

Atwood City Council
June 21, 2018
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 7:00 PM

Atwood City Council met in **regular session** June 21, 2018 at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Tim Colgan at 7:00 PM. Others present were Councilmembers Gary Fisher, Dietrich Kastens, Mark Mosley, Mark Vrbas; City Attorney Charles Peckham; Chief of Police Brian Withington; City Superintendent Rick Kramer; Rosalie Ross of the Rawlins County Square Deal. Councilwoman Sandy Mulligan and City Clerk Keri Riener were absent.

The **Agenda** was approved as circulated on motion of Mark Vrbas seconded by Dietrich Kastens, approved by all.

The **Minutes** of the regular meeting on May 17, 2018 were approved as circulated on motion of Dietrich Kastens seconded by Mark Vrbas, approved by all.

The **Bills** were approved as read on motion of Gary Fisher. Seconded by Mark Vrbas approved by all.

Public Comments:

Frank Easterday appeared and expressed his concerns about the issuance of two tickets to his wife for an expired license and how the officer had treated her. He stated he was there to express his grievance. The mayor indicated this matter would be reviewed later.

Appearances:

Jared Hurst, President of the Rawlins County Economic Development Board requested clarification regarding “buffer zones” between properties.

Jared reported on issues concerning several tracts in the Greason Industrial Park. Tract A consisting of three lots could be sold. However, the sewer cell for the FSA building was there. He also discussed Tract C which is a narrow buffer area between VAP and Loeffler's buildings.

The mayor suggested that Tract C would be left for the two businesses. Tract A would be offered to the owner of the FSA building which is Mr. Vermoss. City attorney is to contact Mr. Vermoss to see if he is interested in this. Acquiring the lots would allow him to control the leach field for their building. Jared discussed unsold tracts labeled B on his diagram in block one of Greason Industrial Park. These are not very useable due to the slope. He also discussed lots 18 to 21 in block three which are for sale. Jared stated some of the properties had washouts and that the drainage tubes were partially full after the most recent rain. The contractor will be contacted to repair the dirt work and get the gravel on the road which will help some of the drains issues.

Old Business:

City Attorney Charles Peckham reviewed the **ordinance amending section 40-36 (c) of the Atwood Municipal Code**, proposed previously at the May Council Meeting. Following that discussion, the City Attorney made suggested changes to the amendment detailing the vehicles discussed and timeframes for prohibited idling. A notice was placed in the newspaper with the suggested changes in case citizens wanted to appear for public comment on this topic. Sarah Hatfield of the public expressed concern about adding to the ordinance when some existing parts were not enforced. Examples included not putting plank down when dollying down trailers, parking semi-truck on lots and owner only parking. The issues of the refrigerator trucks running were discussed and one person who lived in the neighborhood commented that the problem was reduced. Councilman Mosley indicated that several times when it was below zero his truck ran all night. The council discussed whether the existing one-hour limit should be kept when it was not always enforced. The mayor indicated that they needed it in case of abuse. The council decided to table the motion in favor of a full review of the ordinances affecting trucks.

New Business:

Mayor Tim Colgan reviewed the city hall renovation project. Miller & Associates Architect Todd Boldt contacted the city clerk earlier this week to discuss the status of the building. After reviewing the phases of the project, he suggested that Council authorization for the mayor and city clerk to approve phases 1-3 as they are complete would be ideal. These phases are outlined in Attachment A of the agreement approved last month and include: schematic design, design development and completion of construction documents. All of these steps are centered on the floor plans and specifications of the renovation of the building. Todd will then address council to request approval to advertise the project for bid to move forward.

Councilman Kastens moved to **authorize the mayor and city clerk to approve documents for Phases 1-3 of the City Hall Renovation Project and any changes to them**, Councilman Mosley seconded, approved by all. The current timeline for letting the bids out is projected for late October with construction to begin by December 2018. The mayor was hoping that this could be expedited.

Council discussed the water conservation plan and the rate changes reflecting the new rates and codification fee schedule providing the billing structure. Councilman Vrbas moved to **approve the 2018 Water Conservation Plan and the accompanying fee schedule**, seconded by Councilman Kastens, approved by all. Mayor Tim Colgan and City Superintendent Rick Kramer signed the plan.

The mayor reminded everyone of the budget workshop next week. The **Budget Workshop** will take place on Tuesday, June 26th at 5:30 pm at City Hall. Dinner and beverages will be provided. The Mayor pointed out that sales tax receipts were down substantially and that this would be a tight budget year.

Department Reports:

City Clerk Keri Riener was absent; attending a Board of Directors meeting for the City Clerks Association in Wichita. She noted that Summer Recreation movies will begin on Thursday, July 5th at the theater. Movies will start at 2:00 pm and will be free to the public.

City Attorney Charles Peckham reported that he had revised the draft ordinance on trucks and talked with treasurer regarding taxes and some issues on the special assessment for nuisance on property that had been purchased. He mentioned some matters between police and sheriff will need to be addressed. He advised that he had obtained two pleas for driving under the influence and that there was a third DUI which could go to trial. Also, a traffic case was set for trial at the July court day. Charles worked with defendants on payments and the code enforcement officer on blighted structure and nuisance issues.

Police Chief Brian Withington presented his report. His department worked 18 reports from May 17, 2018 to June 21, 2018. 12 arrests had been made 41 warnings given and 23 tickets issued. Many public relations contacts have been made and one case of an open container incident involving a minor. The expired tag incident previously noted was discussed and the video of the stop will be shown to the citizen that appeared at 7 pm Friday night. The need for the police to be at the lake for Lake Atwood days was discussed, especially for the road race and the kids bicycle race.

City Superintendent Rick Kramer presented his report showing the areas where the city crew has spent their time since the last meeting. They are trying to keep up with mowing. The water report shows the amount of water pumped and sold for the month. The month of May showed greater water loss than normal. The depth to the water in city wells has remained consistent. Efficiency tests have been run on wells and they were all good. He indicated they were running the street sweeper every week.

Council Reports:

Councilman Gary Fisher reported some diseased Australian pine trees in town and that one was in bad shape. Treatment for them is quite expensive. Councilman Fisher then left the meeting to pick up his wife.

Councilman Dietrich Kastens stated that there was just normal activity on nuisance and zoning. The new section on tree clearance was being enforced to allow the street sweeper to pass under trees on city streets. The fire department had two trucks leaking but this was on the test for drawing from a pond; use of fire hydrants was not affected.

Councilman Mark Mosley updated Council that the airport taxiway had been completed. There were issues on replacing the fuel software as the company that produced it was not supporting it. Alternatives were being researched.

Councilwoman Sandy Mulligan was absent.

Councilman Mark Vrbas had nothing to report.

Mayors Notes:

Mayor Colgan stated that the block work is complete on the rest rooms at Kelly Park and that he hoped that the project would be finished by the end of July. He expressed his thanks to Chris Niermeier, the Norton inmates, Rick Kramer's city crew and everyone else who had helped unload the block for the block layer. There is a swim meet set for Saturday, June

23, 2018. Mayor Colgan also stated he had attended the Local Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting with Terry Britt.

With no further business to come before Council, Councilman Kastens moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Vrbas. **The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.**

Charles Peckham, City Attorney

Tim Colgan, Mayor