

Regular meeting of the City of Downs governing body was held March 20, 2017, 5:00 p.m., at city hall. Mayor Jennifer Brush presided. Council members present: John Bisnette, Devin Renken, John Cary, Tonya Kuhn, Teri Cordill. Others in attendance: Danny Miner, Bruce Berkley, Terry Gradig, Vickie Oviatt, Elaine Mann, Ron Duran, LaRhea Cole, Adrianna Bergmann, Jennifer Bergmann, Stephen Russell, Samantha Russell.

Mayor Brush called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

John B. moved, seconded by Devin, to approve the minutes from the March 6, 2017 meeting. Carried.

Deputy Danny Miner presented the law enforcement report for the period of February 1, 2017 – March 1, 2017.

Elaine Mann was present for clarification of ownership of streets and allies and to clarify if the owner is responsible for upkeep and maintenance. She suggested something be recorded in writing for the city's protection. John C. clarified that it has been the city's policy that if the property owner purchases the material, the city will spread it. Elaine also requested that the parking lot between the senior center and the library be repaired. Council requested that Terry get the cost to seal and repair the parking lot. Elaine also asked about the length of time that the train is allowed to block the street and who enforces this. John B. had information that there is a maximum limit of 15 minutes. Devin noted that this would be enforced by the sheriff's department. Mayor Brush asked if the council would want to consider a rotation policy on the alleys as is the policy on street maintenance.

Stephen Russell and Samantha Russell, Downs Veterinary Clinic, were present for clarification of the city policy and codes for animal impounds. Stephen said that he had taken offense when he read in the minutes that the clinic was going against the city's wishes. He said that he does not wish to be the middle man. He said that animal control should be standard and not one way one time and not the next. Bruce reviewed the city code and policy. There was discussion.

Adrianna Bergmann was present for a new special use permit. Bruce reviewed the list of operating restrictions. Devin moved, seconded by John B., to approve special use permit #17-15. Carried.

City Attorney reported that the owners, of the property at 910 Osborne, have given the tenants a time limit to have the property cleaned up. Council discussed dilapidated structures and instructed Bruce to send notice to the owners of the garage on west Railroad. Ron Duran agreed to take care of overgrown tree saplings on his property on east Delay.

Ron Duran, Animal Control, reported that a cat was trapped on Peterman and impounded. He has had a few dog at large calls. Mayor Brush reported that a written complaint was received regarding the dogs at 1114 Third Street. Arraignment is scheduled for April 12th for dog at large, nuisance dog, and excess number of dogs.

Terry Gradig reported on completion of an emergency brick repair job on memorial hall. He is moving the compost pile at the tree dump. The city crew has been working at the ballfield and

repairing water leaks. He presented an updated quote from Jim Keezer for pool repairs. Council approved for Teri to submit a grant application for funds to repair the pool.

Terry reported that Wilson and Co. is awaiting council's decision regarding the next step for the water treatment plant. John C. asked if Wilson and Co. had any more information regarding a regional grant.

At council's request, the clerk had checked with NexTech on the possibility of a remote call forward for animal control's use. This would auto forward any calls, made to the animal control number 454-3689, to Ron Duran's cell phone. The fee would be \$10.00/month rather than the current \$40.00 charge.

Council reviewed the current south ballfield lease and decided the field is needed another year.

Tonya thanked the firemen for the invitation to their retirement supper.

Tonya moved, seconded by Devin, to waive the memorial hall rental fees for the Red Cross on July 19, 2017. Carried.

City Attorney had prepared the water/sewer rate ordinance #978. Devin moved, seconded by John B., to pass Ordinance #978. Carried.

Devin requested more time to decide on a water meter deposit amount, and check with other cities. A Delinquent Water Account Listing was provided for review. Mayor Brush will prepare an ad for the Downs News and put information on Facebook about the new rates and change to monthly billing effective July 1, 2017.

John B. moved to approve builder's license #17-40. Teri seconded the motion. Carried.

Tonya moved, seconded by John C., to approve the mayor to sign the KANPAY contract. Carried.

John C. noted that the city tax rates were included in the March edition of the Government Journal.

Vouchers and payrolls were reviewed and signed. Devin moved, seconded by Teri, to approve the vouchers and payroll as presented. Carried.

At 6:52 p.m., Tonya moved to adjourn the meeting. Devin seconded. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

Jennifer Brush, Mayor

Vickie Oviatt, Clerk

