

MINUTES
North Newton City Council-Regular Meeting
October 8, 2012, 7:00 P.M.
North Newton City Hall

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ron Braun called the meeting to order. Mayor Braun added the consideration of the Bobcat skid steer loader lease to the non agenda items. Those present and constituting a quorum were:

COUNCIL: Jim Goering, Ron Ratzlaff, Paul Harder and Gregg Dick

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Danny Bisoni, Ray Classen, Gregory Nye, Cindy Hiebert and Pat Redding

OTHERS: Roger Ahrens, Kurt Friesen, Ray Penner and Perry White

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of September 10, 2012, Council meeting were presented.

MOTION: Harder moved, Goering seconded, to approve the September 10, 2012, minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizen Comments

No one spoke.

4. Presentation of Harvey County Economic Development Council regarding current activities of the EDC.

Roger Ahrens and Ray Penner presented the progress of the EDC in relation to the Kansas Logistics Park. Things are moving slow right now but they are very optimistic that there will be significant progress in getting various companies to locate in Newton in the future. Presently the EDC is working with around 20 business prospects. The EDC is considering restructuring the board and pursuing private enterprise individuals to serve on the board and be independent of governing bodies. The board would then report to the county and city. Ahrens stated that the world needs food, energy and transportation and Kansas has all three. Both Ahrens and Penner are very excited about the possibilities for economic development in and around Newton in the future.

At 7:45 p.m. Council member Gregg Dick arrived at the meeting.

5. **Consider establishing a date and time to hold a public hearing on a proposed application for a low interest loan from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for needed water infrastructure improvements.**

MOTION: Ratzlaff moved and Harder seconded to approve a public hearing on November 12, 2012 at 7:30 for the purpose of having public input on the KDHE loan. Motion carried unanimously

6. Reports

- a. **Mayor/Council.** Mayor Braun reported that he attended the League of Kansas Municipalities Conference in Topeka this past week-end. He reported that in the coming election there could be a significant turnover in the House of Representatives and the Senate which could provide some challenges. Some key issues that the league will address in the coming days are: tax lids, city/county election being moved to November, Home Rule being challenged and guns in City Hall. The league is encouraging city governments to attend regional suppers and take our state representatives along. Councilman Goering reported that the North Newton Community Foundation's assets are almost \$26,000. There have been sixteen donors to the NNCF and there is still \$1235.00 remaining in the North Newton budget that can be used as matching funds. The NNCF's next meeting is October 16 at 8:00 at City Hall. Goering also recognized Cindy Hiebert for the exceptional job she does preparing the quarterly ECHO newsletter.
- b. **Staff Update.** Bisoni reported that November 5-9 is fall clean-up week. Charlie Reimer will be helping him during this week to pick up all the debris that is left curbside. Classen reported on September court cases.
- c. **Clerk/Treasurer.** Redding presented October accounts payable and September payroll/miscellaneous checks for approval.

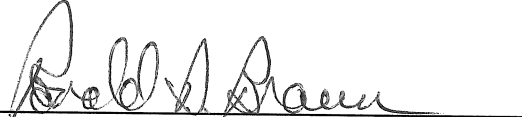
MOTION: Dick moved, Harder seconded, to approve the October accounts payable and miscellaneous checks in the amount of \$75,536.86 as presented and September/October payroll in the amount of \$16,424.86. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Non-Agenda Items.

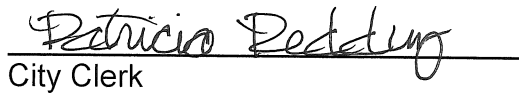
Mayor Braun asked the Council to consider approval of a yearly lease for a Bobcat skid steer loader. The City of North Newton leases the machinery from First Bank of Sterling for an amount of \$4587.00. The machinery is new so it is under warranty and will be used for street sweeping and various other things.

Motion: Goering moved, Dick seconded to approve the one year lease for the Bobcat skid steer loader. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **Adjournment.** There being no further business, Mayor Braun declared the meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk

NOV. 12, 2012
Date Approved