

News Release

HAVEN CITY COUNCIL NEWS  
September 17, 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.

Diana Wilson, Manager for Kwik Shop, appeared to discuss the City's requirement that clerks must be 21 or older to sell cereal malt beverage. It makes it difficult to schedule employees because those under 21 cannot work alone and still sell beer. Police Chief Allen Blake said that city ordinance requires persons to be of legal age for consumption in order to sell cereal malt beverage. He believes that it would put a lot of pressure on some teens to sell beer to peers, especially when put in a situation when they were working alone in the store. It also can lead to a situation where the fox is guarding the chicken house. In the past there have been problems in Haven with teens selling or furnishing alcohol, which they obtained from stores where they worked, to underage friends. The Council discussed the problem of peer pressure and agreed not to change the ordinance.

Charles Arndt moved to approve a contract for budget preparation and auditing services provided by Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd at a cost of \$7,300. Kathy Long seconded the motion, which carried four to zero.

Maintenance Supervisor Allen Andresen discussed the possibility of replacing the 1993 maintenance truck with a new unit. The Council agreed to accept bids for the purchase. A recent check of fire hydrants by the District No. 9 Fire Department found 12 hydrants that did not work properly. The maintenance department will determine which units can be repaired and which must be replaced. Repairs to the electrical system during the September 4<sup>th</sup> outage went well. Haven PRIDE committee plans to place a bench in the downtown area and will work with maintenance on the exact location. A water leak has been discovered in the newly resurfaced 200 block of North Kansas Ave. Residents on East 8<sup>th</sup> are pleased with their street paving and are requesting streetlights be installed.

City Administrator Allen Blake advised the Council that he is planning to meet with Tim Boese at Groundwater Management Dist. #2 in Halstead tomorrow to discuss water rights and a possible location for a new water well. Blake has been advised by State officials that more paperwork is required to enroll in the National Flood Insurance Program. The paving on the north side of 8<sup>th</sup> Street has a few minor irregularities and Blake plans to meet with the inspector regarding those areas. The sweeping of the gutters on 8<sup>th</sup> Street was left to the City. The Administrator recommended that the Council consider an incremental rate increase on utilities at the beginning of next year to adjust for inflation. This adjustment would amount to less than a dollar on average water and sewer bills and would help to avoid a major increase later. Blake recommended that the Council wait until the new electric contract goes into effect to determine if a rate increase is needed.

He will attend the monthly meeting of the City's new electric provider, Kansas Power Pool, on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Minutes of the September 4, 2007 meeting were unanimously approved, after a motion by Ford and a second by Stringer. Bills and transfers totaling \$50,220.78 were unanimously approved for payment, after a motion by Arndt and a second by Long. At 8:23 PM, Charles Arndt moved for adjournment. Don Ford seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.