

1 | Hope City Council Meeting March 13th, 2024

Mayor Fred French started the February 14th, 2024 regular council meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor asked me to do roll call, it showed the following present: Daniel Schwindt, Larry Ryff, Robin Moniz, Ginger Stewart and Randy Walker.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor French said the next item of business is the minutes from the previous meeting. Ginger Stewart made a motion to accept the minutes as written from February 14th, 2024. Robin Moniz seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: The Mayor said next is appropriation ordinance #1151. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve appropriation ordinance #1151, Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Treasurers Report: Mayor French said the next item is the Financial Statement, he asked if everyone had looked at it. Heather wasn't able to attend. Daniel Schwindt made a motion to accept the financial statement for February 1st to February 29th 2024 and Robin Moniz seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Mayor French said we would move on since the visitors weren't here yet.

New Business: The mayor said there is a privacy fence building permit from Billy Lininger. Robin Moniz made a motion to accept permit for his privacy fence, Randy Walker seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0. Mayor French said next was a building permit from Fred Rock for the Little Lions Learning Center. There was a conversation between the Mayor and Council. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve the building permit for Fred Rock and on the approval of that he would ask for the \$20 dollar fee to be waved. He said because it is a non-profit organization he thought it should be waved. Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0. Mayor French said next is the franchise fee ordinance agreement for Kansas Gas. Ginger Stewart asked if this was a renewal, I explained that we did have an ordinance agreement that was going to expire, and that the agreement is for twenty years. There was a discussion between the Council, Mayor and me. Larry Ryff made a motion to accept Kansas Gas Franchise Fee agreement. Randy Walker seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

The Mayor welcomed Fred Rock to the meeting and suggested that he go ahead with the topic he came to discuss. Fred Rock asked if his permit had been approved, Mayor French said that it had and that the twenty-dollar fee had been waved. Fred Rock started off by introducing himself and explained the ties he had to the community and town of Hope. He said that he talked with the county about getting some more funding for the Little Lion Learning Center and it was suggested by the County that he talk to the school district and or The City of Hope. He said he was here to plant some seeds in the councils' minds to see what opportunities there were to work together. Fred said that once he became involved with the Hope Endowment Association and that was the leading edge to creating the Little Lions Learning Center. He said that there was a lot more that could be done. There was a lengthy conversation between

Fred Rock, Mayor and Council. There was a suggestion to continue the discussion at a later time. There was no action taken. Fred Rock thanked the Council for listening and their comments. Mayor French thanked him for coming and he left.

Old Business: The Mayor said next was the James Holland estimate. There was a conversation between the Mayor and Council. Ginger Stewart made a motion to approve the dilapidated structure proposal for the fees to start proceedings on condemning 108 E 2nd Avenue. Robin Moniz seconded the motion, it passed 4-1. Mayor French said there is an update on 114 E 2nd Avenue, he explained that we were able to get ahold of the owner of the property. We found out she lives in Arkansas and after several conversations she has agreed to sell the property to the City. She has sent paperwork so that we can move forward. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve \$1,000.00 for the purchase of the property at 114 E second Avenue. Randy Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0. Larry Ryff said he would like to make a motion that the city write the gentleman that owns the property at 110 E 2nd Avenue and offer him \$500.00 for the empty lot. Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

Mayor's Discussion: Mayor French said that he wanted to bring up an idea and see what the Council thought. He said that when new people come to town and come into get water turned on. They could be squatters and then they end up having water. There was a discussion about adding proof of lease or proof of purchase to the utility application.

Clerks Update: Took out the CD information and checked the financial statement. There was one CD that had been missed, when putting it together. Fred came in and we called and talked with the property owner of 114 E 2nd Avenue. We explained that the city was planning to condemn the property and that the expense would be put on the property taxes. After explaining that to the owner she said that she would like to see the pictures that we had taken. I sent her the pictures via email, she said that she was going to talk with her attorney and then get back with us. She sent an email the next week and sounded like she would be interested in the city buying the property from her. Larry stopped in and he showed me where the tower controls are on the Northside of the building and how to change the tower emergency contact numbers. We changed the phone numbers and added the prefixes and ones where necessary. He had a binder with the information in it that he left with me. I received a call from the Overhead Door Company letting me know that they had gotten the door panel in and wanted to know if I would be able to let them into do the work. They showed up and fixed the door on the Eastside and added new weatherstripping to the Westside doors.

Daniel Schwindt said that he and Gordon Hunnicutt went down to the railroad crossing on the South end of town and wrote the contact phone number down. Daniel put the information for the railroad on Facebook. He said he thought a few people called to complain about how rough it is and to see if they could get something down about it.

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Robin Moniz made a motion to change the meeting time to 6pm. Ginger Stewart seconded the motion and it passed 4-1.

Robin Moniz made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

_____ Fred French, Mayor

Attested

_____ Joni Rikard, Clerk