

**City of Cottonwood Falls Council Minutes**  
**August 1, 2016**

The regular meeting of the City of Cottonwood Falls City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m., August 1, 2016 at the municipal meeting room. Those members present were Mayor Boyce Baumgardner, Council Members Buddy Sisson, Carl Studer, Bob Sturms, Shawn Taylor & Pat Larkin, and Utilities Supervisor David Jones. Absent were City Attorney Laura Allen and City Clerk Tiffany Bohnen.

Guest Present: Sheriff Dorneker, Steve Schlup, Seth Weiss, and Amy Allen w/Aldrich & Co.

**Agenda**

Larkin made a motion to approve the agenda. Studer seconded, motion carried.

**Minutes**

Studer made a motion to approve the minutes from July 18, 2016. Sisson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Scheduled Visitors**

- Seth Weiss representative for the Lawrence property located at 712 4<sup>th</sup> St, and Enforcing Officer Dorneker appeared before council for the hearing to discuss the dangerous structure at this location. Weiss informed the council that the trailer on the property would be removed and agreed that it could be accomplished by September 19<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Sturms, seconded by Studer, to accept the time frame for removal of the trailer by September 19<sup>th</sup>. Progress to be monitored by Sheriff Dorneker, Motion carried.
- Steve Schlup, owner of 521 Union, notified the council that he plans to add a new front door, install a new roof and generally clean-up the property. It was noted that the property would only be used for storage. Motion by Sturms, second by Larkin, Accept the time-frame for improvements to property as follows: New front door installed by September 1<sup>st</sup>, New roof installed by November 1<sup>st</sup>, with general clean-up to be completed at that time. Progress to be monitored by Sheriff Dorneker, Motion carried.

**Enforcing Officer**

- Enforcing Officer Dorneker reported that he was monitoring the property at 220 7<sup>th</sup> St. and improvements are being made. Dorneker will be making additional inspections to check for continuing progress. No action taken.
- Security Cameras have been installed at Swope Park. Dorneker is working on bids and a plan for downtown.

**Mayor's Report**

- Amy Allen, representing Aldrich & Company, presented the Council with the Independent Auditors' Report and Financial Statement for the Year Ending December 31, 2015. Following a complete review of her findings, a motion by Sisson, second by Studer, to accept the findings of the Audit and authorize Mayor Baumgardner to sign the official Management & Representative Letter. Motion Carried. It was noted that the City Clerk and Staff be commended for their diligence.
- The first draft of the 2017 Budget for the City of Cottonwood Falls was reviewed and discussed. The Council has until the August 15<sup>th</sup> regular meeting to review and make comments. It was noted that the Ad Valorem Tax Rate will remain the same for the third consecutive year.
- The Council received one bid for the demolition of the property located at 715 4<sup>th</sup> St. It was agreed that further clarification was needed as to the extent of the property to be removed. No action taken.

### **City Attorney's Report**

- None

### **City Clerk's Report**

- Weed Nuisance Report: Motion by Sturms, second by Studer, to approve Resolution No. 2016-15 declaring the property at 607 Maple as a Weed Nuisance. Motion carried.
- Read "Thank You" note from Chamber of Commerce for donation to the Fourth of July Celebration.
- Council reviewed Building Permit request from Shawn & Jessica Taylor for new deck. Motion by Sturms, second by Sission, to approve the Building Permit of Shawn & Jessica Taylor. Motion Carried, Taylor abstained.
- Council reviewed plans for upgraded flooring in City Clerk's Office and Storage Area. No Action was taken, Council requested more detailed information.

### **Utilities Supervisor Report**

- Council reviewed plans for an extended driveway and curb project at 348 Broadway. Motion by Sisson, Second by Sturms, Authorize Mayor Baumgardner to sign contract with ERC in the amount of \$1,150. Motion Carried.
- Jones reported that he has not hired a part-time employee. Position still open.
- Jones reported that the street projects are moving forward; the curb and gutter project on Union St. is on-going and should be completed within a couple of weeks; the Cherry Street project still needs some asphalt work done before the chip and seal can begin; the City Crew plans to work on pot holes within the next two weeks.
- It was noted that a water leak at 201 Union St. may have involved a meter problem. Jones is to review and report back to Council

### **Project Leaders**

#### **Sisson:**

- The PWWSD discussed the procedures for emergency shut down of the water system in cases such as Cottonwoods major break recently. The Director will be given more authority to take action.
- It is the consensus of the Council that Jones makes it a priority to develop a comprehensive plan for future shut-downs which includes installing additional valves in the system to allow for isolation of leaks.
- The issue of Digital Signs vs. Direction Signs was discussed. No Action

#### **Studer:**

- No Report

#### **Larkin:**

- Larkin reported that he had received an appraisal of the shop building on Walnut Street in the amount of \$114,500. Council asked Larkin to work with Jones to determine the feasibility of a future move.

#### **Sturms:**

- It was noted that the property at 7<sup>th</sup> & Oak which was previously issued a building permit was in disarray. Motion by Sturms, second by Larkin, to authorize Sheriff Dorneker to inspect property for possible dangerous structure issues. Motion carried.

#### **Taylor:**

- Chase Disc Golf is featured in a window display at the Chase County Chamber of Commerce.
- Taylor presented a contribution toward the establishment of the Youth Disc Golf Course.

**Planning Commission Report**

- No Report

**Unscheduled Visitors:**

- None

**Old Business:**

**Time Cards:**

Sturms motioned to approve timecards and payroll checks 25687-25707, Studer seconded. Motion Carried.

Sturms motioned to approve a total of 10.75 hrs. overtime. Sisson seconded. Motion carried.

**Accounts Payable**

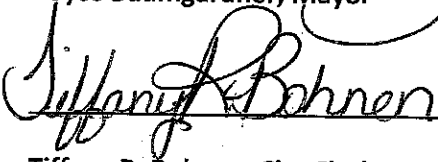
Sturms moved to approve checks 25660-25686 & 25708. Sisson seconded. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Sturms motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. Sission seconded. Motion carried.



Boyce Baumgardner, Mayor



Tiffany R. Bohnen, City Clerk

