

SOUTH HAVEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 4, 2016

The South Haven City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 4, 2016 at City Hall. Present were Mayor Don Minor and council members Steve Nicholson, Linda Elliott, and Kim Byers. Diana Locke and Katrina Hallman were absent. Also present were City Maintenance Thomas Bacon and City Clerk Amy Brown. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and Mayor Minor opened with prayer.

The minutes of the December meeting were reviewed by council. Steve Nicholson motioned to accept the minutes as written and Kim Byers seconded. The council vote passed unanimously. The list of disbursements for December was then reviewed by council. Steve Nicholson motioned to pay the bills in the amount of \$15,389.12 for regular disbursements and Linda Elliott seconded. The council vote passed unanimously.

Thomas Bacon reported a water leak at the south end of town and an electrical issue at the water wells. Both have subsequently been fixed. Thomas also reported he had graveled three alleys. More need done but it needs to dry out first. Discussion was held on the alleys needing gravel first. It was decided the alleys in city blocks 3, 7, and 21 would be prioritized after the street where the water leak occurred was taken care of. Thomas reported the gas company is to bring one load of gravel for behind the station.

Thomas reported mechanical problems with the four-way flasher and that it will most likely be inoperable until Wheatland sets the new poles and the new equipment is able to be installed. Kim Byers inquired about potential liability issues for the city with the flasher being inoperable and when the new poles were to be set. Due to the location of the flasher on the highway there are no issues. Thomas responded that the underground locate flags were placed so he assumed there would be some activity within the next two weeks, barring any inclement weather.

Thomas reported that some of the snowflake decorations were not working because some of the new poles were not yet tied in with rewiring to accommodate the decorations but Wheatland would see that this was taken care of.

Old business: Mayor Minor raised the topic of increasing the city administrative trash fee to be competitive with surrounding communities. Discussion was held regarding this being a way to supplement funds; namely the road fund to purchase gravel. Mayor Minor suggested for council members to consider this and wanted all council members present for any potential decision. Kim Byers suggested asking the public for input in some form.

Kim Byers inquired about various matters of old business:

1. If the lawnmower was fixed. Thomas reported he had not delved into it yet.
2. If the valve on the fire truck was installed. Mayor Minor reported it was and that the LED lights were also.
3. The status of the SCBA unit grant. Mayor Minor reported there was nothing new to report. Steve Nicholson reported he believed the county was waiting on data from other grant participants.

4. The status of the deeded demolition land cleanup. It was reported the land was cleared except for scrap metal. Discussion was held and it was explained how this property differed from the others on the demolition list.
5. Who the current property owner of the old hotel and whether it was sold again at the county tax sale. Both details were unknown.
6. The insurance status of properties recently burned. Discussion was held concerning possible proposed directions to proceed with the properties. Kim suggested revisiting the demolition list and forming a subcommittee to report on the issue.

Kim Byers presented the council with a letter of intent from the KaBoom playground grant and reported that this was the next step in the grant process. Discussion was held and it was decided to wait until full council was present to proceed.

Kim Byers reported the Safe Routes to School grant was still pending and that she had not had any further dialogue about free rock from the wind farm company.

Kim Byers presented the council with a state request form for sign placement regarding the prospective 'Welcome to South Haven' stone(s). Lengthy discussion was held concerning state rules regarding right-of-way and placement as originally planned to avoid state regulations. Kim will seek further details. No action was taken.

Council reviewed the municipal lease-purchase agreement transferring the water well pump loan to a lease-purchase agreement per the auditor. Steve Nicholson motioned to authorize the mayor to sign the agreement and Linda Elliott seconded. The council vote passed unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding a letter received from the current chlorine vendor and their changed policy to bottle rental instead of exchanges.

Kim Byers inquired about yearly procedural change recommendations from the auditor. Steve Nicholson reported the clerk bank statement reconciliations were reviewed by a council member. Kim wished to see the amounts billed and received each month. Discussion was held concerning bad debt collections and the state debt setoff program. Kim Byers presented information on municipal accounting software. Lengthy discussion was held concerning the cost and necessity. Kim also stated she wished for council to form a subcommittee to review city ordinances and possibly repeal outdated ones. Thomas Bacon left the meeting at this time.

Resolution No. 1-2016, a resolution waiving the requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120a for the year ending December 31, 2015, was reviewed by council. Steve Nicholson motioned to adopt Resolution No. 1-2016 and Linda Elliott seconded. The council vote passed unanimously.

Kim Byers stated she would start the ordinance review process.

There being no further business, Steve Nicholson motioned to adjourn the meeting and Kim Byers seconded. The council vote passed all in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Donald R. Minor, Mayor

Amy Brown, City Clerk

