

Downs City Council met in regular session on Monday, April 3, 2023, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Mayor Vienna Janis called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute. Council members present: Joyce Hake, Devin Renken, Charlie Stevens, and Heather Hancock. Council not present: John Cordill. Others present: Kira Otte, Richard Judd, Bruce Berkley, Harry Colburn, and Miranda Robinson.

Joyce moved, seconded by Heather to approve regular meeting minutes from March 20, 2023. Motion carried.

Kira Otte, Library Board Member, was in attendance to ask council to put Bonnie Smith on the board due to Jason Toombs resigning his position. Mayor Janis appointed Bonnie Smith to the Library Board for the remainder of Jason Toombs' term. Joyce moved, seconded by Charlie to approve the Mayor's appointment of Bonnie Smith to the Library Board. Carried.

Animal Control officer Richard Judd reported will begin working on reviewing large animal permit applications.

In the water and sewer report Harry Colburn stated that the city passed the lagoon test for the last quarter.

City Superintendent Harry Colburn reported that he called the railroad to complain about tracks on Morgan Ave and Roslyn along with the missing railroad crossing signs. He also reported that for the city wide clean up so far they have filled over 4 dumpsters and things are going good. The clean up goes until April 9, 2023.

City Clerk Miranda Robinson, reminded the council that positions up for election in 2023 are held by Devin Renken, Joyce Hake, and Charlie Stevens. Last date for filing for these positions is June 1 at 12 noon at the Osborne County Courthouse to be on the ballot. Anyone that lives in the city of Downs and is a registered voter can file for a position and run for city council.

Clerk Robinson also stated that she is working on 2023 1st quarter reports. Last month there were 9 water shut offs which is a little higher than usual.

Bruce Berkley reported for the Fire Department as they are wanting to apply for a grant to purchase new LED flashlights and a tow rope. Charlie moved, seconded by Heather to allow the fire department to apply for a forestry grant for new equipment. Motion carried. Devin abstained.

At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Janis called the Neighborhood Revitalization Hearing to order. There were no objections, verbal or written. Discussion was held amongst the council.

Devin moved, seconded by Heather to approve Ordinance 1013. Motion carried.

Joyce moved, seconded by Devin, to allow the mayor to sign the interlocal agreement. Motion carried.

Mayor Janis declared the public hearing closed at 6:05 p.m.

Devin Renken and Bruce Berkley brought up the idea to purchase an AED and first aid kit to have at the Memorial Hall as a wide variety of events are held there and no first aid items are


currently located there. Council thought it was a great idea and suggested they get more information and pricing first.

Parks and Recreation applied for Marie Thomas Trust funds for purchasing shale at the little ball field along with adding new equipment for the softball/baseball/t-ball groups. Joyce moved, seconded by Charlie to purchase ball equipment for the parks and rec out of the Marie Thomas trust from their submitted request. Motion carried.

In old business, discussion was held regarding lifeguard applications and summer help applications. Colburn was going to contact the applicants for summer mowing and Hancock is going to contact the applicants for the pool.

Devin moved, seconded by Joyce, to approve vouchers and payroll as presented.

Heather moved, seconded by Devin to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.



Vienna Janis, Mayor



ATTEST:



Miranda Robinson, City Clerk