

TOWN COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Cowley in the County of Big Horn and State of Wyoming was held on Tuesday August 11, 2009 at 7:00 PM in the Administration building pursuant to due notice and call.

The meeting was called to order and upon roll call, it was found that the following were present, constituting a quorum:

Mayor	Roland Simmons
Council	Carolyn Barnes
	David Banks, absent
	Tim Jones
	Dexter Woodis, Jr.
Public Works Director	Nick Sponsel
Clerk	Judy Johnson
Assistant Clerk	Lisa Woodis
Guests	Laura and Charlie Leonhardt
	Shelly McCracken
	Diane Badget
	Kris Brimhall

Mayor Simmons led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance and Tim gave the invocation. Mayor Simmons welcomed the guests to the meeting. He then asked for any additions to the agenda. Carolyn requested to add a discussion on a culvert. Motion was made by Carolyn, seconded by Dexter to approve the changes to the agenda. Motion carried

Shelly McCracken presented a letter of request for the use of the log gym for the Homework Club on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 3:15-5:00 for the school year with some field trip days which are included in the letter. Motion was made by Tim, seconded by Dexter to allow the use of the gym by the homework club. Motion carried. Shelly reminded the council that she is still waiting for information regarding drilling into the ditch line.

Diane Badget was present to request permission to move forward with sending letters to those who have the yellow hands and inquire if they still want to participate in the program. Council approved her request

Charlie and Laura Leonhardt were present to discuss the problem of the drainage in the alley behind FLIP. The option of tying into the storm drain that runs through the alley was discussed but not pursued because the drain is not big enough to handle the extra drainage from the alley. Charlie inquired as to what could be done to fix the problem as all the property on that block of main street has the problem with the excess storm water coming in. Dexter stated that it would be to the Town's advantage to have the drains working properly. Carolyn inquired as to whether there is any stimulus money available. Nick stated that there was funding available and the information had been sent to Linda Harp for her review. Willie will contact Linda and see what she has learned about any available funds.

Kris Brimhall was present to discuss his feelings about the approval process needed to gain a building permit. He stated that the process is difficult and time consuming for homeowner's. Council informed Kris that there have been changes made by the Planning and Zoning Commission that will make the process easier for residents.

Motion was made by Tim, seconded by Carolyn, to approve the minutes as corrected, of the regular monthly Council meeting held July 14. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Carolyn, seconded by Tim to approve the minutes of the special meeting held July 28. Motion carried

The financial report for July was read and discussed.

Motion was made by Dexter, seconded by Carolyn, to approve the bills to be paid. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on using red diesel for the equipment. Nick will check with Jim Minchow as to getting the forms for the road tax reimbursement for regular diesel used for equipment. Dexter inquired about shutting off the gas to the water tank and bulk fill station for the summer. Nick stated that the fees for having MDU come to turn the meters off and back on is substantial enough to make it non effective to do so. Nick stated he will contact MDU for a list of those charges.

Reports to Council:

Dan reported that he is in the process of getting his patches ordered. The price that the vendor he chose is more economical than Big Horn Engraving because there is a substantial set up charge with Big Horn Engraving

The report from the Planning and Zoning Commission was reviewed. Diane Badget reported that the commission made the change to allow the building inspector the authority to issue all building permits with the exception of multi family dwellings, subdivisions, trailer courts, accessory building with sidewalls in excess of 16 feet, commercial and non compliant plans, this change was made to streamline the process for residents.

Nick reported that he has been contacted by a company about dumping waste water into the Madison formation below where the water level is. Nick has contacted DEQ and EPA and they have informed Nick that they are not in favor of this project going forward and do not plan to approve it.

Nick stated that before the approach for Randy Watt's subdivision can go forward the approach south of where he wants the new one will have to be removed. Randy will have to work with Sidon irrigation to put the cement culvert underground.

Dexter requested that the Town crew work on digging up goatheads around town as he has seen a lot of them. Nick stated that the crew has been working on taking care of them and will keep looking for and digging them up.

Willie reported that Sarah with Johnson Home and Land was not able to give him a valuation on David's property. Discussion was moved to an executive session.

Willie reported that the sidewalk in front of the Post Office will be fixed by placing a step and eliminating the ramp. Tim inquired as to whose responsibility the cost of this would be. Willie stated that WYDOT is responsible for the cost of replacing the ramp with a step. Judy inquired as to whether or not there will be a handrail. Willie stated it has been discussed but is not an ADA requirement to install one. It was

discussed as to where the liability would be should someone fall. Willie stated there would be some liability with WYDOT. Dexter stated that last month when it was discussed the slope was going to be taken from a 2% to 3% not a step. Willie stated that WYDOT did not choose to do that but they are pouring a test step in front of the Sidon building and will evaluate that option for in front of the post office after. Nick stated that a step will be a problem for snow removal. Council requested that Willie contact WYDOT and inform them that the Town is not in favor of a step as it was not shown in the original plans nor was the slope and that they would like to see the slope fixed rather than a step installed. Dexter requested a letter be sent to WYDOT regarding council concerns.

Willie asked the Council's opinion on pouring a small flat curb between the landscaping and landowner's properties on main street to help separate where the property belongs to the town and what is the landowner's. The cost would be \$2.50-\$4.50/foot with about 3100 feet needing the curb. Nick brought up the concern of mowing over sprinkler heads on both sides and having the grass too wet to mow for either party if the landowner or the town is watering. Tim suggested that the council wait and see if there is a problem and then make a decision.

Willie reported that there are some conflicts with the placing of the trees on the landscaping but he is working getting the placement changed to resolve the conflicts.

Roland signed a letter to change the wood for the façade from pressure treated to Douglas Fir.

Michael Simmons appeared before council to discuss the parking on South 4th street and curb and gutter. Michael stated the school will only develop to their property line and no further so he requested the town put curb and gutter to the baseball field. Willie said that a sidewalk clear on the school's property is too far back. The cost to the town would be approximately \$6,000 for curb and gutter and \$3,000 for the inlet. Carolyn stated that the drainage situation in the alley was a higher priority and funds available should be used for that project. Dexter agreed. Further discussion was tabled until the September meeting. Willie will contact contractors for the cost of the curb and gutter.

Brandon May has purchased property on South 2nd West and would like to be annexed. David also owns property on South 2nd West and would like to be part of the annexation. The property owners will pay for the survey and petition for annexation. Dexter made the motion, seconded by Carolyn to approve the annexation plan if it meets all requirements. Motion carried.

Willie said that Keith Rasmussen has agreed to give an easement on his property in the alley behind the church and that Keith would like some of the millings being used in the alley also to be placed in his parking lot. Tim made the motion, seconded by Carolyn to use some of the millings in Keith's parking lot. Motion carried. Dexter abstained.

Nick stated that he has a concern with the fact that the water lines were not pressure tested by the contractor after the drainage pipe was placed on Main Street. He would like to have the water usage checked when the meters are read to make sure there

is not an unusual amount going through. Willie stated that the Town can require that a pressure test be done before the asphalt goes down.

Council Reports:

Carolyn reported that the Cowley Corn Cookout is August 22.

The recreation district would like to sponsor a full contact football program. LGLP has been contacted and the Town's liability coverage does include a football program.

Motion was made by Tim, seconded by Dexter to approve an out of town water tap for Randy Hein. Motion carried.

Carolyn reported that there are some culverts out by the wellhead that need fixing. Nick stated that they probably just need some new dirt put on them but he will check and make sure they don't need to be replaced.

Dexter would like to see a formal personnel policy put into use. Council approved Dexter and Judy working together on preparing a policy.

Council approved a credit card for Lisa.

A motion was made by Carolyn, seconded by Tim to adjourn to executive session at 10:05 PM. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tim, seconded by Dexter to reconvene the regular meeting at 10:59 PM.

A motion was made by Carolyn, seconded by Dexter to make an offer to David Banks for his property on S 2nd W. Motion carried

There being no further business a motion was made by Tim, seconded by Dexter, to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 PM. Motion carried.

These minutes have been approved by Council..