

City of Cottonwood Falls Council Minutes
February 5, 2024

The regular meeting of the City of Cottonwood Falls was called to order at 6:00 in the Municipal meeting room. Those present were Mayor Buddy Sisson, Council members Bill Kewley, Mike Hastings, Greg Campbell, Chris Carathers, and Ryan Spinden, Utilities Supervisor Scott Gumfory, City Clerk Bree Larkin, and City Attorney Stuart Symmonds.

Agenda

Hastings made a motion to approve the agenda. Carathers seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Minutes

Kewley made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 15, 2024, meeting as they read. Hastings seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Visitors

Roland Hainey visited the council to give an update on the veteran banner project. He stated there have been good results so far with 35-40 applications so far. He is waiting on response from the electric company about the possibility of hanging banners on the utility poles in addition to the poles with current banners on them.

City Attorney Report:

Hastings made a motion to go into executive session to discuss an ongoing settlement agreement with City Attorney Stuart Symmonds at 6:15 for 10 min. Carathers seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Hastings made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:25. Spinden seconded the motion. City Attorney Symmonds will make a settlement offer of 75% of the original charge.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Sisson had questions about the current water shut off policy for nonpayment. Currently the city operates under the cold weather rule, Attorney Symmonds mentioned that he did not think that the cold weather rule applied to the city as we are not a utility company. City Clerk Larkin will check with the League of Kansas Municipalities to determine the city's responsibility.

Mayor Sisson relayed a conversation regarding the cross walk areas at the Southeast side of the Highschool. It was decided that the intersection at State and Pine will become a 4-way stop to account for the influx of children during the bus pick up and drop off times.

City Clerk Report:

City Clerk Larkin a building permit application from the Flint Hills Symphony to replace the building that was damaged by the tornado last year. Hastings made a motion to approve the application with the caveat that the drainage plan be submitted to the city prior to construction. Carathers seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

City Clerk Larkin presented a request from Project Graduation for a donation to help pay for a graduation celebration for the class of 2024. Hastings made a motion that we match last years donation of \$300. Spinden seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

City Clerk Larkin made a request to attend the CCMFOA Spring Conference at a cost of \$732 with 3 nights of lodging. The council approved.

Clerk Larkin presented a Moderate Income Home Grant Funding agreement. Campbell made a motion to approve the agreement. Kewley seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Clerk Larkin presented Ordinances 995 & 996 adopting the Uniform Public Offence Code and the Standard Traffic Ordinance. Spinden made a motion to approve both ordinances. Carathers seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Staff Policy and Relations

Hastings made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes at 6:55 to discuss non-elected personnel. Kewley seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Hastings made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:05. Kewley seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Kewley made a motion to give a retroactive 7% raise across the board to non-elected personnel hired before January 1, 2024, back to January 1, 2024. Carathers seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Timecards

Hastings made a motion to approve timecards and payroll checks 32794 & 32817, 10 Direct Deposits, 6 Electronic Payments over 2 pay periods. Kewley seconded the motion. Motion carried.


Hastings made a motion to approve overtime for 16 hours over 2 pay periods. Carathers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Consideration of Bills

Hastings made a motion to approve checks 32795-32816 for accounts payable. Spinden seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Hastings made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Kewley seconded the motion. Motion carried.



William C Sisson, Mayor



Brianna Larkin, City Clerk