

Downs City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Council members present: John Cordill, Heather Hancock, Devin Renken, John Bisnette, and Collin Jones. Others present: Bruce Berkley, Harry Colburn, and Miranda Robinson. Mayor Vienna Janis called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

Devin moved, John B. seconded, to approve regular meeting minutes from January 2, 2024. Motion carried. Heather abstained.

City Attorney Bruce Berkley reported that letters were mailed out about abandoned vehicles as a courtesy to get them in ordinance by March 15.

In the water and sewer report, Harry Colburn stated that he is getting a quote from Integrated Controls, Inc for a software update at the water plant. He mentioned that the fire hydrant at Second and Division Streets' was set to be fixed, but due to weather conditions the company has rescheduled.

Colburn asked the council for permission to send Mike White and Blake Regnier to the Kansas Rural Water Conference on March 26-28 in Wichita. The cost is \$185 per person plus the cost of rooms. Heather moved, Collin seconded, to approve to send Mike and Blake to the KRWA conference in Wichita with rooms included. Motion carried.

City Superintendent Colburn presented the council with a contract for fuel and diesel from Bob's Inc. that includes 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel at \$3.20/gallon and 2,000 gallons of unleaded fuel at \$2.60/gallon. Heather moved, John Bisnette seconded, to have the mayor sign the fuel contract with Bob's Inc. Motion carried.

Colburn presented quotes on batteries for the emergency sirens as they have to be replaced every two years by regulation. He will need four batteries: Simpson's in Beloit was \$175/battery; S & W Supply in Osborne at \$145/battery; and Miller Welding in Downs at \$148/battery. Council suggested Colburn also check with J & S Auto before the next meeting.

Colburn reported that a sensor went out on the skid steer and needs to be replaced. Miller Welding will replace it when the part comes in.

Council, City Clerk, and Superintendent discussed the complaints from citizens concerning the streets not being cleared after the snow. Colburn stated that the bobcat and skid steer are both currently down so it couldn't be done. Discussion was held on finding a 4 wheel drive truck with a blade for plowing. Colburn stated he found one on Purple Wave that's up for auction and ends on January 23. Heather moved, John C. seconded, to allow Harry to bid on a 2010 plow truck on Purple Wave Auction not to exceed \$15,000 plus premium. Motion carried. John B. abstained.

City Clerk Miranda Robinson stated the water heater in the office went bad and had Remus Plumbing replace it on January 5. There have been a couple training calls to start

getting information transferred to the gWorks cloud software and getting FrontDesk up and running. Robinson also reported that KDHE will notify recipients sometime in the first quarter of 2024 for the repayment of the loan grant.

Collin Jones, Devin Renken, and Bruce Berkley reported for the fire department as they are looking to purchase 20 sets of wildland gear from Weis Fire and Kansas Forestry Service. John B. moved, Heather seconded, to allow the fire department to purchase 20 sets of wildland gear with funds from the fire equipment reserve fund. Motion carried. Devin and Collin abstained.

Mayor Janis appointed Jerry Knouf and Alisha Miller to the Downs housing authority board for a 4 year term. Heather moved, Devin seconded, to approve the mayor's appointments. Motion carried.

John B. moved, Collin seconded, to approve cereal malt beverage license 2024-05. Motion carried.

Heather moved, John B. seconded, to approve contractor's licenses 2024-31 and 2024-32. Motion carried.

Heather moved, John C. seconded to allow the mayor to sign the 2024 BCBS insurance renewal. Motion carried.


Heather stated the third meeting for the Osborne County Disaster Fund would be on January 22 in Osborne. Vienna, Heather, and Miranda will be attending the CDBG meeting in Beloit on January 23.

John B. moved, John C. seconded, to approve vouchers and payroll as presented. Motion carried.

Heather moved, Collin seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.


Vienna Janis, Mayor

ATTEST:


Miranda Robinson, City Clerk

