

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
OCTOBER 9, 2012  
7:00 P.M.**

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

**B. ROLL CALL:** Members present were Councilmembers Irlan Fullbright, Kathy Hines, Rick Wilson and Mayor Frank Koelsch. Councilmembers Kirk Clawson and Gaila Nielsen were absent. Also present was Mary Jo Cunningham and Karen LaPierre, representing the Ellinwood Leader and the Great Bend Tribune.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Councilmember Rick Wilson to approve minutes for the September 11, 2012 council meeting, seconded by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

**D. APPROPRIATIONS:** A motion was made by Councilmember Kathy Hines to authorize payment of bills and claims processed, seconded by Councilmember Rick Wilson. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

**E. OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Street Signs: The street sign purchase was approved at the September 11, 2012 meeting, however a question has been raised as to the spelling of two street names. The two names in question are Bismark and Humbolt Streets. The questioned spelling would include a ‘c’, ie. Bismarck and a “d” ie. Humboldt. After some discussion regarding the ramifications of changing the current spelling, a motion was made by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright that the current spelling of “Bismark” and “Humbolt” Streets remain the same. Motion seconded by Councilmember Rick Wilson. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kathy Hines to accept an additional bid of \$178 from Michael Todd & Company for Santa Fe and Main Street signs to be placed on the cross arms at the stop light, seconded by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

**F. VISITORS:** Mary Jo Cunningham, Kevin Clair, Karen LaPierre, Chris Komarek and Alex Feil.

**G. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Service Awards: Service awards were presented to the following city employees for their years of service to the City of Ellinwood. The awards were presented to:

D.J. Knop – 10 years – Fire Department  
Danielle Weber – 10 years – Police Department

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2. Health Insurance/HDHP Contribution: The BXBS health insurance plan was approved at the September 11, 2012 meeting. Currently the City pays 100% of the premium for the employee only High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) and 85% of the HDHP premium for employee/spouse, employee/child and family coverages. Any employee who enrolls in a traditional health plan receives the same monetary amount of contribution and is responsible for any excess premium. Also the City currently contributes \$150 per month to each eligible employee's HSA account.

A motion was made by Councilmember Rick Wilson to approve the same percentage of premium payments for the High Deductible Health Plans and continue the \$150 Health Savings Account contribution per month for employees with single coverage for the period November 1, 2012 through October 31, 2013 and \$150 per month, increasing to \$200 per month in January, 2013 for employees with employee/spouse, employee/child and family coverages. Motion seconded by Councilmember Kathy Hines. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

3. Vision Plan Renewal: The Vision Service Plan is renewed every two years and is up for renewal on December 31<sup>st</sup>. The current plan has a \$25 copay and the current premium is \$18.72. The renewal premium is \$19.71. An alternate plan has been offered this year which includes a \$10 copay for exams and \$25 copay for materials with a premium of \$17.93.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kathy Hines to approve the alternate plan with Vision Service Plan with a premium of \$17.93, seconded by Councilmember Rick Wilson. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

4. Return Check Policy: The City's returned check fee is \$25 and there is a limit of three returned checks any one customer can have before they are placed on cash, credit card, or money order only status for a period of one year. After some discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright to increase the returned check fee to \$30 and change the limit from three to two returned checks at which point the customer will be placed on cash, credit card, or money order only status for a one year period. Motion seconded by Councilmember Kathy Hines. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

**7:00 P.M.**

5. South Main Street: The condition of South Main Street and the potential repairs to the street were discussed. The City has contacted several firms regarding cost estimates. The issue was tabled, awaiting a review of the City's financial condition toward the end of the year.

**REPORTS:**

1. Municipal Court Report: Presented to Council was the Municipal Court Report for September, 2012.
2. Utilities Production Report: Presented to Council was the Utilities Production Report.
3. Staff Reports:
  - a) Robert Peter and Kim Schartz attended the annual LKM conference. Concerns were expressed about the relevance of topics available at the conference. Future agendas will be reviewed before a decision is made regarding attendance.
  - b) Staff reported Mark Chesney has been hired as the new executive director for Kansas Power Pool.
  - c) Staff reported tree trimming will begin the week of October 15<sup>th</sup> and will take about 3 weeks to complete. The city staff will then begin to work on Christmas lights. The street and parks department is working on over seeding park areas. The police department is currently reviewing applications for a part-time police officer.
  - d) Staff reported the recreation committee is in the process of summarizing the recreation surveys. A total of 323 responses were received.
  - e) Staff reported there will not be a Halloween in the Park event this year. Plans are underway for a Santa's Workshop event this year.
  - f) Robert Peter and Mayor Koelsch attended a scenic byway meeting in Hoisington. Staff reported it was well attended and provided details of progress made and their vision for the future.
  - g) Staff reported the approximate cost of the City's share of the total Rice Project for Designated Network Resources (DNR) is \$74,283 and will be built into the City's rate structure as it is with all member cities. Also the cost of the RICE upgrade for the non DNR engine is estimated to be \$140,235.

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- I. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business at this time, a motion was made by Councilmember Kathy Hines that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councilmember Rick Wilson. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

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Frank Koelsch, Mayor

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Kim Schartz, City Clerk