

**CITY OF HARPER, KANSAS  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2015 6:30PM  
Mayor Scott Blubaugh**

Council met in regular session with Mayor Scott Blubaugh in chair. Present were Eric Barker, David Earls, Don Evans, Jan Graves, Greg Stierwalt and Brande Vogele.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes of the March 9, 2015 Council Meeting.

Appropriation Ordinance No. 03202015.

Appropriation Ordinance No. 02232015.

February Municipal Court Publication Report.

Motion by Don Evans second by Eric Barker to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

**RECOGNIZE GUEST**

John Riggs, Riggs & Associates, was present to discuss with council his zoning consultant services. He explained his role in the Planning and Zoning process and what the roles of the others involved needed to be. Pay per hour was discussed, as well as an agreement that allowed either party to exit the contract upon a 30 day written notice, no long term commitment. He also informed council that he did not copyright his work so the city was free to change or adapt any forms or information they received from him.

Motion by Eric Barker second by Jan Graves to hire Rigg's and Associates as the Harper Planning Commission's zoning consultant on an as needed basis. Motion carried 6-0.

Stan Ryberg, Cemetery Sexton, was present to discuss with council his ideas for cemetery improvements. He informed them of the cost of nearly \$100 per brick it would be for SI Monuments to come and engrave the bricks that had been laid out for the Veteran's Memorial, when buying a brick from them engraved was only \$31. Mr. Ryberg was able to find the equipment needed so that he would be able to engrave the bricks himself. The cost of the equipment was nearly \$2,500.00.

Motion by Jan Graves second by Don Evans to purchase equipment to engrave pavers for the Veteran's Memorial for a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00 from Granite City Tool Company of Vermont from the Cemetery Trust Fund. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Ryberg continued to discuss other improvements for the cemetery. He explained to council the need to replace the chain link fence on the south side of the cemetery. He had received two quotes, Kansas Fence and American Fence Co., as well figured the cost of equipment and material for the city crew to replace the fence. Of the two quotes received Kansas Fence (\$4,480.00) required the city to remove the old fence and mark any posts they wanted to replace, American Fence Co. (\$4,881.00) included all the labor involved in making repairs and replacement of the fence. Mr. Ryberg continued to describe other ideas he had for the cemetery including purchasing benches for the Veteran's Memorial and installing an irrigation system for the area around the memorial. He had considered possibly adding a bronze statue related to the memorial, but they were nearly \$30,000.00 and he did not feel that was feasible at the current time. Council discussed the proposals and wanted to move ahead with the fence, allowing for a stronger gauge of fence and a bottom rail for extra strength. They wanted further review on the other proposals.

Motion by Don Evans second by Jan Graves to repair and replace the south and east 1,674 feet of chain link fence at the Harper Municipal Cemetery from American Fence Company for a cost not to exceed \$6,500.00 to be paid from the Cemetery Trust Fund. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Greg Stierwalt second by David Earls to approve the Harper City Planning Commission's by-laws as adopted by the Harper Planning Commission on March 18, 2015. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Don Evans second by Greg Stierwalt to purchase EMC Insurance: Property, Liability, Inland Marine, Automobile, Worker's Compensation, Linebacker, Law Enforcement for \$66,593.00 to be split from the General, Water, Sewer and Employee Benefits Funds. Motion carried 6-0.

The street committee after further review with Glen Knak, Earls Engineering, made a recommendation to accept the bid received from Andale Paving for the reconstruction of the 1300 blocks of Hickory, Maple and Spruce and the 600 and 700 blocks of west 13<sup>th</sup> Street including curb and gutter and approach work. The bid received and opened on February 9, 2015 were:

Andale Paving-\$280,300.00

Kansas Paving-\$575,500.00; Alt 1-Base w/ 7" Asphalt Surface-\$485,000.00; Alt 2-Base (Fly-ash) 7" Concrete Surface \$555,500.00; Alt 3-Base (Fly-ash) w/ 7" Asphalt Surface-\$465,500.00

Cornejo & Sons-\$583,705.00; Alt 1-Base w/ 9" Asphalt-\$491,689.00

The bids did not reflect cost of approach work.

Motion by Jan Graves second by Eric Barker to select Andale Paving Inc. for the reconstruction of the 1300 blocks of Hickory, Maple and Spruce and the 600 and 700 blocks of west 13<sup>th</sup> Street for a cost not to exceed \$340,000; \$75,000 to be paid from the Street Reserve Fund and the balance to be paid from the Infrastructure Sales Tax Fund. Motion carried 6-0.

PWD Sanders was asked to look into the cost of boring the water line the currently was underneath the 1200 and 1300 blocks of Spruce to move it into the easement versus manually running the new line. Clerk Hartson was asked to prepare notifications for properties affected by the project.

Motion by Jan Graves second by Don Evans to approve the payment of \$41.86 to VISA, for credit card purchase at Dollar General in Harper, KS for cleaning supplies including Clorox wipes, toilet paper, paper towels, The Works toilet cleaner, all purpose cleaner, steel wool, scouring sponges, Clorox tabs for toilet, Lysol bowl cleaner, hand soap and air freshener, receipt for purchase was misplaced. Motion carried 6-0.

Council considered the previous request made by Richard Hellar, 910 Walnut, regarding adding STOP signs around the park and possibly at every uncontrolled intersection in town. Street Department provided cost information of \$45 per sign, \$60 per 12' post, totaling \$105 per sign. Chief Murphy reported that he had observed traffic conditions over spring break and he did not feel there was enough traffic in that area to warrant adding additional signage. Council took no further action on the issue.

Council discussed extending the sidewalk from 704 W. Main to the swimming pool. This would require a walkway over the drainage ditch. The matter was tabled for the next regular meeting.

Council discussed whether or not to fence off the exposed walls in the 900 block of Central for safety reasons. It was determined there were no safety hazards and fencing off the walls would be unnecessary.

**OLD BUSINESS** Councilmember Earls presented information for the gazebo from Sturdi-built. Mayor Blubaugh asked if a drawing and timeframe could be provided before council took action.

Radios in police vehicles were still waiting to be reprogrammed.

Chief Murphy received Kingman's health nuisance codes and was reviewing them. Clerk Hartson had discussed the matter of removing the governing body from the hearing process and just have the violators go before the municipal judge. Other cities that he serves as municipal judge have similar practices and he was not opposed to the idea.

**NEW BUSINESS** Councilmember Earls had noticed that the neighbor to the west of the city building appeared to be driving around the house from the rear to the front to gain access to Main Street. He asked Chief Murphy if something could be done to prohibit them from doing that since they were driving on city property and a public sidewalk. Chief Murphy will visit with the neighbor.

Councilmember Stierwalt expressed that he was very impressed with the fire department regarding their response and efficiency.

**REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS** Police Chief Murphy reported the department investigating vandalism at the Harper Elementary School and they performed two civil standbys.

Fire Chief Leu informed council that he had put the city under a burn ban until there was more moisture to lower the fire hazard.

PWD Sanders reported on work on the park bathrooms. He provided information from the grant that helped install the workout stations. In the paperwork it stated that volunteer groups would maintain the stations. That was clearly not being fulfilled. Council was not opposed to the workout stations being concreted in with the workout equipment being reinstalled.

**NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS** Clerk Hartson notified council that Linsburg, Voegel, Pierce, Faris Cht., the city's auditors were in town doing the audit for the 2014 calendar year.

Motion by Brande Voegel second by Don Evans to adjourn. Motion carried 6-0.

Tiffany M. Hartson, CMC  
City Clerk