

Kimball City Council
Regular Meeting
October 15, 2013

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was convened in open and public session at 7:00 p.m. on October 15, 2013 at the Kimball Event Center, 615 E. 3rd Street, Kimball. Mayor Schnell and Council members Warner, Shields, Christensen and Morrison were present. Also present were City Administrator Ortiz, City Attorney Hadenfeldt, Police Chief Huff, Street Superintendent Ryschon, Landfill / Collection Superintendent Schulte, City Clerk Russell and City Treasurer Strauch. The public was represented.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Western Nebraska Observer. Notice of the meeting was given to the members and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is on record at the office of the City Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice and in the notice to the members. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

Schnell called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Schnell acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act poster.

Larissa Binod, Keep Kimball Beautiful Executive Director, and Susie Abramson, Keep Kimball Beautiful Board member, reported on the Community Appearance Index. The Community Appearance Index is a tool utilized to assist in the development of educational practices and litter collection events. The AmeriCorp Team assisted with the survey. The City is broken down into six different quadrants: traffic flow, southeast, northeast, northwest, southwest, and north of the railroad tracks and the survey included the litter index and the optional indices which includes illegal signs, graffiti, abandoned junk vehicles, and outside storage.

Kimball's Community Appearance Index is 1.8 based on a scale of 4. This year there was a focused effort on impacting the litter and debris which is generated in the alleyways. Abramson indicated that eight trailer loads of litter and debris were collected in the alleyways. She stressed that KKB and the City work together towards cleaning up Kimball.

Christensen said this index shows that there needs to be an emphasis on the back side of people's properties. Ortiz indicated that the garbage collection driver keeps an eye out and the City is trying to better educate individuals about what they can and can't dump. Ortiz said the process of replacing dumpsters and lids has begun and it is an on-going process. Discussion was held on shifting the position of the dumpsters and Schulte said he can check into this.

Morrison commented that the biggest problem he sees is people letting trees and junk accumulate. Street Superintendent Ryschon commented on the recurring problem with

overgrown trees and bushes and said it is the owner's responsibility, they should trim them back. He said this is a never-ending problem and also commented on spring cleanup.

Binod indicated when the litter pickup was done, they had a lot of volunteers and they focused on picking up items. Hopefully by working together the public can be educated. Christensen said the more people that see this is important, it does take hold. She feels this is helping and to just keep working at it.

Binod is trying to work on a household hazardous waste collection in the spring in conjunction with Clean Harbors. All the dates will set up at the first of the year.

Schnell opened discussion on a Keno grant application from the Kimball Police Department for \$5,363.00. Huff indicated that research shows that DARE programs are failing across the US because it targets older children and there is nothing positive about this program. About a year ago, he established a "Project Fun" program to focus on the younger children, pre-K through elementary age, in the Kimball community. This is a child friendly program which promotes good behavioral attributes and safety in addition to encouraging and empowering children to be productive members of society. Huff said the idea of this program is to build it around a character hero and he distributed a drawing of the Giga Bite canine character. This mascot costume is designed by a manufacturer that makes mascots for the NBA and NFL and would be a high quality costume. Huff really wanted the mascot to be something that the children would look forward to seeing.

To date, \$5,363.00 has been earned for this program from generous contributions from Kimball businesses, the Giga Bite Project rifle raffle, and the Hemi-Express ride donations from the Farmer's Day celebration. All funds would go toward the manufacture and promotion of the mascot. The cost quoted to design and manufacture the mascot is \$7,783.00. Also, materials would need to be put together to promote the program to the children. Huff is requesting Keno funds of \$5,363.00 to match the donations received.

Christensen inquired who would wear the costume and Huff indicated that some of the kids at the high school would be able to wear it. There would be some structure and training provided to them. The character will have to emanate what a productive member of our community would be. It is planned to have the character present at some of the school programs as well as some of the games to interact with the children. The School Resource Officer would also be involved with Project Fun.

Discussion was held on granting from the grant portion or the City portion and Christensen said the community has shown their support as evidenced by the contributions received. She believes the City should support the whole program and Huff indicated the mascot will never be in public without a police officer.

There being no further discussion, Christensen moved and Morrison seconded to award keno funds of \$5,363.00 to the Kimball Police Department for Project Fun's Giga Bite Program with \$2,681.50 to be awarded from the grant funds portion and \$2,681.50 to be awarded from the City funds portion. On roll call vote, the following votes were

recorded. Aye: Warner, Shields, Christensen and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Schnell opened discussion on a Keno grant application from the City of Kimball for the Recycling Center Beautification project. Ortiz indicated that it has been planned to do paving improvements to the lots behind the City offices and also at the Recycle Center. Costs on asphalt are high. He has received several quotes to repair and replace paving and create a landscape area at the Recycle Center. Three quotes were received and the low quote was from Kimball Builders Emporium in the amount of \$14,500. Ortiz indicated that this would normally come out of the Landfill funds; however, these were not budgeted. Therefore, he requested the money come out of the City's portion of Keno funds. He has moved towards a grander scope to make this project more of a beautification project. In conjunction with the mural, this would be a nice gateway to the community. Discussion was held on waiting another year for this project and include it in the Landfill budget. Schnell said the City preaches to everyone to take care of their properties and the City needs to take care of their properties as well.

Discussion was held on the funds in the Keno funds and Christensen said it appears the Keno grant money would be the better option. Schnell again commented on the beautification at that end of town. Morrison commented on the bid from Kimball Builder's Emporium and Ortiz indicated that the City crew will do some of the things for the project, such as breaking up the concrete.

Binod commented on the landscaping fabric and bark. She also said that the tree in the corner may pose a problem with access and commented on traffic flow issues that could potentially arise. She asked what is planned to be planted and Ortiz said initially low-maintenance trees and eventually perennials and he commented on having the kids do the planting. The City's goal is to beautify the area and make it safe. Binod inquired if the Recycle Center employees would be responsible to water the trees and Ortiz said it would be preferred. Comments were made on waterlines and a low drip water system and grasses.

Warner said the quote from Kimball Builder's Emporium is a good quote. She doesn't know where the City could get it done cheaper.

There being no further discussion, Morrison moved and Christensen seconded to award keno funds of \$15,000 to the Recycling Center Beautification Project from the City funds portion. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded. Aye: Warner, Shields, Christensen and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

The City Council reviewed the following items under the consent agenda:

1. Minutes from the October 1, 2013 meeting;
2. Claims;
3. Financials; and
4. Ratify the Kimball Volunteer Fire Department members.

Morrison moved and Warner seconded to approve the consent agenda items as presented. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded. Aye: Warner, Shields, Christensen and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Ortiz reported the rains have impacted the expansion project at the Landfill. The water ran underneath the liner and damaged it. The City is working with both contractors to get this fixed but it may cost the City more money. This matter will be presented to the Board of Public Works for their recommendation to the council.

Ortiz reported the City is moving forward with the School Resource Officer (SRO) position. He is working to establish a memo of understanding with the school district in outlining what will be the roles of the SRO. Ortiz said this is a requirement of the grant.

Last week Ortiz attended the League of Nebraska Municipalities Annual meeting. Among the sessions was an update from the Tax Modernization Committee. The consensus was that the committee was likely not going to make any changes.

Schnell thanked all who sat in on the SRO interview.

Schnell reported he will be out of town for a week.

The next City Council meeting will be on November 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Shields moved and Warner seconded to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. On roll call vote, the following votes were recorded. Aye: Warner, Shields, Christensen and Morrison. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

James Schnell, Mayor

Rosemarie Russell, City Clerk

City of Kimball-City Council General Claims-October 15, 2013-Arrowhead Distributing Inc. - Liquor Purchase - 9.60; Action Communications - Removal & Installation-Radio, Siren, Radar - 825.00; Alamar Uniforms - Uniforms-Wynne, Hitch - 1707.43; Baker & Taylor Books - Book Purchase - 852.08; Sheryl Biesecker - Contract Cleaning-Sept 22,29 & Oct 6,13 2013 - 330.00; C & M Air Cooled Engine, Inc. - Part For HR-5111 - 94.56; Center Point Large Print - Book Purchase - 127.02; CenturyLink - Telephone-Park & Rec - 128.34; CenturyLink - Telephone - 520.32; Charter Communications - Internet-City of Kimball - 79.50; Craft Trophy Co. - Badges, Freight - 150.05; Dietrich Distributing - Liquor Purchase - 21.55; Richard Elliott - Lock Repair-North Shop - 362.40; Frank Implement Company - Blade-Street Dept. - 99.04; Galls, LLC - Handheld Remote Siren W/Light Control - 427.98; High West Energy - Utilities-New Golf Shed - 3590.66; Hometown Hardware - #36391-Male Mender - 139.74; Ideal Linen Supply, Inc. - Liners-Event Center - 126.05; Intralinks, Inc. - Hard Drive Service - 861.18; Junior Golf Program - Donation-Junior Golf Program-Ralph Bartels - 100.00; Junior Library Guild - Book Purchase - 98.00; Kimball Auto Parts - #4151-Coupling, 18 Inch Grease Hose - 133.88; Kimball Health Services - Medical-Richards-Police Dept. - 156.09; Kimball Service Center - Flat Repair-Unit #15 - 916.50; Nina LaBate - Contract Cleaning-Fire

Dept.-50/50 - 60.00; Masek Golf Car Company - New Starter/Generator-Range Picker Cart - 275.61; MicroMarketing, LLC - Library Media Supplies - 74.98; Miller Office Supply - Flash Drives-Police Dept. - 162.32; Mobius Communications Company - 4th Qtr. Monitory Fee-All Locations - 51.36; Modern Marketing - Wall Calendar - 268.98; Napa Auto Parts - Spark Plug, Bulbs - 611.36; Nebraska Environmental Products - 4-Sealmaster BRG - 619.21; Nebraska Library Commission - OverDrive Renewal Agreement-Subscription - 500.00; Nebraska Public Health Enviro Lab - Water Sample-Park & Rec - 15.00; Northwest Pipe Fitting, Inc. of S.B. - Irrigation Pipe-Park & Rec - 60.00; Daniel Ortiz - Office Supplies - 29.94; Panhandle Coop - Fuel-Police - 4361.90; Panhandle Coop Association - Supplies - 114.02; Pepsi-Cola of Western Nebraska – Pepsi Products - 299.00; Prairie Animal Hospital - Canine Boarding-Springer-Hansen - 218.30; Prestige MFG. – Round Shaft-Street - 15.54; R & R Products, Inc - Carbid Tips-Tines For Aerator - 242.60; Robert Abramson, CPA – Accounting Services-Jan-Mar, 2013-27 Hours - 2700.00; Sentimental Productions - Book Purchase - 175.00; Shopko Stores – Office Supplies-Ryschon-Street - 61.17; Simmons Olsen Law Firm, P.C. - Professional Services-9/3 - 2305.50; Stotz Equipment - Clutch-Gator - 433.23; The Computer Guy - Setup Laptop-Ryschon - 75.00; The United States Life Insurance Company - Long Term Disability Premium-9/22/13-10/21/13 - 753.84; United Rotary Brush Corporation - Blue Steel Plastic Back, Strip Brushes - 1332.96; Van Diest Supply Company - Greens Fertilizer - 520.00; WPCI - Review Data - 90.00; Chad Wise - New Phone & Answering Machine-Pro Shop - 81.25; Xerox Corporation - Copier Maintenance-September 2013 - 148.90;