co., Ness Co., Trego Co., and Gove Co. involved. Mayor Campbell told Hartman to proceed. Hartman discussed the proposed farmer's market/community garden project with

Council. Hartman stated that they could submit a grant up to \$100,000 but it would require a resolution of support from the City Council and other in kind support or donations. This would be used to remove dirt and get the lot ready for use. Hartman stated that if they use their lot at 300 E. Long it would need to have 4-6" of dirt removed due to contamination.

Dennis Burgess met with Council to report that he had been elected president of Dighton/Lane County Economic Development. Burgess discussed their empty lot at 300 E. Long and stated that they are very defensive about putting certain things on it and do not want it to be used for parking. Burgess reported on the Lane County Charitable Foundation stating that the 501(c)(3) probably won't get worked on again until after tax season ends. Burgess discussed the signs on the edges of town. He brought his old license tags in and stated that MJ's Stitching could use them to make signs on hard board or a banner and put over the existing signs. Eugene Wilson will measure the signs and Mayor Campbell will get prices and bring back to the next Council meeting. Burgess stated that he had given Attorney Pike a list of things that he is working on for the City at no charge.

Mayor Campbell asked for amendments to the agenda. There were none. Councilman vonLeonrod made the motion to approve the agenda as printed, Councilman Campbell seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Mayor Campbell asked for unfinished business. Resolution 2010-5 was presented to Council & discussed. Costs associated with this resolution can be added to the tax roll for collection. Councilman Schmalzried made the motion to approve Resolution 2010-5 as printed, Councilman Wick seconded, discussion was held, yeas by all, motion carried.

Discussion was held on West George Street issues. Wilson stated that all pins were in place now and he is waiting for things to dry out before proceeding.

Wilson gave Council a bid on a new shop heater. Wilson will get more bids before proceeding.

Mayor Campbell asked for new business. Clerk Anderson discussed the EMC commercial insurance policy renewal with Council. Anderson stated that there was a substantial drop in the workman's comp portion of the policy. Councilman Schmalzried made the motion to approve the EMC Commercial Insurance renewal, Councilman vonLeonrod seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Clerk Anderson presented Council with a letter from the League of Kansas Municipalities asking for community sponsors for their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Councilman Schmalzried made the motion to not participate in the sponsorship, Councilman vonLeonrod seconded, discussion was held, yeas by all, motion carried.

Mayor Campbell asked for committee reports. Councilman Campbell reported that most of the fire trucks that were discussed at last month's meeting have been sold. Campbell stated that he had spoken with Bill Taldo about partnering with Lane County on a truck. Taldo told Campbell that the County had just purchased a new rescue truck and would not be interested at this time. Campbell stated that he would like to see the City replace the old trucks with newer used trucks and get on a 10 year rotation. Campbell stated that he would keep looking into fire trucks.

City Superintendent Wilson stated that he has been working on sending out notices for junk vehicles as well as for debris in yards.

City Clerk Anderson passed around a thank you from Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center. Anderson discussed with Council the upcoming budget workshops as well as money that has been collected from Kansas Setoff for delinquent bills. Anderson stated that she had received a phone call from Joann Heinz concerning the retirement of Bob Heinz from UPS. Mrs. Heinz had asked if Council would do a proclamation honoring Bob as she is planning a reception for him in Dighton. Council stated that they would allow this to be placed on the City's sign, but would not do a proclamation.

Councilman Schmalzried discussed issues with the streets and alleys. Schmalzried stated that he had contacted KDOT to see when they would be starting the work on K-96 again and how long it would take. The response he got was they would be starting April 26<sup>th</sup> and be finished by Memorial Day. They will be milling the highway down to make it smooth and they are trying to add 1100 feet of curb and guttering to the contract. Discussion was held on trailers being parked on City streets. Councilman vonLeonrod stated that he had been contacted by an individual stating he had received a notice on his door from the Lane Co. Sheriff's office that the trailer had to be removed from the street. Councilman vonLeonrod stated that he spoke to Sheriff Wilson concerning this issue. Issues with the current ordinance as well as the Standard Traffic Ordinance were discussed with possible changes needing to be made.

Councilwoman Marsteller stated that pool manager Dylan Kuhlman will be home over spring break and will meet with her and Clerk Anderson to go over pool business.

Councilman Campbell stated that the Dighton Fire Department will most likely be applying for a permit to have a beer garden during the All School Reunion.

There being no further business to come before Council, Councilman vonLeonrod made the motion to adjourn, Councilman Schmalzried seconded, yeas by all, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

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Rebecca Campbell, Mayor

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Chelle J. Anderson, City Clerk