

HAVEN CITY COUNCIL NEWS

July 16, 2007

Mayor Cody Littlestar called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. Also in attendance were Council Members Kathy Long, Jeff Stringer, Charles Arndt, Don Ford and Mike Scott.

Mayor Littlestar called a special hearing to order at 6:30 PM with members Long, Ford, and Scott present. The purpose was to hear public comment on two issues. First, regarding an application for special use by Randy and Joan Ott for the VanCampen Funeral Home. The special use permit previously issued to Dale VanCampen, for a commercial use in a residential zone, was nontransferable, so the Otts made application to continue to operate the funeral home. Second, Wade Taylor submitted an application for a zoning variance for construction south of the old Snack Haven building. He requested a setback of six feet from the south property line. The Snack Haven building established the existing setback. The Planning Commission had recommended approval of both requests. There was no public comment on either issue.

Mayor Littlestar concluded the special hearing and called the regular session to order at 7:00 PM with all Council Members in attendance. Don Ford moved to approve a variance regarding setback to Wade Taylor as requested. Kathy Long seconded the motion, which passed five to zero. Jeff Stringer moved to approve a special use permit to Randy and Joan Ott for commercial use in a residential zone. Mike Scott seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Jan Nolde with Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk and Loyd, the City's auditing firm, discussed a preliminary draft of the 2008 budget with the Council. Due to a drop in assessed valuation, the City will receive \$12,241 less in taxes in 2008. The Council reviewed each fund and made adjustments as required. Nolde will submit a final draft to be reviewed and published by July 26. Don Ford moved to approve the 2008 budget proposal for publication, maintaining the same mill levy as 2007. Charles Arndt seconded and the motion passed five to zero. The Budget Hearing is set for August 6th at 7:00 PM at the regular Council meeting.

Maintenance Supervisor Allen Andresen reviewed a bid for street and alley repaving and improvements. The Council discussed funding options. Don Huston requested that the City resurface the alley east of the Baptist Church in conjunction with other street projects. The Council will obtain an additional bid prior to proceeding. Andresen advised that the basketball goals at Engweiler Park had been installed. He reported that the power outage on July 9th was due to a lightning strike north of Haven that led to a failure of Westar's Burrton substation. The Supervisor also informed the Council that a transformer had burned out at the ball diamonds and would be out of service until repairs to the digger truck have been completed. The maintenance department was spraying for mosquitoes Monday night and planned to grade alleys and Engweiler Park on Tuesday the 17th.

City Administrator Allen Blake reviewed wholesale electrical rates from Westar and Kansas Power Pool (KPP) to supply the City when the existing Westar contract expires December 1. The current rates are comparable, however Westar requires a 20-year contract commitment without a set price.

The Westar cost-based formula rate will be adjusted every year in June based on Westar's filings with the Kansas Corporation Commission. Westar estimates a 5% - 6% increase each year. The KPP is a Municipal Energy Agency under Kansas law and is presently composed of over 30 Kansas cities which share electrical resources and purchase energy as a group. Membership in KPP can be terminated with a two-year notice. Charles Arndt moved to approve Ordinance No. 565 making the City of Haven a member of the Kansas Power Pool. Mike Scott seconded and the motion passed with five yes votes. The Council also passed three resolutions required to become a member of KPP and appointed two representatives to the KPP Board of Directors and Pool Committee. Haven's membership must be presented and approved by KPP prior to becoming effective.

Charles Arndt moved to approve Ordinance No. 566, repealing Ordinance No. 463 and setting the electric utility deposit at \$150. Don Ford seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The deposit was increased to offset the City's risk from delinquent and uncollectible utility bills. Applicants may furnish a letter of good credit from their previous provider in place of a deposit and deposits will be returned after 12 consecutive on-time payments. The previous deposit of \$75 was established in 1987.

Charles Arndt moved to approve Ordinance No. 567 prohibiting conducting a parade without a permit and providing regulations for parades and penalties for violations. Kathy Long seconded and the motion passed with five yes votes.

The Administrator advised the Council that the City's water main extension project in the industrial area had qualified for financing through the Kansas Revolving Loan Fund. The current interest is 3.51% with an application deadline of November 2007. Blake is working with the maintenance department to prepare Engweiler Park for the Picnic in the Park on August 5th. The Library roof developed a leak that was repaired under warranty by Wray Roofing. Blake received a bid for handicap accessible curb ramps but will hold it until he can verify that current standards will be used for construction.

Mayor Littlestar suggested to the Council that the City purchase a weather radio for the swimming pool so that Manager Mark Robinson could better monitor approaching storms. The Council agreed. Robinson also requested that for 2008 the lifeguard wages be increased to the new minimum wage and returning guards receive a \$0.10 an hour annual raise.

Bills and transfers totaling \$53,265.56 were unanimously approved for payment, after a motion by Ford and a second by Long. Charles Arndt moved to approve minutes of the July 2, 2007 meeting, pending confirmation of a bid opening date with engineer Harlan Foraker. Jeff Stringer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Council agreed to table review of mid-year employee evaluations until the August 6th meeting. At 10:05 PM, Charles Arndt moved for adjournment. Jeff Stringer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.