

Downs City Council met in regular session on Monday May 20, 2024, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Council members present: John Bisnette, Collin Jones, John Cordill, Heather Hancock. Council not present: Devin Renken. Others present: Sherry Knouf, Mike White, Bruce Berkley, Harry Colburn, and Miranda Robinson. Mayor Vienna Janis called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

Heather moved, John C seconded, to approve regular meeting minutes from May 6, 2024. 3 ayes carried the motion. John B. abstained.

In staff reports, Harry Colburn presented the council with a quote from HACH for travel expenses to come out and fix the nitrate analyzer. Heather moved, Collin seconded, to approve the HACH quote for travel charges, to pay out of ARP funds. 4 ayes carried the motion.

Colburn reported that Mike White passed small systems sewer testing. He will go to Hays on June 20 and 21 to take the Class I sewer systems prep course and take that test.

Harry Colburn, City Superintendent, spoke to council about looking into having a well drilled by the pool to save money and use of pumps at the water plant. He thinks it will cost between \$8,000 and \$10,000 to drill a well. Council suggested getting a couple quotes and checking with KDHE on regulations for public use wells.

Colburn reported that the swimming pool is ready for Saturday opening (weather permitting). There will be no night swims this summer, as the in pool lights are not functioning properly.

The crew added sand grip paint on the diving boards and around the pool on the outside

Miranda Robinson, City Clerk, stated that Sheri Naasz with Cushing Insurance gave her a quote for full coverage on the 2010 Ford would be \$678 as it currently has liability only. Collin moved, John C seconded, to increase the insurance coverage on the 2010 Ford 250 from liability coverage to full coverage. 4 ayes carried the motion.

In Robinson's report, she stated that Assistant Clerk Jaqui Frasier submitted her resignation last week. John B. moved, John C. seconded, to accept the resignation of Jaqui Frasier, Assistant Clerk effective May 31, 2024. 4 ayes carried. Discussion was held whether to advertise for help.

Collin moved, John C. seconded, to approve the Demolition Cost-Share Program and the Neighborhood Exterior Maintenance Program as presented. Motion carried. The City Clerk would work on getting this information out to the public. She also shared that the North Central Regional Planning Commission will be starting a housing initiative program at the end of May that will cover the same items as these programs.

In the boards and committees reports, Collin asked council members if they were ok with the info kiosk sign being repaired before being painted. Colburn mentioned he would work on those improvements. Heather asked that council consider offering an incentive for the new water aerobics instructor. John C. moved, Collin seconded, to offer a family pass at 1/2 price to the new aerobics instructor as an incentive to stay on for the whole season. 4 ayes carried.

Mayor had a concern voiced to her about the volleyball area. Council would like someone from the parks and recreation to come to a meeting next month and the City Clerk stated she would reach out to a couple members.


Heather moved, John B. seconded, to approve large animal permits 24-01 to 24-05. 4 ayes carried the motion.

Heather offered to write the advertising for the Downs News special edition.

The mayor reported she met with a renewable energy project representative. She wants the council to think about the upcoming budget items that need to be discussed before the June 17 meeting. Collin and Harry met with KDOT and Tyler Glissman with Wilson & Co., to discuss the CCLIP application last week.

John B. moved, Heather seconded, to approve vouchers and payroll as presented. 4 ayes carried the motion.

Heather moved, John B. seconded, to adjourn the meeting. 4 ayes carried the motion.
Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.



Vienna Janis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Miranda Robinson, City Clerk

