

News Release

HAVEN CITY COUNCIL NEWS

January 15, 2007

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

Charles Arndt, Lloyd Schmidt and Jean Beal, board members of the former Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, presented a check in the amount of \$12,000 to the Haven Community Ambulance Service. EMS Director Tony Troyer and Board Chairman Emil Savaiano received the donation on behalf of Haven EMS. The donation represented 20% of the sale price of the church's building and was designated for the purchase of ambulance equipment.

The Council discussed options for providing more room for EMS, either in the new Reno County Fire District #9 building to be constructed downtown or by an addition to the existing EMS building. The Council agreed to offer payment of utilities for the District #9 building in exchange for housing the ambulance service. If the Reno County Commission accepts the plan, Haven EMS could be relocated to the new building in 2008 when the building is completed. The city administrator has also asked architect Kelly McMurphy with Landmark Architects and contractor Dave Richardson to provide cost estimates for remodeling the existing EMS building.

The Council voted to charge Fire District #9 \$400 per month rent for the existing fire station building at 116 S. Kansas Ave. until the new station can be completed. The rental fee will cover utilities, insurance and maintenance on the city-owned building. The motion was made by Don Ford, seconded by Charles Arndt and passed unanimously.

David Newcomer moved to appoint the following people to city boards: Bill Guhl and Chuck Dickey to the Board of Zoning appeals; Bob Dale and Jan Bauman to the Planning Commission; and Cody Littlestar and John Paulk to the Tree Board. Mike Scott seconded the motion and it passed four to zero. All were appointed for a two-year term ending in 2009. Appointments to the Parks & Recreation and Ambulance Boards were pending recommendations from chairmen.

City Administrator Allen Blake updated the Council on several ongoing projects. Blake and Engineer Harlan Foraker met with Manager Lee Wheeler and District Hydrologist Tim Boese of Equus Beds Groundwater Management Dist. #2 at Halstead to discuss the land application of effluent from the city's waste treatment facility. This does not appear a likely solution as the city would still need to meet KDHE permit requirements and more testing would be needed to determine the suitability of the effluent for irrigation. Blake reported that the city attorney was working on annexation documents so that the City can proceed with water main extensions in the industrial park. The Council asked Blake to review budget figures to see if 2006 funds were available for the Fire District #9 or EMS building projects. Blake reviewed estimates with the Council for purchase of a patrol car from the Kansas Highway Patrol. The administrator also plans to attend this month's meeting of the Kansas Power Pool. There has been no response from Westar, to date, on projected costs for a new electric power contract. Blake is to review the availability of emergency shelters in the event of a storm or other disaster and also research the purchase of any needed emergency supplies or equipment. The

administrator will work with the building inspector to develop an occupancy permit policy that conforms to the building and zoning codes.

Mayor Mitchell informed the Council that the Hutchinson Correctional Facility has offered labor for construction or other City projects. Council Members had been advised that the renovation project for the nursing home at 216 N. Topeka had been abandoned and the building was for sale. The Council discussed possible uses for the facility. The Council heard about a citizen complaint that one of the City maintenance vehicles is loud and needs a muffler. Dave Newcomer reported that the K-96 Corridor Association was scheduled to highlight the building addition at K-96 north of Mt. Hope on January 29th.

After approval of the January 2, 2007 Minutes and Accounts Payable totaling \$50,904.63, the Council adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Sonya,

I neglected to mention that the Council received a thank you card from over 40 young people for the skateboard area that the City put in at Engweiler Park.

-Allen