

News Release

HAVEN CITY COUNCIL NEWS

March 3, 2008

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

Annette Engweiler of All Sports Liquor addressed the Council and inquired about the status of a proposed ordinance to allow Sunday sales of liquor and cereal malt beverages. Eric Williams and Craig Sailsbury spoke in favor of the ordinance, while Patricia Halfmann suggested there might be opposition. The Council indicated that they had received no negative input from the public, and Police Chief Allen Blake advised that he did not anticipate any adverse effects for his department. Charles Arndt moved to approve Ordinance #573 authorizing and expanding the days of retail package sale of alcoholic liquor and cereal malt beverage in the City of Haven. Jeff Stringer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Paula Scott moved to revise City policy regarding payments to contract and/or temporary labor to delete volunteer fireman, as the fire department is now under County control and funding. Paula Scott also moved to delete a provision in City policy for renting equipment to a private entity, bringing us into compliance with an opinion of the Attorney General.

Maintenance Supervisor Allen Andresen advised that the chassis of the new trash truck would be delivered on April 22, while delivery for the packer was yet to be determined. Electrical upgrades at the football field are finished and testing complete. Electrical improvements at the grade school are scheduled for March 10, with completion by March 11. Water well house improvements are near completion, and Stage II disinfectant byproduct reports have been mailed. Water loss was detected at two wells, as check valves were not functioning properly. The valves will be replaced or repaired. Several calls have been received regarding purchase of surplus street millings. The street sweeper will be utilized in the next two weeks to pick up leaves, etc., prior to cleaning by the street sweeping service. The Council suggested that swimming pool preparation begin and Andresen will compare the cost of renting or buying a pressure washer for this purpose. The toilet at the library has been repaired. The Council asked if the maintenance department could deliver asphalt millings to the golf course. Andresen replied that they could and agreed to contact Carl Stelter about it.

Clarence Halfmann requested that the City abandon the unused utility easement between 106 and 108 Sunset Lane, to aid in efforts to clean up his back yard. Members agreed to the request and City Administrator Allen Blake will check with the City Attorney on the proper procedure for completing the process. Blake introduced an ordinance that would allow a lien on insurance proceeds for buildings destroyed by fire, explosion or windstorm. Fifteen percent of the insurance payment would be held by the City, pending

cleanup of damaged property. In the event that the insured did not repair or remove the building, the City would have that amount to apply to cleanup and to any delinquent taxes. Charles Arndt moved to approve Ordinance #575 creating a lien in favor of the City of Haven on insurance proceeds from claims on structures destroyed by fire, explosion or windstorm, to promote repair or removal by the insured and fund demolition and cleanup by the City and discharge delinquent tax liability. Kathy Long seconded the motion, which passed five to zero.

Paula Scott moved to designate the City Administrator as the Director of the City Building, Zoning and Inspection Division referred to in Ordinance No. 315, Section 3. Don Ford seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. To begin the process of updating the City's building and zoning codes, Charles Arndt moved to join the International Code Council at a membership cost of \$100. Jeff Stringer seconded, and the motion carried with five yes votes.

The Council agreed to raise wages for seasonal lifeguards from \$5.15 to \$5.85 per hour, and continue differential pay for returning guards. A classified ad will be placed in the Clarion requesting applications by April 4th. The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet March 11th to consider an application for special use by USD #312 to place a communications tower on the west side of Haven High School. The Council was informed that a petition was filed in District Court asking for an order reversing or vacating the decision by the Board of Zoning Appeals granting a setback variance to Cody Littlestar at 501 E. Main. The parties filing the suit are Dean Chesnut, Ann Chesnut, Floyd Lyman and Vernelle Voth. City Attorney Larry Bolton is preparing an answer and a court date is expected in April.

A job applicant is expected to begin work as Refuse Hauler and Driver on March 10. The City's tornado sirens will be tested on March 11 at 1:30 PM. Willis Wilson of AquaTech Engineering has begun the process of updating an earlier water system study. As a result of his initial visit, check valves at two wells were found to be leaking.

The Administrator presented the Council with information on the Kan Step grant program, which could potentially provide funds for materials to renovate the existing firehouse for use by EMS. Labor would need to be provided by volunteers.

At 8:05 PM, Charles Arndt moved for a 5-minute executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel. At 8:10 PM, regular session resumed with no action taken. Blake asked the Council for input on updating the City's substance abuse policy and plans to present revisions at the March 17th meeting.

Minutes of the February 18th meeting were unanimously approved, after a motion by Ford and a second by Arndt. Bills and transfers totaling \$125,690.59 were unanimously approved for payment after a motion by Arndt and a second by Long.

Blake advised that a proposed Distribution Facilities Charge by Westar on all their wholesale customers could potentially raise the City's cost for electricity by 18%.

Discussion with a Westar representative is forthcoming. The Kansas Power Pool will represent the City before the Kansas Corporation Commission or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission if needed to assure this charge is levied fairly.

Members discussed the liability of both the City and USD #312 in relation to sports injuries on each other's property. The Library Board is researching the possibility of more room for day-to-day operations and asked about the availability of the building at 119 N. Kansas. A thank you note was read from the After Prom Committee at Haven High School. At 8:30 PM, Paula Scott moved for adjournment. Kathy Long seconded, and the motion carried five to zero