

MAY 19, 2020 MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

A meeting of the Cottonwood City Council was held on Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 7:00 pm, via Zoom with Mayor Corey Moseng performing the roll call of the present council members; Joel Dahl, Mike Horner, Shannon Geihl, and Shawn Myers present. Also present were Clerk-Administrator, Teather Bliss; Public Works Director, Randy Fenger; Lyon County Sheriff, Eric Wallen; and Fire Chief, Dale Louwagie.

Mayor Moseng called the meeting to order and led in the Flag Pledge.

A motion by Shawn Myers to approve the May 5, 2020 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mike Horner. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

Bliss presented Resolution 2020_0519 Changes to the City Fees for Businesses Closed by Governor Issued Executive Orders. The Resolution provides for a 25% reduction in the 2020-2021 licensing fees for on-sale liquor and Sunday liquor sales.

A motion by Joel Dahl to approve Resolution 2020_0519. Seconded by Shawn Myers. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

Council reviewed Resolution 2020_0519A Extension of the Local Emergency.

A motion by Shawn Myers to approve Resolution 2020_0519A. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

COVID-19 updates included the availability of the antibody tests if the council is interested in having the test administered. The Cottonwood Ambulance has also received another grant for mitigation, preparation, and response.

Sheriff Wallen updated the council on the monthly incident report, including that there continues to be an uptick in domestic violence. Sheriff Wallen also updated the council that the Lyon County Government Center will reopen on Thursday and Emergency Management Coordinator, Dan DeSmet, has taken a different job and would be resigning his position with Lyon County.

Randy Fenger updated the council on the public works department. The department is working on the roof of Well #7, the depot was burned and removed, and shingling will be done at the parks. Fenger asked if the council wants to redo First Street from LeRoy's to Norwegian from the damaged caused by the water main breaks, in which council tabled for a later discussion. Fenger also updated the Council on the county plan to redo Barstad Road and the sidewalks with ADA upgrades. Fenger updated the council on the property at Vermillion Street that recently applied for a building permit, since the approval of permit the resident has used indoor closet doors as part of the fence.

The council has requested that the resident be sent a letter about the ordinance violations on the property.

Bliss updated the council on COVID-19, FEMA ICS Training, the busy season of zoning permits, completing the MIF Application for Legend Cabinetry, and the insurance claims for Northwood have been approved for payment totaling \$7,851.32.

Council reviewed the monthly financial statements.

Council reviewed the March meeting minutes of the Cottonwood Fire Department.

Fenger presented the power options of trenching temporary power lines for the Main Lift Station or having Xcel place temporary poles. Fenger presented that Jeseritz Electric would be able to work in coordination with Voss to provide the trenching of the temporary lines at a lower cost than the plan from Xcel to place temporary poles.

Council discussed the opening of the playgrounds with signage that has been presented by Bliss to be placed around the parks to signify that the equipment and surface are not regularly sanitized. Council also discussed the removal of tables from the shelter houses and the opening of the bathrooms with appropriate signage placed.

Council discussed the utility billing procedures and the corrections of the issues that have arose in the past few months. Bliss presented internal policies that have been created to ensure the issues are corrected and do not happen again.

Mayor Moseng suggested that staff work with the water and sewer committee to formulate a report back to the Council at the next meeting.

A follow up item from the May 5th meeting discussing the dust collection system at Legend Cabinetry was addressed that the system will have additional sound barriers placed around it.

Council reviewed building permit 2020_04 at 174 East Prairie Street for 145 feet of privacy fence. The discussion occurred that because of a conversation earlier in the meeting, the applicants will be required to submit photos and documents of material that will be used to construct the fence.

A motion by Shannon Geihl to approve building permit 2020_04. Seconded by Mike Horner. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

Council reviewed building permit 2020_05 at 210 Northwood Drive for 2,498.5 square feet of concrete drive. The impervious surface of the property totals 8,058 square feet which is .5% away from the allotted impervious surface.

A motion by Joel Dahl to approve building permit 2020_05. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

Council reviewed building permit 2020_06 at 340 Northwood Drive for 72 x 100 feet of privacy fence and chain link fence.

A motion by Joel Dahl to approve building permit 2020_06. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

Council reviewed building permit 2020_07 at 55 Spruce Place for a 16 x 28 barn style shed on a piece of property adjacent to the property with the primary structure. Council discussed if the property owner could construct a secondary structure on a piece of property without a primary structure.

Council directed Bliss to dig into the zoning ordinances to verify which if the owner can or cannot construct the structure without a primary structure.

Council reviewed the permit for Dollar General's tobacco license renewal.

A motion by Shannon Geihl to approve the tobacco permit for Dollar General. Seconded by Mike Horner. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

Council reviewed information for spring clean up that would be set for June 12 and 13 at the City Shop. Clean up day would constitute an expansion on what will be collected as an incentive for the abundance of cleaning that has been done over the stay home orders.

A motion by Shawn Myers to approve the set dates for clean up day. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

Bliss presented the information on the sidewalk program, there are citizens interested in applying for the program if it was available. Bliss requested that since there is a tightening of expenditures during the COVID-19 crisis, that Council motion on an activation of the sidewalk program and the \$2,500 that has been budgeted for the program this year.

A motion by Mike Horner to authorize the sidewalk replacement program funds to be utilized until depleted. Seconded by Shawn Myers. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

Council discussed the filling of pools by the Cottonwood Fire Department as it has been brought up several times by the community. At one point there was a motion for the Fire Department to be able to fill pools, therefore Bliss is requesting that a motion be made to end or continue the authorization.

A motion by Mike Horner to not allow the Fire Department to fill pools based on the liability placed on the City. Seconded by Joel Dahl. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

Council reviewed the resignation of Braden French from the Cottonwood Ambulance Service.

A motion by Shawn Myers to accept the resignation of Braden French from the Cottonwood Ambulance Service. Seconded by Mike Horner. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried.

A motion by Shawn Myers to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Roll call by Mayor Moseng and motion carried at 9:50 pm.

Teather Bliss, City Administrator

Corey Moseng, Mayor