

Approved Minutes of the City of Dighton Regular Council Meeting held May 13, 2024

Mayor Annita Lorimor called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Those present included:
Councilmembers: Craig Doris, Marlene Rupp, Austin Bretz, Erik Steffens and Janet Shapland. Also present were Attorney Dale Pike, Sheriff Ridley, Richard McLeon with Lane-Scott Electric, Erica Schmidt with Sunflower Electric, AG Turner, Steve Porter, Superintendent Craig Collins and City Clerk Nicole Strobel.

Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to approve the agenda and license, Councilman Austin Bretz seconded, yeas by all motion carried.

Sheriff Ridley reported they are still struggling with staffing. All property in evidence as been identified and will start research.

Steve Porter with KMEA reported they are almost finished with the underground wiring in the City Park.

Fire Chief Craig Collins reported that all supplies are restocked on the fire truck.

Superintendent Craig Collins reported on the estimates from insurance from the hail storm in 2023. Discussion was held and Councilman Craig Doris will reach out to the adjuster concerning the roofs at the City Shop and City Office. Superintendent Craig Collins reported that he met with Mark vonLeonrod concerning trees in the park during the car show.

City Clerk Nicole Strobel reported that the auditors will be here May 28-30, 2024. City Clerk Nicole Strobel presented the council the pool newsletter that Pool Manager Stephanie Wick wants in the paper.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland reported that the CD is coming July for renewal. It has accrued \$32,056 in interest.

Councilman Erik Steffens reported that he rode around town with Superintendent Craig Collins looking at curb and guttering. He suggested that any sidewalks that are repaired going into the street have handicap ramps. The remaining bulb-outs will be removed. He wants to plan for next year putting in a handicap ramp in front of the pool. There are several holes around town that need to be patched.

Councilwoman Marlene Rupp reported that she did not get the grant she applied for from Lane-Scott Electric for benches for the park.

Councilman Craig Doris reported that he attended the KMEA meeting in Wichita. He suggested we start thinking about solar policies.

Councilman Austin Bretz reported that he had a complaint from a citizen on the pricing on golf cart registrations. Discussion was held. No changes will be made.

Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to amend the agenda adding G. Employee Incentive Pay in Handbook, Councilman Austin Bretz seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Western Kansas Child Advocacy was discussed and was tabled wanting more information.

Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to get our power supply from Sunflower Electric for future power, Councilman Austin Bretz seconded, yeas from Councilman Erik Steffens and Councilwoman Janet Shapland, Councilwoman Marlene Rupp abstained from voting.

Electric rate study was discussed. Steve Porter will get with KMEA for this.

Councilman Erik Steffens made the motion for appointments as following: Dale Pike – City Attorney, Jacob Gayer – Municipal Judge, Craig Collins – City Fire Chief, Craig Collins – City Superintendent, Michelle Wilkison – Deputy Clerk and Nicole Strobel – City Clerk and to designate the Dighton Herald as the official newspaper, Councilwoman Marlene Rupp seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Ordinance # 705 Fireworks was discussed. Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to keep the ordinance as is, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to approve the 2024 Emergency Water Supply Operating Plan, Councilman Austin Bretz seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

The excess margin check received from Sunflower Electric was discussed. Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to credit back \$15 on all active electric meters on the May city bill, Councilwoman Marlene Rupp seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilman Craig Doris talked about the employee incentive pay that was put in place on October 12, 2021 that was not in the handbook. Consensus was to update the handbook with this information.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland shared that local S & T Telephone employees provided community service by cleaning up around the city. Thank you to our S & T Telephone employees!

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to approve the presentation of bills, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to adjourn, Councilman Erik Steffens seconded, yeas by all, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Annita Lorimor, Mayor

Nicole Strobel, City Clerk

