

Official Minutes of the Regular City of Dighton Council Meeting held Monday, March 14, 2022

Council President, Christine Birney-Carter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall. Those present included Council members Marlene Rupp, Craig Doris, Curtis Hanna by telephone & Christine Birney-Carter. Mayor Lorimor joined the meeting by Facetime & Janet Shapland was absent. Also present were Steve Porter w/KMEA, Lane Co. Sheriff Bryan Kough, Everett Green with Rodenbeek & Green Agency, City Attorney Dale Pike, City Superintendent Craig Collins, Deputy Clerk Nikki Strobel, and City Clerk Chelle Anderson.

Councilman Doris made the motion to approve consent agenda items A (Minutes) & C (Licenses) as printed, Birney-Carter seconded, discussion was held, yeas by all, motion carried.

Birney-Carter asked for visitors. Everett Green with Rodenbeek & Green met with Council to go over the insurance renewal for 2022-2023. Birney-Carter made the motion to renew the insurance with Rodenbeek & Green, Doris seconded, discussion was held, yeas by all, motion carried.

Birney-Carter asked for Committee Reports. Municipal Court Judge & Clerk Jacob Gayer discussed the municipal court software as well as the municipal court & district court. Judge Gayer stated that he had attended the Clerk's Conference & that the city will not have to pay for any of the conference. Gayer stated that he would also like to attend the upcoming judges conference as well.

Fire Chief Craig Collins stated that there will be a storm spotter class this Thursday.

City Superintendent Craig Collins told Council that Gerry Bieker with KMEA would like to come to a meeting & talk to the new council members & the new mayor. Gerry Bieker will be added to the April agenda. Collins also discussed the need for a generator at city hall. He discussed pricing & will get some more bids. Collins also stated that he would like to run a help wanted ad every other week until he gets someone hired.

Clerk Chelle Anderson discussed comp time with Council. Anderson stated that she felt that since a motion had been made & passed in 2017 to do away with comp time, the new Council should make a motion to reinstate comp time even though it is in the handbook.

Deputy Clerk Nikki Strobel reported that the budget numbers are in the system now.

Mayor Lorimor had nothing to report.

Councilman Doris reported for Councilwoman Shapland as she was absent from tonight's meeting. Discussion was held concerning the grant that Lane-Scott Electric is taking applications for. Shapland also would like to know if the council wants to meet with the auditor when he comes in May. Council stated they would like to meet with him. Discussion was held on a pay plan breakdown. Shapland discussed doing away with the downtown bulb outs. She has put together a list of pros & cons for their removal. Shapland would like for all printouts to be printed on both sides of the paper.

Councilwoman Rupp rode around with City Superintendent Craig Collins & looked at what needs to be done in the streets. Discussion was held about making a driveway cut out on the school lot north of the high school. Discussion was held on sterilizing the property at 340 W. Pearl & the Council told Craig to keep doing it.

Councilman Hanna, who joined by phone, stated that he will be meeting with the pool manager soon.

Councilman Doris had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Birney-Carter reported on the City's Facebook page. The top posts were the 5" of white stuff & the city crew battling the water leak. Councilman Hanna stated that maybe the city should run a poll on the Facebook page asking the citizens about the bulb outs.

Birney-Carter asked for amendments to the agenda. Under new business add item F. Discussion on voucher system & G. the driveway at 215 S. Lane. Doris made the motion to approve the amendments to the agenda, Rupp seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Birney-Carter asked for unfinished business. Discussion was held on the court management software. Doris made the motion to table court management software until the April meeting, Birney-Carter seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Attorney Dale Pike reported on the Dollar General Electric issue. Steve Porter spoke to a manager & he seemed okay with the project. He knows about the outage & has asked that, if possible, it is done during the morning. Porter stated he is ready to go with the job.

Birney-Carter stated that she has spoken with Ryan at Northend Disposal & the second new trash truck will not be ready until June. Ryan has asked that the City Crew put stickers on the dumpsters & Superintendent Collins wanted to know what we were going to get out of it as it is not our job, it is theirs. Birney-Carter will revisit this with Hershel West who is in the Wichita office.

Discussion was held on the employee handbook. Clerk Anderson reported that she is working on it but she has a few questions for Craig Doris about the handbook.

Discussion was held on the code enforcement. Council agreed that something needs to be done. Councilman Doris said that everyone needs to be treated the same way. Doris made the motion to pay Chris Rorabaugh for his services, but at this time we do not need his services until we have a game plan in place, Birney-Carter seconded, discussion was held, yeas by all, motion carried.

Mayor Lorimor discussed the IT person. Lorimor stated that she hired Chris Harris from Central Plains Computer to do some work on the city computers & printers, build a new computer for the shop, install a new printer in the office & install a firewall & new modem.

Birney-Carter asked for new business. Birney-Carter discussed emails on personal devices & the possibility of each council member getting their own city email address. The pricing from Go Daddy would be \$1.99 per email per month for the first year & then \$5.99 per email after that. Then 2 years out it will be \$3.24 per email address & 3 years out it will be \$3.66 per email address. For the fourth year it will be \$646.92 for all emails.

Discussion was held concerning the status of the bulb outs. Birney-Carter made a motion to table discussion until the April meeting & to do upkeep on them such as keeping weeds out, spraying them, etc.

Discussion was held on the flag pole in Cook Park. Superintendent Collins would like to move the flag pole to the south so that it can be anchored better & more securely. Doris made the motion to move the flag pole back to make it more secure, Rupp seconded, discussion was held, yeas by all, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the snow removal & water meters at Lane-Scott Electric. Collins had the office staff send a bill to Lane-Scott Electric for the puck that goes in the water meter since this is not the first time it has been sliced off. Collins stated that he will be putting bumpers around the water meters so whoever does the snow removal won't shave them off again.

Superintendent Collins discussed purchasing a pipe freezing unit for doing water line repairs. Collins priced a unit from Grainger with a cost of \$4,520.24, Municipal Pipe for \$3,725.00 + \$200.00 + freight & Core & Main for a price of \$3,869.77 & free freight. Doris made the motion to purchase the pipe freezing unit from Core & Main for a price of \$3,869.77, Birney-Carter seconded, discussion was held, yeas by all, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the new voucher system & how the Council is doing the vouchers. It was discussed to rotate who looks at them every month & to email the list of checks to the Council on Friday. The rotation will start with Shapland, then Rupp, Hanna, Doris & Birney-Carter.

Discussion was held on the driveway at 215 S. Lane. A special assessment was put on the property. Discussion was also held on special assessments.

Discussion was held on the monthly bills as well as the payroll for Judge Gayer & City Attorney Pike.

There being no further business to come before Council, Birney-Carter made the motion to adjourn, Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Christine Birney-Carter, Council President

Chelle J. Anderson, City Clerk