City of The Highlands, Kansas

COUNCIL MEETING Minutes

July 25th, 2019, 6:00 PM Held at Nickerson City Offices, Nickerson, Ks.

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Penny called the meeting to order on July 25th at 6:02 P.M.

1. **ROLL CALL:** Ken Nuss, Bonnie Teel, Mark Kerschen, Butch Neel, Dwight Gehring
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG:** Led by Mo Penny
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**: Minutes from the 07/11/2019 meeting. Butch Neel motion to approve. Dwight Gehring second. Passed 5-0.
4. **REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS**

* **S. Swartz took opportunity to voice anger about zoning ordinance and make harsh comments about the presentation of city budget information.**
* **Review of Ehart request for remodel/addition permit to add garage. Request violates front setbacks per city ordinance #2019-12. Additionally it would violate the setback requirement (30 ft) of the subdivision plat map on file with Reno County Deeds.**

**Council asked to take a vote at this time: Bonnie Teel motion for vote on approval or denial of request. Butch Neel second. Denied 0 YES, 5 NO.**

* **Review of Ken Nuss request for remodel/addition permit to add covered patio. Request violates rear setbacks per city ordinance #2019-12. Additionally it would violate the setback requirement (20 ft) of the subdivision plat map on file with Reno County Deeds and a (20 ft) utility easement on same. There is also a possibility that the subdivision covenants that are still active would be more restrictive.**

**Council asked to take a vote at this time: Dwight Gehring motion for vote on approval or denial of request. Butch Neel second. Ken Nuss recused himself from vote. Denied 0 YES, 4 NO**

1. **REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS AND INVOICES:**
   * + Invoice from Martindell, Swearer, et al. $700.
     + Invoice from Powered By Me $25,000.

Dwight Gehring motion to approve and pay invoices except $5000 would be held back from Powered By Me pending improvement of Crazyhorse and Dull Knife drive area. Passed 5-0

1. **BUSINESS:**
   1. Discussion on road repairs carried over from invoice by PBM. General concern was focused on the Dull Knife, Crazy Horse area needed attention and resulted in the 20% hold on payment until PBM could address the roughness. No action required.
2. Report on Nuisance Ordinance – in process but need time to find priorities and assurance of being complete. No action taken.
3. Mowing equipment status – equipment performed satisfactory but is heavy. 1st mowing was completed. No action required.

Letter about future mowing fees and logistics was not discussed.

1. Report on One Call Now – with two household contacts and methods, the input nearly doubled. Registrations have all but ceased. A trial will be implemented for a test and hopefully done before the next council meeting. An email registration reminder was suggested.
2. 2020 budget plan discussed. Everything is ready to go pending the outcome of the August 6th vote. Butch is working on the sign to encourage a "get out and vote". No action required.
3. Butch and Bonnie will meet with Jason Hartman KFS on july 30th to work on a grant request to acquire some helps to mitigate fire hazard risks.

* 1. **ADJOURNMENT**:

Mark Kerschen motion to adjourn. Butch Neel second. Passed 5-0