

News Release

HAVEN CITY COUNCIL NEWS

August 20, 2007

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

Mary Andresen appeared and asked permission to paint house numbers on curbs as a fund raiser for the Haven Middle School trip to Washington D.C. and New York City next spring. Members agreed to the project.

Harland Priddle distributed an initial schedule for the 2007 Haven Fall Festival. He also submitted an application for a parade permit and requested that the Council donate the \$2,000 fireworks permit fee for the Chamber's fireworks stand to the Fall Festival Committee, to be applied to festival activities.

Carolyn Gaston, Public and External Affairs Manager for Embarq Communications presented a \$750 check to Mayor Littlestar and Chamber President Charles Arndt in support of the Fall Festival. Carolyn also offered her experience and services as a resource for community projects.

Maintenance Supervisor Allen Andresen advised that a lightning strike on Wednesday August 8th had damaged the water tower controls as well as the tornado sirens. The water level in the tower had to be monitored by maintenance personnel around the clock and wells turned on and off manually for a week, until a new control arrived and was installed. Two of the five tornado sirens remain off line. Maintenance personnel had also repaired two water leaks with another scheduled for August 21st. Andresen advised the Council of a request by Haven Head Start that parents participate in a community service project. The Council agreed and left supervision of the project to Andresen. APAC-Shears plans to begin milling and resurfacing North Kansas Avenue to 5th Street and South Kansas Avenue from 2nd to 1st Street the last week of August. The resurfacing of the 100 block of South Kansas will be delayed until completion of the new District No. 9 fire station. The 8th Street paving project will begin after Labor Day. A preconstruction meeting is scheduled for August 22nd. The contractor is to notify residents regarding how they will access their property during construction.

The Council discussed dangerous broken plate glass windows on Kansas Avenue and possible action the City could take to correct the problem. There was a question of trimming trees away from power lines in alleys. Maintenance Supervisor Andresen advised that this is scheduled to be done later in the year but he would work with residents wanting to remove trees adjacent to power lines at other times.

City Administrator Allen Blake asked the Council if they were ready to proceed with the water main extension in the industrial area and if so, how the cost would be distributed. Blake recommended that the benefit district, made up of businesses to be served by the

new line, pay for half and the City at large pay for half of the \$114,000 project, as an incentive to future development. The City has qualified to apply for State revolving loan funding. The Council agreed that the main extension was needed for fire safety and development but postponed a decision until the September 4th meeting, when property owners in the area could be invited to discuss how costs should be distributed.

After review of two bids, Charles Arndt moved to accept the bid of Gonzalez Construction of \$417 each for installation of six handicap ramps to be determined by the City Administrator. Jeff Stringer seconded and the motion carried four to zero. Members also want to publicize that the City will pay for half of the concrete for sidewalk replacement. Resolution 199 states in part that:

WHEREAS, THE CITY OF HAVEN, in an effort to promote the safety of its residents and to enhance the beauty of the City, shall reimburse its residents for a portion of the cost of replacement of sidewalks;

THE CITY OF HAVEN will reimburse Fifty Percent (50%) of the cost of concrete used in the replacement only of sidewalks. New sidewalks will not be reimbursed.

THE REPLACEMENT SIDEWALK must be four (4) feet in width and three and one half (3 ½) inches in depth.

A RAMP MEETING ADA SPECIFICATIONS shall be installed where the replacement sidewalk abuts a curb and the City will pay for One Hundred Percent (100%) of the concrete used in the ramp. A building permit will not be required, but the dimensions of the replacement must be certified by the City Building Inspector prior to pouring.

THE CITY OF HAVEN will reimburse the above percentage for concrete only. Labor, sand, forms, removal, and other expenses will be the resident's responsibility.

Blake had met with Westar representatives regarding new metering requirements with Kansas Power Pool. The City has two metering points and the cost to upgrade is estimated at \$5000 to \$7000 each with additional monthly communication expense.

Blake advised that overtime expenses and equipment costs to repair damage from the lightning strike were being tallied and would be turned in to the City's insurance company. Westar also had a lightning strike on their line feeding Haven, which contributed to a few electrical outages in Haven later that week.

The Council discussed concerns expressed by the burn site attendant and agreed to continue not to allow appliances that contain, or that ever did contain, Freon to be placed in the Midwest Iron recycling hopper at the burn site. The Council also discussed a citizen complaint regarding the Police Chief driving an unmarked patrol car. Chief Blake explained that, while there are advantages to having as many marked units as possible, his duties as City Administrator often make it more suitable to drive an unmarked vehicle. The Council addressed concerns by residents who are unhappy with the quality of cable TV service in Haven. Blake agreed to visit with representatives from Allegiance Communications.

Blake advised that he had reviewed building permits and written a letter to Treasa Linthicum regarding the complaints about her house she had expressed at the previous meeting. The City also inspected repairs that had been done at the house, however, her complaints about its condition have not been resolved.

The Council reviewed work to be done on the swimming pool prior to the 2008 season, including installation of the solar blanket, repair of a leaking valve and maintenance of the sand filters. Blake will also discuss the condition of City fire hydrants with District No. 9 Chief Gingerich to identify what repairs need to be done.

Minutes of the August 6, 2007 meeting were unanimously approved, after a motion by Ford and a second by Long. Bills and transfer totaling \$59,289.03 were unanimously approved for payment, after a motion by Arndt and a second by Ford. City Clerk Cheryl Savaiano advised the Council that the City's payroll software would not file W-2 forms electronically, as now required by the State of Kansas. The Council agreed to use Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd for this service. At 8:50 PM, the meeting was adjourned after a motion from Arndt and a second by Stringer.