

City of Nickerson Council Meeting

15 N. Nickerson
Nickerson, KS 67561

Monday, August 21, 2017

MAYOR: Jim Gladden

COUNCIL: Jon Rohling – President, Brad Berridge, Trent Gilbert, Angela Richard, Jane Jenkins, Angela Cottrell

ATTORNEY: Stan Juhnke

ROLL CALL: Berridge, Rohling, Gilbert, Jenkins, Cottrell

ABSENT: Richard,

The Regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Gladden at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2017 at Nickerson City Hall.

Mayor Gladden opened the 2018 Budget Hearing. No comments were given from the public. Council Member Rohling brought discussion about lowering the 2018 mill levy to the 2017 actual tax rate of 77.337.

Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Rohling and Council Member Jenkins to lower the 2018 mill levy to 77.337. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Cottrell, Rohling, Jenkins, Berridge **NO:** Gilbert,

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Rohling and Council Member Berridge to close the 2018 Budget Hearing. Motion carried by show of hands.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, AGENDA, & PAYABLES

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Rohling and Council Member Berridge to approve the July 17, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Berridge, Jenkins, Gilbert, Rohling, Cottrell, **NO:** None

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Jenkins and Council Member Cottrell to approve the Agenda as written. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Gilbert, Rohling, Cottrell, Berridge, Jenkins, **NO:** None

Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Rohling to approve the August 21, 2017 Payables. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Gilbert, Jenkins, Berridge, Cottrell, Rohling, **NO:** None
ABSTAIN:

CITY ATTORNEY – Not present

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Aryn Hedrick, Zoning and Planning Chairman, gave a report from the July Planning and Zoning meeting. They have discussed some concerns. One being the 309 Facility Advisory Committee meeting where school updates and possibly moving the High School to South Hutchinson were discussed. Second being concerns that the citizens have voiced at the meetings, and to Aryn outside of the meetings, about the crime and drugs here in Nickerson. The topic about crime and drugs that was discussed at the Zoning meeting turned into a round table type discussion. Council Member Rohling asked if these people have called 911. Aryn stated there has been some concern about coverage from the Sheriff's Department and that the round table discussion was just getting peoples input and what they want to see and to explore different ideas so they can bring the information to the Council. Council Member Rohling said he has called and anyone who wants to can call 911 and get the records on response time and they have actually been doing a better job with quicker response times and the City's tight budget makes things really hard. Aryn said he is just trying to get the information to the Council from the citizens and law enforcement is similar to EMS and fire in how it is part of the comprehensive plan for the City which is what the Planning and Zoning Committee works on. Aryn plans on doing some more research and talking to other towns to gather more thoughts and ideas. The Zoning Committee has a meeting next Monday night at 7 p.m. at City Hall. Council Member Rohling apologized for interrupting and encouraged everyone to get the statistics from the Sheriff's Department as well as calling 911 when they see an issue or crime.

OLD BUSINESS

Nickerson Sign Discussion – Council Member Rohling stated that he is working on getting a quote from Mike Nevius and will bring more information to the next meeting. Council discussed other options such as Mean Green Graphics. Council Member Jenkins mentioned opening the sign project up for bids after they figure out what type of sign they would like. The discussion was tabled.

Ordinance 2017-06 – An ordinance prohibiting the use of tobacco products and E-cigarette devices in outdoor city parks and recreational facilities.

Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Rohling to adopt Ordinance 2017-06. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Berridge, Cottrell, Rohling, Gilbert, **NO:** Jenkins

NEW BUSINESS

Old and New Business Time Limit Discussion – At the previous meeting, Council Member Berridge asked the Council to consider changing the time limit from 15 minutes to 5 minutes for old and new business and for the topic to be on the August agenda. Clerk Schmitt asked if the limit was for Council discussions or for presentations. Berridge said the limit would be on presentations. Discussion ensued and the Mayor stated that there may be times when they would want to extend the time limit. Council Member Gilbert asked for clarification on the limit being on Council presentations such as the sign discussion or on the public making presentations and Berridge stated the limit would not be on City business. Berridge suggested tabling the discussion for the next meeting so Council could have a chance to think about it. The discussion was tabled.

League of Kansas Municipalities Voting Delegates – Clerk Schmitt presented the voting delegate registration request from the LKM and suggested that Casey Hartman be elected for the alternate delegate since Mark Gomes is retiring. Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Rohling and Council Member Cottrell to elect Robin Schmitt as the LKM voting delegate for the City of Nickerson and Casey Hartman as the alternate voting delegate. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Rohling, Cottrell, Berridge, Jenkins, Gilbert, **NO:** None

Employee Wage Scale Update – Clerk Schmitt explained that the wage scale represents a starting and maximum wage for each position and if an employee is hired with less qualifications than is required for that position according to the Personnel Manual then Council would have the option to start that person below the starting pay for that position. A line was also added for part-time/summer help.

Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Rohling to approve the 2017 Wage Scale. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Jenkins, Berridge, Cottrell, Rohling, Gilbert, **NO:** None

Executive Session – an employee's retirement and two employee's duties – Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Gilbert and Council Member Rohling to go into executive session to protect the privacy interests of individual employees pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) for 10 minutes. Motion carried by show of hands. 7:39 p.m.

Mayor Gladden called the meeting back to order at 7:49p.m. and reported that no decisions were made in the executive session.

Wage Increases – Motion was made and seconded by Council Member Jenkins and Council Member Rohling to give the increases per the schedule presented with the amendment. Motion carried by the following vote: **YES:** Berridge, Rohling, Gilbert, Jenkins, Cottrell, **NO:** None

OFFICER REPORTS

Gilbert – thanked Superintendent Mark Gomes for his dedicated service to the City of Nickerson and jokingly said he whipped the town and employees into shape. Stated everything looks great and the mowing too.

Jenkins – thanked Mark and stated that it has been wonderful with him being here and wished him the best of luck in Arizona. Let Aryn know that she appreciated his input and will try to get to more of the Planning and Zoning meetings. Stated that the town is looking great and asked if the mosquito control has been in progress. Gomes reported that the mosquito control has just started.

Cottrell – let Mark know that it has been a pleasure and wished him all the luck and thanked him for all the times he had come to her rescue and will deeply miss him. Expressed her appreciation to Aryn for doing the hard part with the Zoning and Planning committee and thanked him for his work. Wants to thank everyone who was involved with Klear Nearly since she wasn't here for that meeting.

Berridge – appreciates Mark and stated that Mark has done more for Nickerson than any other person he has seen in his life. Wants Mark to know how much they appreciate him turning this city around and everyone will miss him and asked Mark to come back and see us. Thanked the City crew and the girls in the office for their hard work. Thanked the crew for the street stripping that was done just before school started.

Rohling – let Mark know that he is the best and that he has helped our community since day one. Told Mark to come back anytime and that he will be missed by everyone in the community and is blessed to have met him. Cannot express how much Mark has changed our community. Said he was sorry to Aryn for interrupting him and really does appreciate him and needs to make it to a Planning and Zoning meeting.

Superintendent Gomes – thanked this Council and the past Council for their assistance and everything they've done for him and for helping improve the City and the Maintenance Department. Thanked the Chamber, Planning and Zoning,

right on down to the Library and most importantly the residents here in Nickerson, they are always good to him and the employees. Sometimes you wonder if you are appreciated, the good comes with the bad, but when Christmas comes around and the ladies come with the cakes, cookies and thanks, you know your appreciated. It isn't just an effort on the part of him or the crew, it's an effort on the entire town. He will miss everyone.

Clerk Schmitt – thanked Mark and announced that there will be a little get together for Mark's retirement on Thursday, August 31st from 4 – 6 p.m. at the Community Center.

Mayor Gladden – praised Mark for the time he has spent helping the clerks in the office and himself with all the issues that must be dealt with by stopping in for the staff meetings every morning. Thanked Mark for his excellent job of preparing the clerks and the crew to take over when he leaves.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, motion made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Rohling to adjourn at 8:01 p.m. Motion carried by show of hands.

Official