

September 9, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Chapman City Council was held September 9, 2015 at the Chapman City Office. Mayor Phil Weishaar called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Council members present were Lee Wolf, Jeff Blixt, Luan Sparks and Jim Murrison. Tim Jury was absent. Also in attendance were City Attorney John Purvis, City Administrator Austin St. John and City Clerk Erin Tilton. Also in attendance were Carol Lacer, Emil Halfhill, Ty Lemon, Bobby Kamm, Bob Diehl, Joan Atkinson, Donna Shepard and Don Gaither.

Mayor Weishaar requested a change to the agenda to add a nomination for the Chapman Housing Authority between agenda item #9 and before agenda item #10.

Agenda #3 Consent Agenda

Motion by Blixt to accept the consent agenda, 2nd Sparks Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #4 City Announcements

St. John announced that the street project began Tuesday morning, September 8th and has been going well. The County also announced fall clean up at their transfer station. Dates for fall clean up are September 21st through 26th for City pickup and 24th through 26th for the general public. The city has been evaluating if they will pick up for the residents and will announce it as soon as a decision is made.

Agenda #5 Public Comments

Donna Shepard with Lumberyard Bar spoke. Back in 1980 the city passed an ordinance that all bar owners had to live in Dickinson County six months prior to receiving a city liquor license. Donna has owned the bar for nine and a half years and has always lived in Dickinson County but the people before her did not and it was never an issue. Donna was asking the council if this was something that can be changed so that people wanting to lease the bar from her could do so without any issues and the bar wouldn't sit there empty. There was discussion between John Purvis and the council members regarding the request. Purvis noted that this was not the only thing holding up the process of the city issuing a liquor license. If the council wants to discuss it further, it certainly can be discussed. Purvis also noted that this was a fairly common ordinance to see, as it helps cities protect its integrity. The issue will be put on next month's agenda and be discussed further.

Agenda #6 Adoption of the Multi-Hazard, Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan – Resolution 09092015
Chancy Smith was going to attend and was unable to make it. Purvis explained the mitigation plan. The council/city passes the resolution stating that they agree and support the plan that's in place if a disaster of any kind was to happen. The plan encourages local jurisdictions to think about disaster planning ahead of time and while it is a plan, it can have financial issues that go along with it. A lot of funding sources, when needed, are tied to having a plan like this in place. Regarding the specific information to Chapman that is in the report, Ty Lemon explained that him and Terra Hummel had worked on filling out information and submitted it to the County. Additional questions as to where the information for Chapman was gathered arose. It was suggested by council member Blixt that we tabled the resolution and have Chancy attend the next council meeting to answer additional questions. All council members were in agreeance to table the resolution and Chancy will be put on the next council meeting agenda.

Agenda # 7 Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities 2015 – Ordinance 973

City Attorney, John Purvis, explained that the Standard Traffic Ordinances for Kansas Cities and the Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities are updated every year by the League of Municipalities. They take the new changes and produce a new version each year after the legislative session.

Motion by Blixt to accept the Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities 2015, 2nd Wolf Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #8 Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities 2015 – Ordinance 974

Motion by Sparks to accept the Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities 2015, 2nd Wolf Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #9 Review and approval of Varney & Associates extension of contract

The three year contract was reviewed. The contract has not changed much from the previous contracts the city has signed with Varney & Associates. Murrison asked if the cost was comparable to others that had been seen. St. John said that he felt it was very comparable and Wolf spoke to the fact that he felt it was very comparable to what he has seen as well. St. John also noted that April Swartz is a previous City Clerk and that is a huge benefit to when we do have questions, she can look at it from her side, as well as a City's side.

Motion by Murrison to approve the three year extension of contract with Varney & Associates, 2nd Sparks Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Nomination for Chapman Housing Authority

Chapman Housing Authority has five members that are a part of their board. These nominations are made by the Mayor and approved by the council. One of the members, Bob Stillwagon, has put in his resignation. He served on the committee for many years. His position is up in 2017. Luan Carl, the administrator, noted that there were no residents of Butterfield Trail on the committee. Carl asked the residents to submit an application if they were interested. Mayor Weishaar received several applications and is nominating Larry Nelson to fill Bob Stillwagon's unexpired term that ends in May of 2017.

Motion by Blixt to accept the nomination of Larry Wilson for the Chapman Housing Authority, 2nd Wolf Vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.

Agenda #10 Review of Sidewalk Project

St. John wanted to get a feeling from the council to see if the council was OK to get everything moving forward as soon as possible on the sidewalk project. The City has until April 1st, 2016 to assign a bid but with a large company already in here working on the street project and residents asking about it, he wants to get things started as soon as possible with advertising for bids on the project. This could be a climate for low bids that could benefit the City, as well as get local contractors involved. Weather permitting and everything moving along, it could possibly get done this fall. With work going on with the street project, all council members were in agreeance that the quicker we can get the project going, the better.

St. John also noted that he is still waiting on an updated schedule from Bayer on the construction of the street project. Currently they are concentrating on the east side of the project.

Agenda #11 Reports

Chief Halfhill reported that he attended a seminar in St. Lois a couple of weeks ago. The training was great, talked about administration, dealing with employees and budgets. There was a break-in at the pool and the booster club building at the football field on the 16th of August. Charges are pending. Kevin's car is back in the shop and they have not determined what is wrong with it, hopefully they are getting close to figuring out what is wrong with it and what needs to be done. The touch-a-truck had a great turnout with a lot of positive feedback. Officer Reynolds did a great job coordinating all of it. The report that Chief Halfhill sends out is a slightly different format. It was a relatively busy month, nothing too exciting over Labor Day weekend.

Bobby Kamm reported that the city workers are going to start going through alleys and streets to clean and trim up the trees that are in the way. Likely there will be negative feedback from the citizens. There are several alleys where you can't get any trucks through. They are also going to be working on some streets where they have been working on water lines, as well as starting to change out some poles that have been needing replaced.

Ty Lemon reported he went to the Kansas Association of Flood Plan Managers conference last week. Lemon spoke with the core of engineers and he is looking into federal money that is available to do a study on our flooding problem. As he is speaking right now, he is verifying that the study would be of no cost to the city. Lemon is talking to the engineer about possible ways of getting water under the highway and the railroad. The ultimate goal is to drastically shrink the floodplain.

Mayor Weishaar asked Kamm if there was any way that the city could provide a citywide clean up. The city didn't do it last year and it would be nice if it could be done this year. Kamm agreed and thought that yes, there would be a way to make it happen.

St. John reported that there were a few trials and tribulations leading up to Labor Day but for the most part everything was dealt with and everyone enjoyed Labor Day. Ideas are being thrown around to make things run more smoothly next year. Ryan Hall received a call from utility services and they are coming in to maintain the high pressure stand pipe next to the golf course on the 21st of September. It will be shut down, drained and painted. It should take 3-4 weeks and no problems are expected as far as water supply. There is a slight chance that pressure could be affected, although no big problems are being anticipated. Austin Murphy has been presenting ideas to St. John of cost savings at the golf course. He has been talking about changing out the fairway grass. It would be switched to a warm season grass that would reduce water usage out at the golf course. It would also reduce the amount of mowing by two months. There is a cost of buying more grass seed upfront than normal. It will also affect the use of the fairways. Nothing will be shut down completely but play will have to be adjusted. The city has also been selling things that have been sitting around on purple wave and that money will go back into the equipment reserve.

Mayor Weishaar has sent out 11 letters to various groups that might be interested in having representatives on the committee for how the historical sites in the area should be represented/maintained. Five letters have been received back and his hope was to have five to 11 representatives. Mayor Weishaar is hoping to have a meeting in the next couple weeks and then will report back to the council. Mayor Weishaar also went over the article that was in last month's council magazine. The article is called "Best Practices" and covers the new laws regarding elections and the issues that it has caused. There are a lot of unanswered questions. It is safe to say that in April of 2016, there will be no election. The next election will be November 2016. The main question is what to do to extend the terms of the mayor and council members who would have had ending terms after the April 2016 election. Likely an ordinance will have to be passed to address this issue, as well as some others. John Purvis and Erin Tilton have already met and started reviewing this. Purvis will also be going to a conference in October that covers this. Luan Sparks wished to extend a hardy thank you to everyone at the city who put time and effort into making Labor Day the success that it was. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes that people don't always see. It was a great day to be from Chapman.

Agenda #12 Adjournment

Motion by Murrison to adjourn, 2nd Wolf vote: yes unanimous. Motion carried.