

News Release

HAVEN CITY COUNCIL NEWS

January 2, 2007

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

Harlan Foraker with Certified Engineering Design, P.A. reviewed a first draft of the Engineering Evaluation of the wastewater treatment system for the City of Haven. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has required, as part of the City's Water Pollution Control Permit, that the City provide a facility plan and schedule of compliance for improvements to the wastewater treatment facility. Foraker's preliminary recommendations included re-piping between ponds to minimize short-circuiting and adding a six-acre primary treatment lagoon. Aeration and land application of effluent discharge was also discussed. Mr. Foraker agreed to present a final report in 30 days.

The Council voted to approve wage and salary increases for full time personnel. David Newcomer moved to approve Ordinance #562 providing wage and salary adjustments for the Police Chief and City Clerk. Mike Scott seconded the motion, which passed five to zero. David Newcomer also moved to approve Resolution #190 providing wage and salary adjustments for Police, Maintenance, and Office Personnel. Don Ford seconded and the motion carried with five yes votes.

The Council reviewed two health insurance proposals from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas, both of which include a slight reduction in premiums. After discussion, Charles Arndt moved to accept the Blue Choice Comprehensive Major Medical Program, effective March 1, 2007. David Newcomer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Maintenance Supervisor Allen Andresen apprised the Council of several maintenance projects. Andresen said the swimming pool plumbing had been exposed but further excavation and testing would be required to locate leaks. The electrical wiring that services the City's Christmas lights will need replacement as it failed four times last month. Bids are pending for street repair. A used bucket truck may be available from Westar in two weeks and Andresen also plans to look into an alternative source. The maintenance department will be working with house movers to provide clearance of electric lines when the house at 113 N. Reno is moved to its new location on West 1st Street.

City Administrator Allen Blake updated the Council on several items. The Petition for street paving in the 8th Street area is completed and will be carried by a resident. The water main extension in the industrial park area is contingent on establishing a benefit district and annexation of any properties that would benefit from the improvement. The skateboard slab at Engweiler Park is being well used and the Park and Recreation board has been approached about purchasing basketball goals for the adjoining area.

Minutes of the December 18, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved, after a motion by Arndt and second by Silvers. Bills and transfers totaling \$96, 337.44 were unanimously approved for payment on a motion by Newcomer and second by Ford.

The Council expressed concern that the City be prepared in the event of a winter storm. Blake advised that some snow removal equipment was in need of repair but he would review the condition of all equipment. The Council discussed at length the status of the building project for Haven Fire and EMS. Councilman Charles Arndt plans to meet with Chief Gingerich and the Pretty Prairie Fire District to become familiar with their recent building project. Arndt also suggested that if remodeling the existing EMS facility is an option, the City should find out what is needed and act to get some plans and estimates.

At 9:00 PM, Charles Arndt moved for adjournment. Bruce Silvers seconded and the motion carried five to zero.