

**October 19, 2020  
Regular Meeting**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Halstad was duly called and held electronically in said City on September 14, 2020 at 5:15 p.m.

Mayor Lori DeLong called the regular meeting to order at 5:24 p.m.

The following council members were present: Lori DeLong, Darin Johnson, Mike Trygg, Brandon Mickelson, and Bruce Purrington. The following council members were absent: None

Others in attendance: Alli Tice- HMU Office Coordinator, Lucas Spaeth- Municipal Superintendent,

Approval / Additions to Agenda- Mike Trygg moved to add Dog Bite as (Item E.) to Other, second by Darin Johnson. Roll call vote unanimous. Bruce Purrington expressed interest in addressing utility services provided by Halstad to Hendrum for street maintenance assistance (sweeping, plowing). Discussion of the matter to be addressed during Department Reports for HMU.

Approval of September 14, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Mike Trygg, Second by Bruce Purrington roll call vote unanimous, motion carried.

Public Forum, Mayor DeLong mentioned residents interested in buying land behind their residential lot. Council discussed keeping the land for city use to ring dike some utilities and the water tower located nearby. Also there was a denial to sell to others previously for various reasoning. No offer, no action.

Motion by Brandon Mickelson second by Bruce Purrington, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call vote was unanimous. Motion carried. The following items were on the consent agenda:

- a. Monthly claims for September 2020
- b. General checking bank reconciliation for September 2020

Department Reports were provided by Lucas Spaeth.

**Sunrise Apartments-** Grove Mechanical completed work on boilers. Concrete work to pushed to next year.

**Wimmer Homes-** Remodels complete #12 & #15, #6 is available. Front steps scheduled for repairs next year or alternative.

**Utilities report-** Street sweeping through town completed, weather permitting another round is possible. Water Tower inspection complete, work inside/outside needed in the short term. Rural Water Assn alternative described, and joint powers management necessary for communities on board. Planning Commission and NWRDC tapped to assist in studying the process. Sump pump policy implementation discussed. During heavy precipitation events excessive runoff at water treatment plant, possibly by sump pump discharging indoors. Identifying and possibly billing users of the sanitary sewer for sumps may be necessary to aid compliance of restrictions. Hendrum wants to hire HMU to do sweeping on Hwy 75, and some snow removal this season. Council to discussed decided on retainer \$400 per month November-April plus hourly rates. Road raise to be completed next year and FEMA certification will be completed in March 2021.

Sugar Beet Park (Central Park) work was completed. HBL wished to return the park to the city moving forward. Ongoing maintenance to be done by city, electronic sign programming done jointly by city staff and HBL sharing community information but no advertising.

SRTS invoice for partial payment to Sellin Bros was considered. Motion to approve by Darin Johnson second by Mike Trygg, roll call vote unanimous.

KRJB Contract was considered. Motion to approve by Lori DeLong second by Darin Johnson, roll call vote unanimous.

Invoice for Zavoral Construction final payment of road overlay project from last year was discussed. Council decided to push an additional month until contractors returned to finish some detail work at 3rd St and 5th Ave E.

NCW school building discussion was had. A Special Meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 26th 6:30 pm to attempt to reach a conclusion or decision by the city regarding interest and/or action on the matter.

Blighted properties update discussion was had. Photos were developed and to be delivered to the City Attorney for attention and formal letters would be sent to offenders to begin legal processes toward resolving the issues.

CARES funding status for grants administered through the EDA was provided. EDA reported a single application for \$20,000 and was moving through screening and approval process. Remaining funds were \$10,000 with a final deadline of October 31st for applications. Unspent funds are required to be returned November 15th.

Next discussed was Furuseth land rental / windbreak. Mayor DeLong addressed the council on Furusth's behalf reporting they would entertain \$5000 per acre in a sale, but more wanted the city to increase their rental of a larger portion of the property in question. Total acreage unknown. No Action.

Tax Forfeiture (Bergee) property in the city was discussed due to 60 day deadline set by Norman Co. Council decided \$500 on the property in order to demolish rather than ask for conveyance and leave the property vacant green space. Motion by Bruce Purrington second by Darin Johnson to bid \$500, roll call vote unanimous. Clerk to convey offer.

Signage in the city to regulate parking ordinance enforcement, and city park regulations was discussed. Council was informed the Sheriff's Office was aware of the ordinances. Clerk reported without signs to advise unapproved conduct or restrictions, enforcement was negated. Other signage on Hwy 75 thought needed to regulate visibility issues created by new realignment and truck parking. Signs to be replaced at later time. Painted curbs also a possibility and labor by STS inmates can be requested. No immediate action.

Dog bite of resident was reported and investigated by the Sheriff's Office. Clerk to look into Animal Complaint issue and follow up with victim and City Attorney. City Council to act in absence of Animal Control Authority.

Truth-in-Taxation December 7th at 6:00pm in LRC, and Comprehensive Plan public meetings tentatively set at Our Saviors Lutheran Church November 5th and 19th were noted.

\*\*Mayor DeLong added further discussion regarding the Sheriff's Office inactivity; alleged a possible violation of a propane tank placement on commercial property and questioned another on city owned property; and brought a complaint about loose trash from a commercial business that was displaced by extreme winds. Clerk was directed to look into all of the matters.

Mayor Lori DeLong asked for motion to adjourn. Brandon Mickelson moved and Bruce Purrington seconded. Unanimous vote, meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm. Special Meeting will be Monday October 26th at 6:30 pm. The next Regular meeting of the City Council will be on Monday September 14, 2020 at 5:15 pm.

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Mike Trygg / City Clerk