

SOUTH HAVEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 5, 2017

The South Haven City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 (due to the first Monday of the month falling over the July 4th holiday weekend). Present were Mayor Don Minor and council members Steve Nicholson, Linda Elliott, and Diana Locke. Katrina Hallman and Kim Byers were absent. Also present were Bobby Cook, Emily Harding, Russell & Diane Hyde, City Maintenance Thomas Bacon, and City Clerk Amy Brown. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm and Mayor Minor opened with prayer.

The minutes of the June meeting were reviewed by council. Steve Nicholson motioned to accept the minutes as written and Linda Elliott seconded. The council vote passed unanimously. The list of disbursements for June was then reviewed. Steve Nicholson motioned to pay the bills in the amount of \$52,070.26 for regular disbursements and Diana Locke seconded. The council vote passed unanimously.

Bobby Cook was present to discuss three issues with the council. He reported that whoever took out the trees on the right-of-way at the north end of his residence property had damaged the meter pit there. Mr. Cook also contested the letter received from the city concerning a property of his in town being considered for the next round of condemnation proceedings. He stated the house was locked and secure and did not feel it met the criteria for condemnation and wished to see the ordinance condemning the house. Discussion was held concerning the criterion of the house being habitable or not. It was also explained that the letter sent was a courtesy only to provide notification of future intention. Regarding the same house, Mr. Cook complained about a tree that he alleged had been pushed on his fence by the city in order to mow, and that tree was prohibiting him from mowing in the backyard. Mr. Cook claimed that it was a city-owned tree. Lengthy discussion was held concerning the definitions of easements and rights-of-way and the legality of who owned what, but a concurrence could not be reached. It was agreed upon by Mayor Minor and Mr. Cook that if the city removed the tree that Mr. Cook would mow and clean up the backyard of the property. Mr. Cook left the meeting at 6:37pm.

Emily Harding, South Haven representative to the Sumner County Economic Development Commission, was present to observe the meeting. Mr. & Mrs. Hyde were also present to observe and had no patron input.

Discussion was held regarding Mr. Cook's concerns. Thomas Bacon reported the issue with the tree had happened years ago and that the tree had fallen from inside the fence. Regarding the damage to the meter pit, the township had commissioned the work and Thomas reported he had spoken with someone from the board. Thomas stated there was not even a meter there and only the PVC sleeve and lid would need replaced; the loop had not been damaged. With regard to the condemnation proceedings, it was reiterated that the letters sent out were courtesy letters to inform the landowners the city would be proceeding soon with the legal aspects of condemnation. Mr. Hyde inquired about how interested persons would go about looking at the ordinances. Currently, anyone wishing to look at the ordinance books must come in to the city office to do so. At some point in the future, however, the ordinances will be available on the city website.

OLD BUSINESS: Thomas Bacon reported that the three loads of gravel for the east/west roads to the school had not been hauled yet. Mayor Minor reported the culvert replacements were still on hold.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Minor reported that the fire department had found a possible replacement for the brush truck and reported on its specifications. A few members of the department would go to look at it the next week to see if it would suit their needs. The existing bed on the current brush truck would be removed and installed on the new truck and it would be taken to Mayfield for rewiring installation. Mr. Hyde inquired about what was wrong with the current one. Mayor Minor stated it was discovered when it was in for other repairs that it had a hole in a piston and the engine was bad. Mr. Hyde also inquired about what would be done with the old truck. It will most likely be sold by sealed bids when the time comes.

Thomas Bacon relayed citizen inquiries about the recent demolition on south Main Street with regard to the tall patch of grass and the small amount of remaining debris near the alley. Diana Locke responded that she thought the grass had been mowed and also that she believed Mr. Smith had plans to haul off the metal left near the alley.

Russell Hyde commented he was impressed with the new water tower control system and also commented briefly on the ongoing issue of cats at large.

There being no further business, Linda Elliott motioned to adjourn the meeting and Diana Locke seconded. The council vote passed all in favor and the meeting adjourned at 6:51pm.

Donald R. Minor, Mayor

Amy Brown, City Clerk