

02/06/2020 Special Meeting of The Highlands City Council  
Hutchinson Public Library 9:00 until 12:00 noon

Bonnie opened the meeting and asked if anyone would approve the agenda for the meeting. Carol moved to adopt the agenda and Butch seconded. She asked if there were any public comments and there were none.

Special meeting; we need to take action now so we can move on. Motion to accept the resignations of Mark and Mo. The time delay from the submission of their letters until today is due to giving them the opportunity to rescind their resignations, Butch made a motion to approve the resolution to accept their resignations, Carol seconded, approved by unanimous vote. Bonnie is continuing to conduct the meeting as the Council has not approved her resignation as Council President. Names to replace Mark on the Council. Butch said he has talked to about five people and one of them is affirmative. Butch moved we delay this discussion and Bonnie second. Butch talked to Loren Frees and he said yes he will serve. The others who might be interested are Brad Easter, Jeff Jackson and Bob Updegraff.

Harley said he will consider returning to the city clerk position, but it depends on who would be on the Council. Robert said he talked with Corby Miller and Brad Gover and both are interested in serving the city in some capacity. He will also call Jena Lee Boggs to ask her. Decided to delay discussion on the Mayor and the clerk.

Since Mark resigned Bonnie volunteered to be the Treasurer, vote was taken and was approved unanimously. Council approved to pay for insurance bonding for Bonnie. Council did receive a refund for Harley since he resigned before the year was over. We need new signatures on the signature card since Mo (Maurice) Penny and Mark Kerschen have resigned and are no longer authorized to sign for the city. Carol Moore and Robert Bowman will be on it.

We will store the records at two different houses. We have to give access to the records to the city clerk so that person can perform their duties.

Harley wants the Council to know that he talked to Mark Vanachen of Reno County Zoning and he said Jeff Jackson picked up some records for The Highlands. Jeff told Harley that he gave those records to Mo and Mo said he does not have them.

We need to place some type of statement on the city website to explain that Mo and Mark have resigned, it was determined the statement should be as brief as possible.

Several minutes of discussion followed in regards to the matter of Bonnies resignation as President of the Council due to her desire not to accept the vacant Mayor position. Butch said he did not want the position as he had previously served as Council President. Carol and Robert were both reluctant to volunteer for the position. Both were asked and neither one was ready to make a positive response.

Robert said he might consider the President position and then the Mayor position. Then after the new people are hired he could resign the Mayor position and one of them could be moved to the President and then the Mayor. Carol, after much quiet thought, asked several questions and then volunteered for the President position and then accepted the

position of Mayor. Robert accepted the position of President of the Council. Carol said she will complete the remainder of the two year existing term. Robert will assist Carol. Carol will prepare the agenda for each regular meeting and she wants our agenda items by the Friday before the Thursday meeting. Carol will notify the appropriate agencies of this change. Carol and Butch will be the Reno county Sherriff contacts. Butch will be the first contact.

Harley does have the swearing in forms for the new Council members, as well as the city stamp. Carol will not need to swear in again for the Mayor position.

Special Meeting Adjourned (Note the following was not sent to the bank)

Workshop Minutes for 02/06/2020 at the Library from 11:15 until 12:00

Introductions. No audience members chose to speak.

Robert brought up the Ark Valley letter. This is the issue presented at the workshop of 02/04/2020. Ark Valley is requesting to move a power pole on Paganica Pass 22 feet into the city Right of Way. This is to prevent Ark Valley from having to remove existing trees that are now within the power line. Harley said that Ark Valley can place the pole anywhere that benefits them as they have a franchise to do so. Robert said he thought the utility easement does not extend into the city Right of Way. Butch said the power line cannot be placed in any other direction because of trees. Carol asked if the trees are obstructing the view of drivers and the answer was no they are not an obstruction for drivers. Butch said the trees were planted under the power lines almost thirty years ago. The home owners are complaining because the trees are being cut down and that seems to be why Ark Valley wants to move this pole. Bonnie asked what if other trees are growing in the power lines and Ark Valley wants to move those poles. Butch said it is case by case. Carol said years ago there was a big issue about trees growing over the road and Ark Valley was cutting them down. The residents were upset by this action. Robert said we need to start reclaiming the city right of way as there are many places where the right of way has been compromised. Barbara said we measured the distance of the new location and it is 12 feet from the street. Butch will go talk to Jim Sheery(?) at Ark Valley for more information. Carol suggested that each Council member should go and look at the proposed location in question. Will discuss more at the next workshop.

Harley said he and Robert went to Wichita yesterday to talk to an attorney who will help on the forms we need for lot consolidation issue. What we found is that by combing multiple lots into one parcel the interior easements go away.

Bonnie said there is such a thing as a double sided lot in which two sides front a public street so the setback would be 40' on both fronts.

We had some discussion on the Graber request for location of address. It does need to be where a drive way is located, and a mail box, so entry to the property is possible.

Carol brought copies of the Enforcement ordinance she has created. It was discussed who would be the enforcement officer. Butch said he and Mo had volunteered for the position and had already addressed some issues. Bonnie said maybe we need someone from outside the city. There was much agreement that the best choice would be to continue to have Butch and Mo perform this task. Carol said she wrote the procedure more than the law. The ordinance is comparable to the state law and we would do the rules and regulations. Bonnie said we need to add another Whereas just before the second one where we establish the office of enforcer. We will discuss this more at the next workshop meeting after we have each had a chance to read it more thoroughly.

Burning ordinance: Barbara discussed the issue of calling 911 before burning and that 911 no longer will give, or deny, permission to burn. Barbara left the topic of agricultural burning in as some residents do burn grass.

Harley said that future members want to help out but we cannot add more and more things on people.

Workshop ended. Next workshop is Tuesday, 02/ 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon at the Hutchinson Public Library.

End Workshop