

CITY OF CAWKER CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
March 10, 2021 7:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL BUILDING-CAWKER CITY,

Work Session-Sign off on bills

Mayor Drew Duskie present and presiding called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: Cole Eberle, Barb Wise, Doug Bader, Carl Suter, Lisha Wiese

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Denelle Mick, Charles Gullion, City Attorney Chantz Martin & Viki Aramendi

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CONSENT AGENDA:D. Bader made a motion to approve the February 10, 2021 regular council meeting. C. Eberle seconded Motion carried 5 AYES. B. Wise made a motion to approve claims ordinance 1519A. C. Eberle seconded Motion carried 5 AYES

PERMIT APPLICATIONS: C. Eberle made a motion to approve the building permit for cement work for Nolan Remus. L. Wiese seconded Motion carried 5 AYES D. Bader made a motion to approve the livestock permit for Theresa Baker for chickens. B. Wise seconded Motion carried 5 AYES

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sheri Naasz from Cushing ins was present to review the City insurance renewal with EMC Ins. Company. Sheri touched base on all parts of the renewal and then answered questions from the council. She thanked the city for their great work and for doing business with her. There was a slight increase in the policy. She then presented some information on EMC Covid policy and that the city had available legal time available with their policy. City attorney thanked her for that information. D. Bader made a motion to renew the EMC ins policy at a cost of \$42,123.00. C. Eberle seconded Motion carried 5 AYES

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: City Attorney Martin stated that he had been helping Clerk Mick sort through the electric charges for the month of February. He added that he would talk more in the meeting when this issue was addressed.

CITY EMPLOYEES REPORT:

C. Gullion: Gullion reported that it was time to advertise for summer help. Council said to move forward with advertising for 1 person golf course and 2 people for in town duties. Clerk Mick stated that she would get the adds out. Gullion stated it was time to trade in the tractor mower and the consensus of council was to get figures from Carrico Implement for a trade in. Gullion stated that the water tower repair had been completed and that Viking Industrial would be here this week to do a complete inspection of the water tower. Mayor Duskie stated that he previously approved the emergency repair of the water tower leak. Gullion stated that all the preapproved items were listed on Purple Wave Auction site. The golf course committee had asked if they could use some city equipment for a work day at the golf course. D. Bader made a motion to allow the golf course committee to use some of city equipment at their work day. B. Wise seconded Motion carried 5 AYES Gullion also asked to update the large chain saw. D. Bader made a motion to allow Gullion to replace the large chain saw. L. Wiese seconded Motion carried 5 AYES

D. Mick: Mick reported that the City had received a grant for \$4,960.00 from the Solomon Valley Community Foundation. This grant was written for the volunteer fire department. This money will be used to purchase two more sets of bunker gear. Clerk Mick stated that the City audit would take place on March 24, and that our contract with the auditor would expire after the 2021 audit.

J. Reed: Reeds monthly report was in council packet and the council reviewed it. Jim reported to the council that he had written several citations. The Brummer estate was cited for Johnson Grass, Judy Weakly was cited for dogs at large

CITY OF CAWKER CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
March 10, 2021 7:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL BUILDING-CAWKER CITY,

and Jerry Heinen was issued and citation and a appear in City court due to unsightly property at the April court date. Jim stated that he has some concern about an aggressive dog here in town and wondered if he could use a dog catcher from Downs to help out with this decision. The cost would be \$50.00 @ hour. The consensus of the council was to go ahead and get assistance on this matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Mayor asked the council if they had looked at the fire station and only a few had. He requested that they take a look before the April meeting so a decision could be made on repair. Clerk Mick stated she would have some more information on possible financing of this repair at the next meeting.
2. Semi-truck parking was tabled for the time being, until more information was made available

NEW BUSINES:

1. The main topic for the meeting was to discuss how to handle the \$122,368.63 electric bill that will come due on April 10, 2021 from Sunflower Electric. A special meeting was held with Sunflower Electric on March 8 to discuss this issue and they offered a 2 year pay out on the amount due. The other option that was discussed was the loan from the State of Kansas. City Attorney Martin asked the council if they had reviewed the options for this issue. They then addressed City Clerk on what her thoughts were on the matter. She stated that to be fair each utility account needed to addressed on its own and possibly spread out over 5 years. She had contacted the software people and they would be able to make some changes in the billing software and a separate line would be added so the overage of electric would be separated out from the rest of the utility bill. After much discussion the council decided to go with the State of Kansas loan program. With the state loan the City will have to pay \$22,368.62 out of Electric fund which would make the State loan of \$100,000.00 Resolution 01-2021 was presented. C. Eberle made a motion to pass Resolution 01-2021 to allow the City of Cawker to apply for the city utility low interest loan program for the purpose of obtaining a loan from the State of Kansas to finance extraordinary electric costs incurred during the extreme winter weather event in February 2021. D. Bader seconded Motion carried 5 AYES Ordinance #1169 was presented as read – This ordinance is authorizing the execution of a loan agreement between the City of Cawker City and the State of Kansas. B. Wise made a motion to pass Ord. 1169 for loan agreement between the City of Cawker City and State of Kansas. C. Suter seconded Motion carried 5 AYES. The resolution and ordinance will be published in full in the Cawker City Ledger and the City web site. Mayor Duskie stated that there would be a letter of explanation placed in the March utility bill with a brief explanation of this decision. Clerk Mick stated that she is glad that the City could offer this assistance to the citizens of Cawker City and that with this plan they will not feel a large burden during these extreme times
2. An electric surcharge policy was presented for review. C. Eberle made a motion to pass the electric surcharge policy. D. Bader seconded. Motion carried 5 AYES
3. Assistant Clerk Aramendi stated that she had been working with the software company on getting things set up to be able to make the extra electric charges. These charges will be on a separate line on the utility billing. The estimated expense for the software update would not exceed \$600.00.
9:15 p.m. – D. Bader made a motion to adjourn. C. Eberle seconded. Motion carried 5 AYES

Approved:

City Clerk: