

**ULYSSES CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
January 13, 2010**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor: Thadd Kistler

Council Members: Larry Velasquez, John Battin, Tim McCauley, John Duran, Ann Papay, Janet Stewart

Staff Present: Dave Black, Daron Hall, Alan Olson, Ruben Flores, Jeff Kreie, Richard Banes, Craig Coultier

Visitors: Shayla Jaquez, Darrin Figgins, Randy McCauley, Arthur Frable, Pete Earles,

**Mayor Kistler** called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor Kistler.

**Opening Prayer:** Mayor Kistler led the Council in the opening prayer.

**Consent Agenda:** Mayor Kistler asked that the minutes be amended to add that motion to adjourn the December 23, 2009 City Council meeting was made by Council Member Papay and the motion was seconded by Council Member McCauley. Council Member Battin made motion to approve the accounts payable and the minutes as amended above from December 23, 2009 Council Meeting. Council Member Duran seconded the motion. Mayor Kistler called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

**VISITORS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:** City Administrator Daron Hall gave a Frazier Lake update. Mr. Hall reported that the testing had been good on the lake for the last few months, and that everything is going good. He said that it will be difficult to continue to have good levels on ammonia because of the cold weather, but most recent testing was just done last week and results will not be back until later this week. City Administrator Daron Hall also informed the Council that there had been reports of kids on the ice at the lake. He said he had submitted a letter to the newspaper warning people to stay away from the water, that it is dangerous, and at this time there is not sufficient emergency equipment available to perform rescues.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sewer Truck Bids:** City Administrator Daron Hall gave each City Council member a handout while he explained to them that the bids were opened by himself, Ruben Flores and one of the vendors at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2010. He went on to explain the handout saying the cover sheet comparatively detailed the four bids that were submitted for consideration. He went on to say that the low bidder was Key Equipment, who actually submitted bids on two trucks, the lowest being on a 2007 demo. Mr. Hall said he saw no reason not to accept the low bid for the 2007 Vactor demo based on the specs provided by the vendor. Council Member Battin made motion to purchase the 2007 Vactor demo sewer truck from Key Equipment & supply for \$224,350.00. Council Member Duran seconded the motion. Mayor Kistler called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Golf Cart Path Bids:** City Administrator Daron Hall asked Mayor Kistler to open the bids informing the Council that the deadline was expired at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Kistler opened the bid submitted by Simpson Construction first and read the bid as \$3.25 per square foot. He then opened the bid submitted by Howrey Construction and read their bid as \$2.99 per square foot. Council Member Duran mad a motion to accept the bid submitted by Howrey Construction. Motion was seconded by Council Member Papay. Mayor Kistler called for a vote, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Interest Transfer to General Fund:** City Administrator Daron Hall presented Resolution #2010-1 to the Council. Mayor Kistler informed the Council that this Resolution would authorize the transfer of \$35,749.30 from the Interest Income Fund to the General Fund. City Administrator Daron Hall explained that this transfer is done annually. He went on to mention that, unfortunately, this year's interest earned in low due to the economy. Council Member Battin made a motion to approve Resolution #2010-1. Motion was seconded by Council Member McCauley. Mayor Kistler called for a vote, and motion was approved unanimously.

**Front Nine Irrigation:** City Administrator Daron Hall informed the Council that he had received the irrigation design from the designer hired at the end of last year. He explained that the designer had been asked to provide a construction estimate based on their design. Mr. Hall went on to say that the estimate given to replace the front nine irrigation system was in the \$325,000.00 to \$350,000.00 range. Mr. Hall reported that the Golf Board has \$100,000.00 to contribute toward this project. Jeff Kreie was contacted by a few companies with offers to finance, and Mr. Hall contacted the Bond Council out of Wichita and inquired into G.O. Bonds. After consulting with the Bond Council, it was recommended to him that that if there was anything else the city needed to finance, now is a good time to take advantage of the low interest rates which would be approximately 2.8%. With this in mind and knowing that the city is in a good financial position, City Administrator Daron Hall looked at the capital improvement needs and decided that the city's most pressing need is probably a municipal water well and about two miles of water line to get it back to the north bladder. He stated that he had consulted Pete Earles who gave a rough estimate of \$1,200,000.00 on the well purchase

and the appropriate water line to reach the north bladder. City Administrator Daron Hall said he would like the Council to enter into discussion about which they preferred:

1. Continue where we are on the front nine irrigation, knowing that it's going to keep causing problems, waste water, and cost a significant number of man hours on repairs,
2. only go forward with the new front nine irrigation system using a G.O. Bond for around \$275,000.00 after the Golf Board's \$100,000.00,
3. or look at large G.O. Bond, take advantage of the low rates, and take care of another big improvement (purchase of a municipal water well and the water line necessary to reach the north bladder) which will be needed within the next few years.

Mayor Kistler asked Mr. Hall if the \$1,200,000.00 was just the water line or does it include finishing out the well? City Administrator Daron Hall responded that this was a rough estimate, but that it was to include a new municipal well and the piping, too.

Council Member Battin asked if the interest rate would be fixed for the ten (10) year loan? City Administrator Daron Hall responded that the interest rate quoted is called a sizing which means it is an estimate. The interest rate would be fixed, but would not be a firm rate until the city decides to go forward with the G.O. Bond. Council Member Battin stated that he would support the purchase of water over a irrigation system for the golf course, but thought it was a good idea to put them together and take advantage of the low interest rate.

Mayor Kistler stated that the city was indeed in a good position to take on the larger bond due to the efficient handling of previous bonds within the last year.

Council Member Stewart asked if City Administrator Daron Hall knew what the annual payment would be if the larger bond was approved? Mr. Hall responded that he did not know at this time.

A member of the Golf Board spoke saying that the Golf Board truly appreciates all the he city contributes to the golf course and that the last thing they want to do is have to come ask for more, but the bunker on hole #8 was had to be replaced numerous time because it blew up. He explained that when that happens, it means a total re-work of the system, drainage, new sand and everything. He went on to tell them that Number three (#3) flooded twice from a leak all the way up on eighth (8<sup>th</sup>). It dropped the lake level 10 – 12 inches once, due to a breakage. These things happen at least every week to every other week and must be repaired spending money, as well as wasting water and man hours. He estimated that at least one employee spent virtually all their time working on repairs. He also stated that one of the advantages to the person that offered the tentative bid was that he could install the new system with very little destruction to the course and he may only have to close a hole at a time and the rest of the course could remain open.

City Administrator Daron Hall said that all he was asking for today was permission to go forward with finding out about the terms of a larger G.O. bond. He also said that if the Council decided to move forward with the larger bond, the quicker it could be decided, the quicker he could lock in an interest rate.

Consensus was given for City Administrator Daron Hall to provide more detailed information on the options discussed today.

**Introduction of Hospital Administrator:** Mr. Arthur Frable stepped forward to introduce himself. He is the new Hospital Administrator. City Council Members welcomed Mr. Frable to Ulysses and wished him much success in our city.

**Year End - 2009:** City Administrator Daron Hall provided a handout to council members. He represented that, although revenue fell short of what was projected, thanks to the department heads' frugal handling of the budget, we basically spent what we brought in during 2009. He reported that the City Treasurer, Sheila Maxfield, has been doing a wonderful job with the finances. Council Member Battin asked if she was being paid for her job well done. Mr. Hall stated that Ms. Maxfield had taken on some new duties. He informed the Council that he had given her some options, she chose one, at which time he told her that they would go over things in a month.

Mr. Hall went on to say that he wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Golf Board for the hard work and the leadership they are giving. He said that they are spending money wisely and taking good care of business. He added that people are working hard for the city and he really appreciated it.

**Cereal Malt Beverage License:** City Clerk Dana Cotherman presented a Cereal Malt Beverage License renewal saying that all steps in approving the license had been taken. She asked that the CMB license for the Fuel Barn be voted on and approved. Council Member Papay made motion to approve the CMB license for the Fuel Barn and Council Member Battin seconded the motion. Mayor Kistler called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

**Dave Black** introduced Jessica Acres to the Council saying that she is a new associate attorney with his firm. He informed the Council that he is expanding and opening an office in Ulysses. The Council welcomed Ms. Acres to Ulysses.

**Police Chief Alan Olson** informed the Council that he had received the new police vehicle and it was parked outside for anyone wanting to see it. He went on to say that the Department of Homeland Security is in town this week doing vulnerability assessments on the schools. He reported that on the first of the year, there were a number of burglaries in the early morning hours. By that evening, persons had been taken into custody for that crime, stolen property was recovered including some guns from a separate incident.

**City Clerk Dana Cotherman** reported that, with the help of Detective Carlos Salinas, Chief Olson, and Todd Hampton, the City Hall is now protected with a new security system. She said that she felt it was necessary due to the nature of the business that is done at City Hall. Ms. Cotherman stated that she and City Administrator Daron Hall had met and discussed an off-site record keeping/backup system, and at this time were researching options. Council Member Papay commented that she thought it was necessary and suggested checking with Greenwood County to see what they used.

**Golf Course Manager Jeff Kreie** had nothing to report.

**Public Works Superintendent Ruben Flores** thanked the Council for approving the new truck.

**City Administrator Daron Hall** stated that at 1:30 p.m. today, the state opened bids on our Federally-funded highway/railroad project. The low bid was a company out of Kingman and both parts of the job were awarded to them. April 12<sup>th</sup> is the start day. Mr. Hall went on to comment on the new security system saying that it was a necessary and inexpensive improvement as it was purchased and installed for under \$300.00.

**Council Member Stewart** reported that she had an appointment in the morning with City Administrator Daron Hall to tour the wells, ponds and other facilities. She said she was looking forward to it.

**Council Member Papay** had nothing to report.

**Council Member Duran** said he was really glad that the city was getting a new sewer truck. He went on to say he was glad things are starting to go good for the golf course, and that he was pleased with the finances.

**Council Member McCauley** said that he added his appreciation to Council Member Duran's saying that it is good that the golf board is working hard and taking care of things for the city. He welcomed Council Member Battin back after the loss of his father.

**Council Member Battin** gave a personal thanks to the Council for their kindness during his father's passing. He added congratulation to Dave Black on his new associate and the half-court shot his daughter made in her basketball game.

**Council Member Velasquez** had nothing to report.

**Mayor Kistler** thanked City Administrator Daron Hall, the city department heads, and the Council for doing a fantastic job done during a difficult 2009. He stated that it was not an easy year, but due to everyone's hard work, it was a successful year. Mayor Kistler told Council members that a thank you note had been received from the Battin family and he would leave it on the counter for anyone who wanted to read it.

**City Administrator Daron Hall** commented that the owner of the trailer parked out by the cemetery had been identified and a ticket written. He stated that this would be handled through District Court and is hopeful that a 90-day condemnation will not be necessary.

**Randy McCauley** thanked the City for the cooperation and help given to the county on the many projects they worked on together during 2009, and said he looked forward to that good relationship continuing in the New Year. Council members agreed and added their appreciation for the county, as well.

**Adjournment:** At 6:15 p.m. Council Member Velasquez moved to adjourn, and Council Member McCauley seconded the motion. Mayor Kistler called for the vote, motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned.

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Thadd Kistler, Mayor

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Dana G. Cotherman, City Clerk