

## Approved Minutes of the City of Dighton Regular Council Meeting held on August 12, 2024

Mayor Annita Lorimor called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Those present included: Councilmembers: Janet Shapland, Marlene Rupp, Austin Bretz and Erik Steffens. Also present were Attorney Dale Pike, Sheriff Ridley, Steve Porter, Logan Lingg, Superintendent Craig Collins, and City Clerk Nicole Strobel.

Council member Austin Bretz made the motion to approve the agenda, Councilwoman Janet Shapland seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Logan Lingg talked to the council about shooting off fireworks after touchdowns at home football games.

Sheriff Ridley reported that they are still trying to find help.

Steve Porter with KMEA reported that the work at the shelter house is done. We are waiting to hear back on the waiver we sent in on the streetlight grant. A load of transformers came in.

Fire Chief Craig Collins reported they are trying to get younger firefighters to learn how to do the ISO and other reporting so they can take over in the future. It was discussed hiring a deputy chief and captain to start learning how to do the reporting. Also discussed was getting a laptop for the fire department.

Superintendent Craig Collins was asked if the city would help with half of the cost of replacing the sidewalk in front of a residential area. After discussion it was decided to wait and see if we receive the grant for Safe Routes to School, which would help with this.

Discussion was held on weeds in yards and allies that are not getting mowed because mowers cannot get to them. The council discussed that it has been some what of a wet summer and would hope individuals will take care of their yards themselves.

City Clerk Nicole Strobel reported that the city received \$10 for second place on their fair booth. Nicole reported that estimated increase in health insurance is looking to be 3-6% for 2025 but will know more in September. Nicole asked for the Council's guidance on how to bill for the extra trash carts that residents have and are not paying for. Superintendent Collins will get a list of residents who have more than one trash cart that are only paying for one and the charge will be added to their account.

Mayor Annita Lorimor reported that she had met and visited City on A Hill.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland reported that we received a red ribbon for the booth at the Lane County Fair.

Councilman Erik Steffens reported that he drove the streets with Superintendent Craig Collins after having numerous complaints with weeds.

Councilwoman Marlene Rupp reported no complaints on the city park.

Councilman Austin Bretz reminded the crew at the shop to wear their safety glasses. Councilman Austin Bretz reported a complaint at the pool of trash not being picked up around and under chairs at closing. Councilman Bretz reported that the pool will have extended hours starting Thursday, August 15, 2024. Monday – Thursday will be open 4-7 pm, Friday 4-9 pm and Saturday & Sunday 1-7 pm until September 1, 2024.

Councilman Erik Steffens made the motion to amend the agenda adding G. Drug Testing, H. Fireworks I. Executive Session, J. Executive Session and K. Executive Session, Councilman Austin Bretz seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Municipal tickets were discussed and tabled.

Bids for repair on Well #12 were discussed. Councilman Austin Bretz made the motion to accept the bid of \$7817.00 from Naberhood Electric for repairs on Well #12, Councilwoman Janet Shapland seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Solar distributed generation was discussed. Steve Porter reported on the meeting he attended in Colby. He had a handout from the meeting that City Clerk Nicole Strobel will send to the mayor and council members.

Standard Traffic Ordinance #720 was discussed. Councilman Erik Steffens made the motion to approve ordinance #720, Councilman Austin Bretz seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to approve Uniform Public Offense Ordinance #721, Councilwoman Marlene Rupp seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the property at 520 S. Wichita and the cleanup and mowing the city has done.

Discussion was held on sewer rates. Councilman Austin Bretz made the motion to raise the rates \$2.00 from \$11.00 to \$13.00 starting with the September 2024 bill, Councilwoman Janet Shapland seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Capital Improvement Fund Ordinance #722 was discussed. Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to approve Ordinance #722, Councilman Austin Bretz seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilman Austin Bretz made the motion to approve the 2025 Budget, Councilwoman Janet Shapland seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to amend the Personnel Policies and Guidelines to include Workplace Substance Abuse and Testing Policy, Councilman Erik Steffens seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilman Erik Steffens made the motion to allow fireworks to be shot off during the home football games on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, October 4<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> weather permitting, Councilwoman Marlene Rupp seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Marlene Rupp made the motion to go into executive session pertaining to non-elected personnel the open meeting will resume in 25 minutes at 7:41 pm., Councilman Erik Steffens seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to go into executive session pertaining to Attorney client privilege the open meeting will resume in 5 minutes at 7:47 pm, Councilman Erik Steffens seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to approve the bills, Councilwoman Marlene Rupp seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Marlene Rupp made the motion to adjourn, Councilman Erik Steffens seconded, yeas by all, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

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Annita Lorimor, Mayor

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Nicole Strobel, City Clerk