

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger called the regular City Council Meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present were: Jesse Knight, Jeff Blosser, Mark Brooks, and Sharon Haun. Council members Mark Berner and Keith Wessel were absent. City Attorney Randy Heilman, Assistant City Attorney Steve Iverson and City Administrator Nick Jones were also present. Others attending were: Kay Hutchinson, Steven Hanson, Deputy Building Inspector James Masters, Building Inspector Larry Siegrist, Marcus Hernandez, and Megan Glotzbach.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD I

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilperson Jeff Blosser made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the packet. Councilperson Mark Brooks seconded the motion. The consent agenda consisted of:

- January 3, 2019 Minutes.
- January 3, 2019 to Current Appropriations.
- City Lake Cabin Transfers: None

The Council voted 3-0 in favor with Councilperson Sharon Haun abstaining. Motion carried. 4-0

OLD BUSINESS

• **225 E. Conn Street – Dangerous Trees – Owner Kerry Long**

Deputy Building Inspector James Masters noted the State Arborist, Kim Bomberger, has reviewed the status of the trees at 225 E. Conn Street and presented her findings to the City and the Owner of the property. There are three high risk trees and one moderate risk tree recommended to be removed. City Attorney Randy Heilman reminded the Council regarding the finding of the Public Hearing on November 6, 2018. The agreement was Mr. Long will follow the recommendation of the State Arborist regarding the trees on his property. After discussion Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to instruct Deputy Building Inspector James Masters to put a 60 day time frame in a letter to the owner.

• **Blighted Structures – 319 Hall Street Update**

Deputy Building Inspector James Masters noted the one year deadline to replace the boarded up windows at 319 Hall Street has passed with nothing completed. Deputy Building Inspector Masters is requesting direction from the Council. Steve Hanson, Owner of 319 Hall Street, noted the Council was very kind giving him a year to replace his windows but another job came up and he is almost done with it. Mr. Hanson requested a 30 day extension to replace the windows. After discussion Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to give Steve Hanson until February 19, 2019 to replace the windows at 319 Hall Street. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion and the Council voted 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

• **Blighted Structures**

Deputy Building Inspector James Masters presented the Blighted Structure Committee Recommendations.

a. 511 Columbia – Owner: Vivian Stacy

Recommendation by inspector – Repair of Structure

- Deputy Building Inspector James Masters noted no progress has been made. After discussion Councilperson Mark Brooks made a motion to have the City Attorney draft a resolution for a Public Hearing. Councilperson Jeff Blosser seconded the motion and the Council voted 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.

b. 125 S. Belfry – Owner: Summer Meyer

Recommendation by inspector – Demolition of Structure

- Deputy Building Inspector James Masters noted lean-to was removed but left on ground. The building has gotten in worse shape since the notice was sent. After discussion Councilperson Mark Brooks made a motion to have the City Attorney draft a resolution for a Public Hearing. Councilperson Jeff Blosser seconded the motion and the Council voted 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.

c. 113 W. Main – Owner: Harold Bales, Jr.

Recommendation by inspector – Repair of Structure

- Deputy Building Inspector James Masters noted the State Historical Society has denied the owners request to demo the back section of his building because it would damage the historical value of the building. The Council will need to have a meeting to decide if the Council wishes to override the State Historical Society's decision and approve the demolition. Deputy Building Inspector Masters noted the owner has recently contacted him about setting up the meeting in February. Councilperson Jesse Knight noted the State Historical Society should be invited to find out why the back section of the building is historically significant to the City. After discussion City Attorney Randy Heilman confirmed the Council's decision regarding not drawing up a Resolution and having a hearing on a Historic Building Demo on February 19, 2019.

- **Planning & Zoning Recommendation**

Building Inspector Larry Siegrist noted the Landowners at 132 Lakeside drive did not take note of their property line and constructed a building on the neighbor's property. The neighbor has agreed to sell the section of property the building is sitting on but will encroach on the neighbor's setback. Building Inspector Siegrist noted the Planning & Zoning Commission recommends the Council approve the variance request for side yard setback in a residential area. After discussion Councilperson Jeff Blosser made a motion to approve the variance request. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion and the Council voted 3-0 in favor with Councilperson Mark Brooks abstaining. Motion carried. 4-0

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

- Councilperson Jesse Knight noted the Council Grove High School is hosting a Coaches Vs Cancer event and inquired if the City would like to be a sponsor. After discussion Councilperson Mark Brooks made a motion for the City to be a Sponsor for Coaches Vs Cancer event and donate \$50.00. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion and the Council voted 3-0 in favor with Councilperson Jeff Blosser abstaining. Motion carried. 4-0
Councilperson Knight reported the Economic Development Committee recommends approval of a \$3,000.00 50/50 Grant to Backroad Concepts. Councilperson Mark Brooks made a motion to approve the recommendation of the \$3,000.00 50/50 Grant to Backroad Concepts. Councilperson Jeff Blosser seconded the motion and the Council voted 3-0 in favor with Councilperson Jesse Knight abstaining. Motion carried. 4-0
Councilperson Knight requested to set a date for the Girl Scout Cabin Demo. After discussion, regarding where to place the radio equipment located inside the Cabin, the Council decide to place the radio equipment inside City Hall. Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to demo the Girl Scout Cabin by March 1, 2019. Councilperson Mark Brooks seconded the motion and the Council voted 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.
Councilperson Knight noted since the Softball Club was started, four years ago, they have donated over \$16,000.00 to Council Grove.
- Councilperson Mark Berner – Absent
- Councilperson Jeff Blosser noted the batting cages are up and are being used. Councilperson Blosser presented the Council with a loose leaf sketch of the proposed signage for the ball diamonds. Councilperson Blosser noted he will bring this back to the Council when the final location and design has been completed.
- Councilperson Mark Brooks noted he received a few complaints regarding pot holes in some alleys and spring water running from yards to the street and causing damage. Councilperson Brooks requested the City move forward with an Ordinance regulating flat work. Councilperson Brooks noted the City should consider joining the Freedom Frontier National Heritage Area. To join the City would need to approve a Resolution.
- Councilperson Keith Wessel – Absent
- Councilperson Sharon Haun noted the Santa Fe Trail 2021 Committee will be inviting the community to gather input for the event. Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger noted the City should join the Santa Fe Trail Association. After discussion Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to join the Santa Fe Trail Association at \$65.00/year. Councilperson Mark Brooks seconded the motion and the Council voted 4-0 in favor. Motion carried. Councilperson Mark Brooks noted the Council could be a lifetime member of the Santa Fe Trail Association for \$1,000.00 (\$250.00/year for four years.) After discussion Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to rescind the prior motion.

