

CITY OF THE HIGHLANDS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, 6:00 p.m., November 14, 2022
Crazy Horse Sports Club, 922 W. Crazy Horse Dr. 67502

This meeting is being recorded.

Minutes

I. Meeting called to order

- A. Welcome by Mayor Moore
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call of the Council by City Clerk, Bonnie Swenson
Present: Jeff Jackson, Brian McElgunn, Butch Neel, Kenny Nuss
Absent: Mark Kerschen
AZC: Mo Penny (absent)
Guests: Vickie Nuss, Cheryl Wiggins, Jim Humiston, Chris Brown, Lisa Gleason (United Way),
Dennis Carlton (Assistant Fire Management Officer with Kansas Forest Service)

II. Approval of the agenda as presented

- Kenny Nuss motioned to approve the agenda, Butch Neel seconded, motion carried.

III. Public Comment(s) None

IV. Invited Guests: Lisa Gleason, United Way, presented information on how ARPA (American Rescue) funds are distributed and how they can be used. There are 7 buckets for a variety of community needs. The Highlands was awarded approximately \$48,000. She would be willing to facilitate a meeting for the residents to provide input on how the money awarded could be spent. Funds need to be allocated by 2024 and spent by 2026. She has a book of the regulations and there is an online guide available for reference. Most fitting use would be for drainage issues in The Highlands.

Dennis Carlton provided an update on Reno County wildfire risks and his work in obtaining mitigation grants for the county. Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) have been submitted for entire county - Arlington is #1 and Highlands #2 - based on number of hardened structures at risk, other infrastructure, fencing, livestock – not just vegetation. Kansas grants are scored and ranked by early 2023, and the CWPP is a gateway to the nationwide mitigation/defense grants.

V. Approval of minutes: October 10, 2022, regular meeting.

- Jeff Jackson motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Kenny Nuss, motion carried.

VI. Reports

- A. Mayor
Salina Septic System has purchased Carl Vincent Service, subsequently increasing the price of their roll off service. Jeff Jackson is considering another vendor (TW) for future roll offs – will keep the council posted.

B. Treasurer's Report

1. Current financial report

General Fund beginning balance 10-1-2022	\$91,440.09
Deposits/Receipts total	\$5,669.56
Disbursements total	(\$21,589.15)
General Fund ending balance 10-31-2022	\$75,520.50
Capital Improvement Fund	\$80,793.12
Equipment Fund	\$25,604.73
Parks and Recreation Fund	\$6,118.70
American Rescue Fund	\$47,919.28
Total Unencumbered Cash	\$235,956.33

2. Invoices presented for payment:
 - Gatehouse Media (ordinance publication) - \$85.99
 - Powered By ME – \$14,690.00
 - Crazy Horse Sports Club (Sept. thru Dec. 2022) - \$400.00
 - Butch Neel (reimbursement for transit equipment) - \$270.14
 - Carol Moore (reimbursement for office equipment for City) - \$734.37

Discussed possibility of obtaining credit card for City use; Council wants to continue to reimburse individuals as needed. Will ask Crazy Horse to invoice City for 6 months at a time going forward.

- Jeff Jackson made motion to approve payments, seconded by Kenny Nuss, motion carried.

C. AZC report

1. Mo is in hospital. APAC is shut down for winter, Powered By ME will complete sealing work.
2. Permits:
 - a. Matthew and Chelsey Yeakel – their contractor is ready to begin construction. They need correct form for consolidating the lots as their lender claims they cannot use the form provided by our city attorney. Discussed appropriate avenue for the warranty deed to correctly address joining lots 1 and 2 for the dwelling. Will need to call for a special meeting once this is done.
 - b. Chris Brown – needs to complete the permit application with City of The Highlands for his secondary structure. Jeff will provide him a blank permit app so he can complete with current information on structure. Council will include the approval process on his permit in the special meeting for the Yeakel's.

D. Parks and Recreation Committee

Vickie Nuss - nothing new to report. Will wait until after first of the year to pursue tree removal. Still working on avenues for possible grants for development of the park.

E. Welcoming Committee

Cheryl Wiggins - nothing new to report but she did learn of new house being built from this meeting. New Neighbor parties went well. Will be putting more welcome kits together in December and begin work on updating directory soon.

VII. New Business

- A. Kenny Nuss presented information on a new, secure postal box (with pull down entry) for outgoing mail only to be placed near The Highlands entrance for residents' convenience, based on his conversations with post office personnel. Will pursue moving forward with implementation at an approximate cost of \$1,000.
 - Jeff Jackson made motion to move ahead, seconded by Butch Neel, motion carried.
- B. Discussion on Charter Ordinance No. 9 - issuing a bond to finance road overlay. Actual need is 2 to 3 years away and will become a timing issue with possible higher input costs. Need to allow residents to vote on the bond and put question on a ballot at the appropriate time. Notice will be posted on website to advise residents of decision to postpone any further action at this time.
 - Jeff Jackson made motion to remove the ordinance from consideration, seconded by Butch Neel, motion carried.

VIII. Unfinished Business

- A. ROW committee report
 - Kenny Nuss – activity has slowed down. Provided an updated list of landowners. Propose that we do another mailout with clarification that when resident's work is done, who they should contact to

keep things moving along. Would like City Clerk to send reminder letters just to those that have ROW concerns once ride-along has been completed to confirm status.

B. Drainage/culvert updates (2022 Goal #3)

Discussion on drainage issues and locations. Will be using new transit to assist in assessment of solutions. Some places will require professional earth movers to move large amounts of dirt, and suggest using ARPA funds for that expense. Mo is working with Jon Mollhagen/Blaze on acquiring land for the northwest exit. There are lots on Monroe Street that have been abandoned, and county attorney suggested the City attempt to purchase property at next sheriff's sale to use for ROW drainage.

IX. As may arise

A. Agenda items for next meeting: Brian McElgunn, treasurer, asked that a resolution be drafted prior to the next council meeting addressing funds to be transferred to appropriate accounts before the end of the year out of the general fund. Bonnie will work on one that will leave the actual amounts blank so they can be completed at the next meeting.

X. Date for next City Council Meeting

- Jeff moved to cancel the November 28, 2022, council meeting, Butch Neel seconded, motion carried. The next council meeting will be December 12, 2022, 6:00 p.m., at Crazy Horse Sports Cub. Date for special meeting to finalize permits to be determined.

2022 Goals

1. Develop long-term plans for roads (obtain estimate from civil engineer) (completed)
2. Identify what needs to be done with roads this year (short term) (completed)
3. Identify drainage concerns
4. Establish Parks & Recreation committee (completed)
5. Continue with vacant lot clean-up
(2021 goals: Road repairs, vacant lot clean-up, signage [completed], future drainage concerns.)

XI. Motion to adjourn

- Motion made by Kenny Nuss, seconded by Brian McElgunn, motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:34 p.m.