Unofficial Minutes of the City of Dighton

Regular Council Meeting held August 8, 2022

Mayor Annita Lorimor called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm in City Hall. Those present included: Council members Christine Birney-Carter, Craig Doris and Marlene Rupp. Also present were Attorney Dale Pike, Sheriff Bryan Kough, Steve Porter, Ajit Kumar, Mark vonLeonrod, A.G. Turner, Jacob Gayer, Superintendent Craig Collins, Deputy Clerk Michelle Wilkison and City Clerk Nicole Strobel.

Mayor Annita Lorimor made an amendment to the minutes, adding that Councilwoman Janet Shapland abstained on the motion to put $1,055,000.00 in a 2-year CD at First State Bank of Healy, Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter made the motion to approve the minutes with correction, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Ajit Kumar with K & J Foods asked council to reconsider Sunday beer sales.

Mark vonLeonrod discussed the park and questioned the budget for the park for updated sprinkler system and beautification.

Municipal Judge Jacob Gayer reported on Municipal Court and asked about closing the Municipal Court PO Box and having mail forwarded to the City Office PO Box. Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter made the motion to close Municipal Court PO Box and forward to City Office, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Sheriff Bryan Kough asked council how they wanted to handle the purchase of the dog and snake poles. Sheriff Kough was informed to purchase and turn a receipt in to the City Office for reimbursement.

Steve Porter with KMEA discussed the letter from Lane-Scott that was delivered to the city. Steve reported that the outage last week was from a burnt jumper at the south sub. Steve also mentioned he would like better communication with Lane-Scott during outages and monthly numbers on the subs.

Fire Chief Craig Collins reported they will meet with ISO sometime in September.

Superintendent Craig Collins talked about the age and condition of water lines. Craig reported he is still gathering information for the water rate report. Craig reported there is a KMEA meeting in Wichita, September 29 & 30.

City Clerk Nicole Strobel reported that BCBS credited the City back $3888.77 back for the error of one of the city employee’s policies.

Mayor Annita Lorimor commented the bushes at 100 E. Cherry had been trimmed up and improved the visibility.

Council discussed the fire weeds around town that were getting tall and out of control.

Councilman Craig Doris reported that he will contact Richard McLeon with Lane-Scott and discuss concerns with him.

Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter discussed pool issues.

Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter reported there has been positive reaction to downtown music.

Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter made the motion to amend the agenda, adding B. Post Office under new business, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Water rates were discussed, Superintendent Craig Collins reported he is still working on the water rate study, Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to table until the August meeting, Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter seconded, yeas by all, motion carried. After discussion about the City’s automatic water salesman, council told Craig to look into the cost of a new one.

A revised copy of the Employee Handbook was presented to the council, Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to table until the August meeting so council can review, Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

After discussion about employee’s wages, Councilwoman Marlene Rupp made the motion to give $0.50 raise across the board to full time employees, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Superintendent Craig Collins presented bids for electrical work in the city office, bid from NaberHood Electric was accepted.

Discussion was held about the music being played outside; Steve Porter will look into wireless speakers to be placed outside.

Concrete to Dollar General, for safety reasons for children and pedestrians, was discussed, Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to pour 650 feet of concrete for sidewalk/bicycle path to Dollar General, Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the Ordinance 581. Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter made the motion to pass Ordinance 709 an Ordinance deleting Section 13-110 (f/k/a Ordinance 581) of the code of the City of Dighton, Kansas, regarding the obstruction of city sidewalks or other public rights-of-way, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Marlene Rupp made the motion to approve bills except for Cartmill Enterprises, until further detailed information is provided on bill, Councilwoman seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to adjourn, Councilwoman Christine Birney-Carter seconded, yeas by all, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

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Annita Lorimor, Mayor Nicole Strobel, City Clerk