

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on April 8, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., at the Park Community Building, located at 600 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas..

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Wells and Council Members Peters, Ballard, Ford, Peterson, Mathew, Franklin., Myrick, and Martin were present. Also present were Administrator Fleming, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton.

**REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Ballard to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Wells read the following statement:

*Persons who wish to address the City Council regarding items on the agenda may do so as that agenda item is called. Persons who wish to address the City Council regarding items not on the agenda and that are under the jurisdiction of the City Council may do so at this time when called upon by the Mayor. Comments on personnel matters and matters pending in court or with other outside tribunals are not permitted. Speakers are limited to three minutes. Any presentation is for information purposes only. No action will be taken.*

Following Mayor Wells reading of the aforementioned statement, he asked members of the audience if they wished to address the Council.

Donna Houser stated that she was thrilled that the school bond issue passed. She also informed the Council Members that the trolley should be up and running soon. Donna Houser told the Council that the women's bathroom in the football stadium was finished.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes Approval**
  - **March 11, 2019**
- B. Appropriations Approval**
- C. Relay for Life -Boot Block Request**
- D. EMC Insurance Renewal**

Council Member Peters stated that he had asked Administrator Fleming about the purchase of the laptop for the Court Clerk. Noting that the amount shown was also for software and installation by Jayhawk Software.

Motion made by Council Member Myrick to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Ballard. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **PROCLAMATION**

**A. Child Abuse Prevention Month - CASA** - Mayor Wells thanked the CASA group for what they do for the area children. He read the proclamation and declared April Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Donita Garner, Hope Unlimited Child Advocate, stated that the number of cases dropped from 206 in 2017 to 188 in 2018.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**A. CITF Pride Fundraiser Event** - Tiffany Reed, President of CITF reviewed the projects that CITF has coordinated and accomplished. Tiffany stated that CITF is holding a fundraiser event. The event will be held on the last day of school to allow individuals to bid on a unique ride to school for a child.

CITF is requesting the city to allow a ride in a Fire Truck, Patrol Vehicle, Electric Bucket Truck, and either the Street Sweeper or the Sanitation Truck.

Council Member Ballard asked Administrator Fleming if the city would have some liability in allowing these children on these pieces of equipment. Administrator Fleming noted that it would not require any additional liability insurance and compared it to when the vehicles are in a local parade and children are riding on the firetrucks and/or the police vehicles. He noted that a City Employee would be driving the vehicle.

Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Ford to approve staff to provide support for a fundraiser event by CITF/Pride and provide the requested vehicles for rides on the last day of school. All in favor. Motion carried.

**B. Unified School District 257 - Request** - Assistant Administrator Schinstock informed the Council that the High School is wanting to charge each vehicle that attends the

High School Baseball and Softball games. They are requesting a \$5.00 charge to each vehicle; however, they won't turn anyone away.

Council Member Ballard stated he is not in favor of charging individuals to park on public property.

Council Member Franklin stated he is in favor as long as they don't turn anyone away and advertise it as a donation.

Council Member Ford and Myrick agreed with Council Member Franklin.

Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that the school does not recoup any funding for their spring sports like they do in for Fall Sports.

Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Myrick to approve the school to request a donation for those entering the park to watch the baseball or softball games. All in favor. Motion carried.

**C. Municipal Pool Painting - Bid Approval** - Staff sent the bid solicitation to four potential professional contractors and posted a Request for Proposal solicitation to the City of Iola website.

Two contractors, Utility Maintenance Contractors and Torrey Brothers Construction, submitted bids by the deadline. Staff had requested as an alternate bid that gutter caulking be added to the bid proposal.

Staff is recommending that the caulking be done in-house following the project completion.

Council Member Franklin asked if the painting could also be done in house. Assistant Administrator Schinstock stated that with the swimming lanes and the current type of paint used for the pool that it would not be feasible to do it in-house.

Motion made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Martin to accept the bid from Utility Maintenance Contractors in the amount of \$53,740.00 for the Municipal Pool Resurfacing/ Painting Project and authorize staff to execute the necessary documents. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**A Power Supply Discussion** - Administrator Fleming introduced Scott Shreve.

Scott Shreve addressed the Council about the ongoing Solar Project noting that the more utilities we can get on board with the Solar Project the more it will drive the price down. If the city were to purchase the solar project at the end of year 7 as a 30-year project this would give Iola several years to have that 2.7 MW of capacity that is renewable energy.

Council Member Franklin asked if the City was moving away from the diesel generators? Scott Shreve stated that "no the City would hold onto that generation". This would just be an addition to get the city closer to capacity.

Administrator Fleming noted that the city has been in the process for a couple of years to purchase additional generation.

Scott Shreve stated that the diesel generation is needed to cover the load. If the Solar is purchased in year 7 this will drive down the capacity price.

Mayor Wells stated that you can pay yourself or pay others for Solar. The Council needs to look to the future of Iola. Why not lock in the price today that we will be paying for thirty years.

Council Member Franklin would like to see a memo of the solar project that has a cost benefit analysis.

Council Member Ford asked that the memo be in layman's terms.

Council Member Ballard stated he did not understand why we would pay \$4.5 to \$5.0 million dollars for the solar capacity when we paid \$75,000 last year.

Administrator Fleming noted that he feels like the City will not have to finance to purchase the solar power, therefore it will make the average cost closer to \$29.41 per MW.

Scott Shreve noted that the city having the ability to lock in the energy for 30 years at an average cost of \$30.00 is a great deal.

Scott Shreve then spoke about the Southwestern Power Administration (SWPA) and the City's hydropower allocation. The City cancelled the agreement with KMEA for this allocation due to the energy price. The City has an opportunity now to obtain rights to power and loan it out to another City or energy company.

Administrator Fleming noted that we can retain the hydro allocation to use as our capacity or we can loan it out. We would not enter the agreement unless it is made clear that we could retain the rights following the term of the loan and that the loan was approved through SWPA.

Council Member Myrick noted that past Councils he served on saw the importance of future generation purchase and set aside money to make it possible.

Council Member Myrick asked Power Plant Supervisor, Mike Phillips about the set up on the diesel generators. Mike Phillips stated they are a turnkey project. Everything is included within the price.

Council Member Ballard asked if we purchase the diesel generation now how can we pay for the Solar later?

Administrator Fleming stated that the City has about \$2.35 million slated for new generation. With the purchase of used generation, the City will still have roughly \$1 million available for the solar project. The City also received roughly \$1 million dollars from SPP. This was a refund of the line of credit required when SEG partner, Chanute, served as the Market Participant. The solar project will not be constructed until 2021, which gives the City about nine years to save for the purchase.

Mayor Wells stated that the Council is wanting more information on the Solar Power and would like to move forward on the SPA.

## **COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS**

### **A. Council Member Franklin –**

- None

### **B. Council Member Myrick–**

- Thanked the City Staff for answering his questions.
- Wondered when the speed limit would change on Miller and Cottonwood Streets.  
Mayor Wells stated that he wanted to wait and see if someone purchases the golf course before increasing the speed limit.

### **C. Council Member Mathew –**

- None

### **D. Mayor Wells–**

- Applauded the City Crews for all of their hard work.
- Reminded everyone that kids will be out on bicycles and walking more since the weather has warmed up. Pay attention to crosswalks.

**E. Council Member Ballard –**

- Inquired about the drain in front of Caseys. It seems to continually be full of water.
- Assistant Administrator Schinstock stated that it is shallow and semis continually hit the drain. This will be a part of the Highway 54 project.
- Stated he had been approached by Ambulance Personnel concerning the Moran Ambulance making up to three runs in one shift to out of town hospitals.
- Administrator Fleming stated that this is a personnel issue and the employees need to come to administration prior to going to a council member.

**F. Council Member Peterson–**

- None

**G. Council Member Ford–**

- None

**H. Council Member Peters –**

- He saw the city crew out today starting on City Cleanup.

**I. Council Member Martin -**

- None

**J. Administrator Fleming–**

- Noted that the Street crew has begun cleanup.
- The street crew will also be working on crack filling in preparation for chip and seal.
- Had 36 attendees at the New Rules for Business Success workshop held last week at the Bowlus.

**DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 22, 2019

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 2019

7:05 pm. Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Peters to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 22nd day of April, 2019.



Mayor Wells

*Jonathan P. Wells*

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton

*Roxanne Hutton*