

**ULYSSES CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
September 12, 2012**

PRESENT:

Mayor: John Battin

Council members Present: Larry Velasquez, Tim McCauley, Dan Widder,
Janet Stewart, Warren Devore

Council members Absent: John Duran

Staff Present: Alan Olson, Margaret Perez, Dave Black,
Richard Banes, Ruben Flores

Visitors: Rod Nordyke, Shayla Jaquez, Ron Masson, Leslie
Mangels, Rae Gorman, JD Neufeld, Lynda Fort

Mayor John Battin called the meeting to order a 5:00 p.m.

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

Council member Janet Stewart led the room in **Opening Prayer**.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Council member Stewart, seconded by Council member Warren Devore, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Visitors:

JD Neufeld with New Life Church asked to block off Maize Street between College and Baughman streets on Saturday, September 29th between 2pm-dark for their event. The Council gave permission.

Rae Gorman with Pioneer Electric approached the Council to block off the street west of the Activity Center on Saturday, October 6th during the Safety Fest. The Council gave permission.

Rod Nordyke voiced his dismay regarding the amount of cars, wood, dogs, etc. that are alleys and yards. Building Official Richard Banes explained the process and the time it takes to address an ordinance violation. Nordyke and Council recommended getting feedback from City employees to provide a swift resolve to such issues.

Department Reports: None

Business Agenda:

Old Business

New Business

Re-Commercial

Ron Masson with Pioneer Communications presented two commercial advertisements for the City of Ulysses to air for three months. Through a consensus, the Council chose a 15-second advertisement which consists of 200 spots per month for \$145 per month as opposed a 30-second package which consists of 200 spots per month for \$275 per month cost. The commercial ads will air October, November and December.

Water Update

Public Works Superintendent Ruben Flores explained the most recent water situation in Ulysses. As required by Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), the City must administer various tests on a monthly basis. Throughout the month of August, there were two tests which tested positive for E-Coli contamination. The location was notified and identified the reason which may have caused the contamination. Therefore, the water tested negative for E-Coli contamination. Throughout this process, the City was required to inform residents within a specific timeframe. The Council acknowledged the hard work the City employees endured during this process.

Yard Maintenance

See Visitor: Rod Nordyke

Acquisition of Real Property

Mayor Battin called a recess at 5:26pm to allow Council members to tour the neighboring building to explore the possibility of expanding the City Hall office. The Council reconvened at 5:33pm with Interim City Administrator Alan Olson sharing the property details. Interim City Administrator Olson shared possible utilization of the building:

1. Additional storage space in the back of the building.
2. Moving the Inspections Department for security purposes and having maps located in one designated area.
3. Locating the conference room for executive session.
4. Relocating the current conference room within the City Hall.

Mayor Battin requested Olson to determine the amount of work and the cost that is needed to do the work prior to making a decision if the City should move forward with this building.

Staff Comments

Public Works Superintendent Flores reported the employees poured the slab at the Frazier Park restroom and completed the retaining wall at the lake. Datamatic will be here on September 24th to assess local work.

Police Chief Olson shared that a police officer will be completing police academy in October and a new police officer will begin police academy in December. Officer Cavasos is recovering from

surgery therefore police officers share the duties of the school resource officer. Police Chief Olson also walks through the schools.

Interim City Administrator Olson continued to share that he received a letter from State of Kansas Department of Transportation stating the geometric improvement project was declined for this year. The project was to improve the highway east of Missouri Street.

Also, regarding the potential park on the land located northeast of town, Interim City Administrator Olson spoke with DCP Midstream who has the pipeline that runs through the lot northeast of town. DCP Midstream indicated they have the right-of-way of at least 50 feet and cannot put a permanent structure on the right-of-way otherwise if a park can be installed, it can. Interim City Administrator Olson shared the information with the park board committee. Trees have been purchased for Main Street and a local business owner requested their tree be removed. The bathroom at Frazier Park has begun. Interim City Administrator Olson had to re-bid and has selected another contractor.

Council Member’s Comments

Council members Tim McCauley and Larry Velasquez thanked the employees for dealing with the water situation.

Mayor Battin encouraged the Council members to attend the City’s board meetings to be better informed of the City activities and/or concerns as they arise. Mayor Battin ended his comments by reading Ann Papay’s final message.

Adjournment

At 5:54 p.m. Council member McCauley made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council member Devore. Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor John Battin

Council Member Larry Velasquez

Council Member Tim McCauley

Council Member Dan Widder

Council Member Janet Stewart

Council Member John Duran

Council Member Warren Devore

Interim City Administrator Alan Olson

City Clerk Margaret Perez