

News Release

HAVEN CITY COUNCIL NEWS

December 18, 2006

Mayor John Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. Councilmen David Newcomer, Bruce Silvers, Charles Arndt, Don Ford and Mike Scott were in attendance.

The Council approved annual licenses for local business. David Newcomer moved to approve the cereal malt beverage licenses for Haven Foodliner, Kabredlo's and Kwik Shop. Bruce Silvers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Charles Arndt moved to approve trailer park licenses for Elliott Courts, Reynolds Trailer Court and Hindman Trailer Court. The motion passed after being seconded by Don Ford. David Newcomer moved to approve an occupancy permit for Brown's Liquor Store. Charles Arndt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

After review of previously discussed figures, the Council voted to adjust wages and salaries. Adjustments consisted of raises of 6% for the police chief, \$1.00 per hour for the refuse driver and 3% for other full time employees. The motion was made by David Newcomer and seconded by Mike Scott.

Maintenance Supervisor Allen Andresen updated the Council on maintenance projects. He advised that trees on the north end of Hutchinson Street had been trimmed below the power lines and the Council agreed that the maintenance department could remove them entirely, as the property owner had given approval. Andresen also reported that the swimming pool deck had been opened to locate leaks. Future maintenance projects include assisting with moving the house at 113 S. Reno to the industrial park, a new transformer bank at Haven Steel Products and three new water taps. Andresen notified the council that he would be on vacation from December 21 to the end of the year.

The Council discussed complaints regarding rough streets on East Main and at the newly rebuilt railroad crossings. These issues are to be addressed.

After lengthy discussion regarding assessment of paving costs for the project on East 8th, West 9th, North Kansas and North Emporia streets, David Newcomer moved to assess the costs on a "per lot" basis. The motion was seconded by Charles Arndt and carried unanimously. Blake will obtain an ownership list for the benefit district. The Council discussed combining the paving with another project to reduce the cost of a bond issue.

Administrator Allen Blake reviewed the procedure to annex properties that do not petition to come into the city. The Council would need to pass a resolution, hold a public hearing and adopt an ordinance. Blake advised the Council that the City Attorney is working on the documents. The Council requested that a comparison of city and township taxes and evaluation of city benefits be drawn up and presented to the two property owners in the industrial park whose property is being considered for annexation.

Blake advised that Engineer Harlan Foraker is scheduled to attend the January 2, 2007 meeting and update the Council on progress on the facility plan for improvements to the wastewater treatment lagoons. The city's contract with Westar expires in November 2007 and Westar has not provided information on prospective rates for a new contract. According to the Kansas Municipal Utilities Association, it seems that Westar has been waiting until contracts have nearly expired to reveal new prices or do any negotiation. Administrator Blake has visited with officials at Mt. Hope about their decision to sign a contract with Kansas Power Pool for electricity and he plans to attend the KPP meeting December 21 in Wichita.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of the November 20 meeting after a motion by Silvers and second by Scott. Bills and Transfers were approved totaling \$93,124.20 for December 4 and \$55,988.51 for December 18 on a motion by Newcomer and second by Ford. The Council reviewed a thank you letter from Haven Grade School for support of the school's D.A.R.E. Program and discussed the possible retirement of Librarian Kathy Regier. Bruce Silvers moved to adjourn and Charles Arndt seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM on a vote of five to zero.