

**September 11, 2017**  
**Regular Meeting**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Halstad was duly called and held at the Halstad Telephone Company Meeting Room in said City on September 11, 2017 at 5:15 pm.

Mayor Lori DeLong called the regular meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

The following council members were present: Veronica Dye, Brandon Mickelson, Darin Johnson and Shane Carlson

Others in attendance: Marsha Spokely and Donald McMahon

Motion by Darin Johnson and second by Brandon Mickelson to approve the agenda, as modified to add items 10.a) deep fryer donation to LRC, 10.b) Northern Municipal Power Agency Closing Certificate, and 10.c) zoning permit for a deck at 165 6th Ave E. Motion carried.

Motion by Shane Carlson and second by Brandon Mickelson to approve the minutes from 1) the regular meeting held on August 7, 2017 and 2) the special meeting held on August 28, 2017. Motion carried.

There were two individuals present for public forum:

- a. Marsha Spokely was present to discuss her interest in purchasing the vacant parcel 28-3426000. She was wondering how much the city would want as a purchase price. Clerk Dye will look into how much the related legal costs will be and whether or not the City has the abstract to this parcel. Marsha will attend an upcoming meeting if she wishes to pursue the purchase further.
- b. Donald McMahon was present to discuss his concern regarding the Halstad Agronomy Center washing off their spray/fertilizer equipment in their parking lot. Some of the trees in the area are dead and there is algae growing in the ditch. He is concerned, as this is right next to a residential area and may be causing harm. Clerk Dye will write a letter to the Agronomy Center.

Motion by Shane Carlson and second by Darin Johnson to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried. The following items were on the consent agenda:

- a. Monthly claims for August 2017 (including Sunrise Apartments and Wimmer Homes)
- b. General checking bank reconciliation for August 2017
- c. Liquor license for the Halstad Fire Relief Association for October 28, 2017

Darin Johnson moved to approve the purchase of a used Case 521-D Wheel Loader for \$57,000. Utilities will make payment for the purchase and the City will repay half now and the second half by October 1, 2018. Veronica Dye seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Veronica Dye moved to set the 2018 preliminary tax levy at \$189,187, which is a 5% increase from 2017. The truth in taxation meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2017 at 6:00pm. Shane Carlson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There was a request by Steven Rude for the City Council to review a quote from Titan Machinery for a 2015 Farmall 130A tractor. The quote was reviewed, but there was no need for a tractor purchase at this time. No action taken.

Lucas Spaeth presented the request for a student work study opportunity through the Norman County West High School. It was noted that this is a good opportunity and Lucas can determine the hours needed. No formal action needed or taken by the Council.

Motion by Shane Carlson and second by Brandon Mickelson to purchase two stop signs and four 15 mph school zone signs to place near the high school. The two stop signs will be placed on the North and South corners of the 3rd St E and 3rd Ave E intersection. Motion carried.

Motion by Brandon Mickelson and second by Darin Johnson to revise the bid to purchase parcel 28-3463000 to \$1,000. This will give the opportunity to remove the property due to health hazards and remove blight in our community. Motion carried.

Motion by Shane Carlson and second by Veronica Dye to initiate removal procedures by obtaining an asbestos test and contracting Vissers to demolish the property. Motion carried.

Motion by Darin Johnson and second by Shane Carlson to build a new 60'x96'x16' equipment shed which will be located across the street from the Community Center (LRC) to the South and by the existing city shed. Total costs will be approximately \$88,000, using the quotes from Thom Construction for labor, Ada Building Center for materials, and Vissers for site preparation. Concrete costs are yet to be decided upon. Construction of the equipment shed is contingent upon the Utility Commission approval to contribute 50% of the costs of construction. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for landscaping around the Community Center (LRC) prior to the new roof being installed. No action taken.

Lucas provided an updated from the July 11, 2017 storm claims. Approximately \$28,000 will be reimbursed from FEMA. No action taken.

There was no new information to present on the new fire pumper truck. No action taken.

Due to time constraints, the Council trip to the Cafe was tabled until a subsequent meeting. Motion by Brandon Mickelson and second by Shane Carlson. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding the anonymous donation request to provide a commercial fryer for the Community Center (LRC). The fryer would need to be on wheels to move under the hood and the propane disconnected each time the unit would be used. There were also concerns regarding the disposal of used oil and cleanliness of the kitchen if not cleaned properly. Motion by Veronica Dye to decline the donation due to safety reasons. Second by Darin Johnson. Motion passed (declined fryer donation).

Lucas presented the Northern Municipal Power Agency Closing Certificate which required the Mayor and Clerk's signatures for their bond issuance.

Motion by Shane Carlson and second by Veronica Dye to approve the zoning permit for a deck at 165 6th Ave E. Motion carried, with Brandon Mickelson abstaining.

Motion by Darin Johnson to adjourn at 7:45pm and second by Brandon Mickelson. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, October 9, 2017 at 5:15 pm.

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Veronica L. Dye, Clerk/Treasurer