

City of Prairie City
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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2.

May 10, 2017, 6:00pm

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4.

5. Attended: Jim Hamsher, Mayor

6. Carole Garrison, Councilor

7. Georgia Patterson, Councilor

8. Frank Primozić, Councilor

9. Taci Philbrook, City Recorder

10. Lyn McDonald, City Clerk

11. Carlos Bortell, resident

12. Heidi Cearns, resident

13. Michael Cearns, resident

14. Chris Camarena, Public Works Director

15. Allen Detweiler, resident

16. Livy Atchley, Resident

17. Cheryl Hoefler, resident

18. Pam Woodworth, resident

19. Pam Woodworth, resident

20.

21. The Mayor opened the regular meeting at 6:00pm. Roll Call was taken. All

22. councilors present, except Councilors Phippen and Miller who were excused.

23.

24. The minutes of the April 12th regular meeting were considered. **MSP: To**

25. approve the minutes as is. Councilor Garrison/ Councilor Patterson. All

26. members voted in favor.

27.

28. The Council honored Pam Woodworth for her heroic actions while saving Eula

29. Waits from a house fire. The Mayor and Councilors awarded Pam a certificate

30. and flower basket.

31.

32. The Mayor recognized Allen Detweiler & Livy Atchley who have come before

33. the council to ask for an extension of time to correct the violation of city code

34. Section 16.68.05(c). Allen explained to the council they have applied to HUD for

35. housing and have submitted many employment applications for potential

36. employment. Councilor Garrison asked the couple if they are using city services

37. to which they responded they are using sewer services. The council agreed to the

38. extension providing they pay for the monthly use of the sewer, and sign an

39. agreement allowing them a 60 day extension. The extension terminates July 12th.

40. Someone suggested they stay in Depot Park, or Sweeks trailer park, then the
41. couple would have access to public utilities. The issue of their lack of finances
42. was discussed. **MSP: to allow Livy and Allan to extend their stay in Gills**
43. **front yard at 215 N. Johnson for 60 days, and they have to pay sewer**
44. **charges. Councilor Church / Councilor Primozić. Six in favor, Councilor**
45. **Garrison opposed.** Taci asked the couple to come to city hall the next afternoon
46. to sign the agreement. It was requested that Taci contact the complainant and
47. relay the councils decision.
48.
49. **Museum:** see attached report.
50.
51. **Public Works:** see attached report. Public Works Director, Chris Camarena,
52. reported two leaks in the sewer line on the highway were fixed this week. Our
53. last pump is failing. As it is running intermittently Chris believes a seal is failing.
54. He is going to call the electrician to check it out.
55.
56. Chris has spoken to the city engineer, Joe Hitz, about the last step in getting our
57. USDA loan for the upcoming sewer project. Joe promises to have his part done in
58. one week. Chris reported; Joe has spoken to Heidi and they are going to split the
59. bid process up into two. One bid for just the pumps, and one for laying the pipe.
60. USDA has no problem with the pipe issue, but they did have questions about the
61. pumps. Mayor Hamsher offered to speak to Joe, and impress upon Joe how
62. important it is for him to get his part done so we can get the pumps out for bid. If
63. it comes down to drastic measures we will have to send the pump out for repair
64. at a cost of \$12,000.
65.
66. Chris reported he is also waiting on Joe to finish the Engineering Reports for the
67. Landfill Final Closure Plan. DEQ is requiring the reports. Chris is in the process
68. of working up a trade with the County for in-kind work at the landfill, in trade
69. for the \$5000 Dodge truck. The trade will allow us to offset some of the cost of
70. the closure. Chris obtained the Dodge truck by trading the fire department a \$400
71. pump.
72.
73. The council briefly discussed the burying of the hot ash at the mill.
74.
75. Chris reminded the council our Water Ordinance is in dire need of being revised.
76. He wrote up a cost estimate recently, and sees we are losing money with our
77. existing rates. Taci interjected she would like to see the new water ordinances
78. set rates by resolution. Mayor Hamsher instructed Taci to hand the Ordinance out
79. at the first regular meeting in June, then they can schedule a workshop to work on
80. the document.
81.

82. Chris reminded the council our goal is to start the Water Master Plan in our
83. next FY. He has acquired a source for a \$20,000 grant which equates to half the
84. cost of the plan.

85.

86. He also reported we are now beginning our second round of source sampling on
87. surface ground water. Starting in October we will be required to sample two
88. times a month for twelve months. He has checked with Box R Laboratories and
89. confirmed they are willing to create a route that allows all the cities to divide the
90. cost of picking up the samples. Chris reminded the council this will affect his
91. next years budget.

92.

93. Chris reported; for us using our Vac Truck to suck out Monuments Wet Well they
94. are trading us concrete sewer rings. He assured the council the guys will dump it
95. in Monument lagoon, not ours.

96.

97. **Payables: MSP: To ratify payment of the bills. Councilor Church /**

98. Councilor Patterson. All in favor.

99.

100. The mayor introduced **Resolution 2016-06, MSP: To adopt Resolution**
101. **2016-06 A Resolution to adopt Supplemental Budget for fiscal year 2016-**
102. **2017. Councilor Patterson / Councilor Church. All in favor.**

103.

104. The mayor introduced **Resolution 2016-07, MSP: To adopt Resolution**
105. **2016-07 A Resolution authorizing a budget transfer within the Museum**
106. **Fund. Councilor Garrison / Councilor Church. All in favor.**

107.

108. **Other Business:** The council began a conversation about the offer from
109. American Tower for a one time signing bonus of \$25,000 for a 40 year
110. lease agreement. They discussed the need for American Tower to secure
111. their position with the city so they are then able to motivate more sub
112. leases with other carriers. Councilor Garrison asked if we took the offer
113. are we locked into the percentage rate of 3%. The City Recorder was asked
114. to supply all the councilors with a copy of the current contract for their
115. review. The topic will again be discussed at the next regular meeting. The
116. mayor also asked Taci to look into franchise fees from a private party when
117. a private party allows a cell tower to be erected.

118.

119. Councilor Garrison expressed the need to update the Comprehensive Land
120. Use Plan by 2018. It was suggested the regulating of cell towers could be
121. included in the plan. Taci reported the council also needed to look at
122. changing the antiquated rates for a Conditional Use Permit. At this time we
123. are charging \$25, and the ad alone is \$65. The \$25 charge does not pay for

124. time and labor on the permit. She hopes to present a resolution to the
125. council to change the rate to \$125-\$150.
126.
127. Taci reported; as it is required by DEQ for the landfill, she had secured
128. Financial Assurance in the amount of \$232,706 for this year.
129.
130. Taci declared this years 4th of July theme is “Celebrate the Spirit of 1776”.
131. They are ready to start handing out parade entry forms, and building the
132. posters. Wear a Red Hat Day, to support the military, will be celebrated that
133. same day with a contest at 1:30pm. Taci assured the council we had
134. Michael Riggs permission to use his property for the fireworks. She also
135. said he denied the use of the same lot for Eclipse parking.
136.
137. Mushroom buyers are in town. Taci assured the council they are obtaining
138. temporary business licenses.
139.
140. City Wide Clean Up day is May 25th. The mayor explained; Sandy Murray
141. has broken the town into seven zones. She has seventy school kids that have
142. volunteered to assist. Sandy plans on sending ten kids, and one adult and a
143. truck to each zone. The council reviewed the poster with the guidelines
144. layed out to the residents. Changes to the poster included; not accepting
145. paint, batteries, tires, hazardous materials, auto fluids, electronics and
146. metal. Taci reported Steve Ellson is willing to take autos and batteries. She
147. has also arranged for a roll off from Clark's. Taci said Oregon Solv has
148. donated vests, gloves, sharp containers and garbage bags for the crews to
149. use. Oregon Solv is also providing a \$100 reimbursement for dumping the
150. roll off.
151.
152. Chris reported that same day is “Fire Day”, and the city workers will be
153. busy with that, but afterward they will be available with two backhoes and
154. two dump trucks. All the garbage will be put into a dumpster going to
155. Clark's. Yard debris will be put into the dump trucks, and taken down to the
156. burn pile.
157.
158. The Public Works Director, Chris reported he had sent the white dump truck
159. into T&H for motor work. He got it home and it died after driving it short
160. of a mile. He has had them pick it back up to figure out what is wrong with
161. it.
162.
163. The Prairie City Eclipse Committee is planning a meeting for May 22nd, for
164. the merchants, residents, potential entrepreneurs, and volunteers.
165.

166. **The Mayor adjourned at 7:05 pm.**

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168. Submitted by:

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171. _____
Taci Philbrook, City Recorder

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Approved by the City Council this _____
day of _____, 2017 and
signed by the Mayor:

Jim Hamsher, Mayor