

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020
7:00 P.M.

- A. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Irlan Fullbright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was moved from City council chambers to the Ellinwood Community Library to comply with social distancing guidelines.
- B. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Councilmembers Kirk Clawson, Jacque Isern, Ken Lebbin, Jon Prescott and Mayor Irlan Fullbright. Councilmember Steve Oelke was absent. City attorney Jane Isern was present.
- C. **RECITATION OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**
- D. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Councilmember Jon Prescott to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Councilmember Kirk Clawson. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.
- E. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Councilmember Ken Lebbin to approve minutes for the August 11, 2020 regular council meeting, seconded by Councilmember Jacque Isern. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.
- F. **APPROPRIATIONS:** A motion was made by Councilmember Kirk Clawson to authorize payment of bills and claims processed, seconded by Councilmember Jacque Isern. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.
- G. **OLD BUSINESS:** NONE
- H. **VISITORS:** Jon Perron, Jordan Waite
- I. **NEW BUSINESS:**
1. USDA Grant: At the June 9, 2020 council meeting, city council approved a grant application for cyber security computer system upgrades through the USDA Rural Development Program. The final paperwork was not completed as of the meeting date, so the agenda item was tabled.
 2. Public Power Week: Mayor Irlan Fullbright presented to city council a proclamation recognizing Public Power Week October 4th through October 10th. The proclamation promotes to citizens the value of a city owning their own power systems. A motion was made by Councilmember Jon Prescott to accept the Public Power Week Proclamation, seconded by Councilmember Kirk Clawson.

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3. Chamber of Commerce Request: Jordan Waite representing the Ellinwood Chamber of Commerce was present at the meeting and addressed council with a request to place banners on the light poles on Main Street for Veterans Day.

After much discussion, the consensus of council was to get a sample banner to see how it would actually be mounted on the poles and also inquire of other cities who have placed banners on their light poles to provide additional information as to how they implemented the project and any issues that arose during the project.

Ms. Waite also reported to council that the Chamber will be working on submitting an application for the “All American City” award.

4. Payroll Tax Deferral: President Trump recently released an executive memorandum to defer the 6.2% social security tax on employee’s paychecks from September 1 through December 31, 2020. The repayment of this deferral would be collected during the first four months of 2021. Employers have the option to opt out of this program.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jon Prescott to opt out of the payroll tax deferral program, seconded by Councilmember Jacque Isern. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

5. Street Project Change Order #4: Staff explained a recommendation was made by the contractor to increase the thickness of the sidewalks along the South Main project from 4” thick to 5” thick due to the amount of heavier traffic in the area and the potential for accidental traffic from farm trucks upon the sidewalks. Staff consulted with Mayor Irlan Fullbright and approved the change order in the amount of \$813.96 to allow the project to continue.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jacque Isern to ratify staff’s decision to approve the additional work on the sidewalks on South Main in the amount of \$813.96 to allow the project to continue, seconded by Councilmember Jon Prescott. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

6. Health Insurance Renewal: The City’s health insurance policy is up for renewal on November 1st. Currently the City has the BXBS Gold Level Blue Care Premier SG Choice Plan, which is a traditional health insurance package with a \$1500/\$3000 deductible, 20% coinsurance, office copays and prescription copays and a maximum out of pocket of \$4500/\$9000.

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The premiums for this policy are aged based, therefore, every employee's premium is different. Currently the City pays 100% of the employee premium, including dental and 77% of the premium for spouse and dependents. The renewal premium for the current health and dental insurance has increased 12.8%. The 2021 budget included a 10% increase for health insurance.

Staff explained to council, that a portion of the 3% budgeted increase in wages could be used to fund a portion of the 12.8% increase. After some discussion, the consensus of council was to apply half of the 3% budgeted increase in wages toward the 12.8% increase in the health insurance premium. A motion was made by Councilmember Ken Lebbin to approve the renewal of the Blue Care Premier SG Choice policy and the dental insurance policy and to continue the city contribution of 100% for employee premiums and decrease the contribution for dependent/spouse premiums from 77% to 75%. Councilmember Jon Prescott seconded the motion. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

7. TASC Cafeteria Plan Renewal: The City currently contracts with Total Administration Services Corporation (TASC) to provide a Section 125 Cafeteria Plan to employees which provides them the opportunity to deduct their share of health insurance premiums pretax and allows employees to pay their share of medical expenses and daycare expenses on a pre-tax basis. The City's payroll costs are also reduced because social security contributions are reduced for each dollar of employee participation. The recommendation from TASC is to download and adopt the Plan Document annually at renewal to ensure the document contains the most current regulations and plan eligibility or benefit changes. Presented to council was the updated plan document for the City's Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for the plan year November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jon Prescott to approve the Plan document as presented above, seconded by Councilmember Kirk Clawson. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

8. Executive Session: An executive session is requested for discussion of financial affairs with a corporation. A motion was made by Councilmember Ken Lebbin to recess into executive session pursuant to KSA 75-4319(b)(4) for the purpose of discussion of financial affairs with a corporation. Executive session will be for twenty (20) minutes beginning at 8:20 p.m. until 8:40 p.m. and council will reconvene in the

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library at that time. Persons to remain in executive session are the governing body, city administrator and city attorney, seconded by Councilmember Kirk Clawson. Motion carried. All present voting in favor. The governing body recessed into executive session at 8:20 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:40 p.m. No action taken.

9. AT&T Antenna Lease Agreement: Presented to council were proposed contract changes to the lease agreement with AT&T for the placement of antennas on the north water tower. Issue is tabled awaiting additional information.

J. REPORTS:

1. Municipal Court Report: Presented to Council was the Municipal Court Report for August 2020.
2. Utilities Production Report: Presented to Council was the Utilities Production Report.
3. Staff Reports:
 - a) Staff reported that Jon Perron has been working on the SCADA project for water tower controls and well house controls.
 - b) Staff reported a change in fire and tornado sirens. In an effort to save money, radio controls, rather than leased phone lines will control the sirens. The power plant siren will be the only one that blows for fire calls. Primary notification of personnel is via pager and cell phone.
 - c) Staff reported that compliments have been received in regard to cleaning up the community.
 - d) Staff has received notification from Barton County that the plan for spending the SPARK monies has been approved.

- K. **ADJOURNMENT**: There being no further business at this time, a motion was made by Councilmember Jon Prescott that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councilmember Kirk Clawson. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

Irlan Fullbright, Mayor

Kim Schartz, City Clerk