

Tecumseh, Nebraska
October 3, 2011

The City Council of the City of Tecumseh, Nebraska, met in regular session in the Utilities Conference Room at City Utility Shop on the 3rd day of October, 2011, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in a publicly convened session, the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advanced publicized notice.

Routine Business

Mayor Montz read a statement of availability of current copy of Open Meeting Act.

The following Council Members were present: Jim Rine, Larry Carmine, Bill Baum, Kimberly Jansen, Charles Murphy and Beth Rossi. Absent: None.

Others present: Ann Wicket, Officer Jennifer Luong, Bruce Dalluge, Paula Darling, Julie Dare, Susie Kerner, Brian Chaffin, Bill Wehling, Mike Davison and Doug Goracke.

Clerk Darling asked that the Council make the following correction to the posted agenda: add the words "and appointment" to 3.a. under the Regular Agenda and delete #11 and #12 of the Regular Agenda as they will be addressed with the Ordinances to be introduced.

Ordinance No. 11-1037

Councilmember Rine introduced Ordinance # 11-1037, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TECUMSEH, NEBRASKA, AMENDING SECTION 10-604 OF THE TECUMSEH MUNICIPAL CODE TO INCREASE THE PERMIT FEE FOR TRAILER COURTS AND MOBILE HOME COURTS.

Councilmember Rine moved that the statutory rule requiring that the ordinance be read by title on three different days be dispensed with so that Ordinance 11-1037 be introduced and approved October 3, 2011. Councilmember Murphy seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilmember Rine moved that Ordinance No. 11-1037 be published in pamphlet form and be passed and adopted. Councilmember Murphy seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Ordinance No. 11-1037 is published in pamphlet form and is available for public inspection at the City Clerk's office.

Ordinance No. 11-1038

Councilmember Rossi introduced Ordinance No. 11-1038, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TECUMSEH, NEBRASKA, AMENDING SECTION 10-801 OF THE TECUMSEH MUNICIPAL CODE TO INCREASE THE OCCUPATION TAXES FOR RETAILERS OF CERTAIN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

Councilmember Baum moved that the statutory rule requiring that the ordinance be read by title on three different days be dispensed with so that Ordinance 11-1038 be introduced and be approved October 3, 2011. Councilmember Rine seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilmember Rine moved that Ordinance No. 11-1038 be published in pamphlet form and be passed and adopted. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rossi. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Ordinance No. 11-1038 is published in pamphlet form and is available for public inspection at the City Clerk's office.

Regular Agenda

There was no report from the Fire Chief.

Officer Jennifer Luong distributed the Sheriff's report on Sheriff Walton's behalf. Mayor Montz introduced Julie Dare from SENCA and she asked the Council if SENCA would need a permit to block the streets on Halloween as they would be sponsoring a Halloween event that included a hayrack ride from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. As there would be no traffic issues the Council recommended that no barricades would be needed.

Brian Chaffin with Olsson Associates introduced Bill Wehling, the Mayor's candidate for Street Superintendent, and Wehling spoke about his experience as municipal street superintendent for several small towns in southeast Nebraska. Councilmember Rine's motion to accept the Mayor's appointment of Bill Wehling as

Street Superintendent was seconded by Councilmember Rossi. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Doug Goracke asked the Council to consider selling the real estate and building belonging to city's street department as the buildings are in need of repair and it would be better to have all the equipment at the Utility Shop location. Both Mike Davison and Goracke reported that they had looked into what the cost of a metal building behind the shop would cost. If the sale proceeds could be used toward the new building it would decrease the cost of the building considerably. Councilmember Rossi said she would do some research regarding what the city property might be worth. Goracke and Davison will ask potential buyers if there would be an interest in purchasing the property. City Attorney Dalluge stated that the sale would probably be a live auction. Everyone will present their research at the next City Council meeting.

Susie Kerner reported that the Library now has WIFI and patrons can download books onto their e-readers. She also mentioned that the wood in the gables on the outside of the building needs to be repaired and wrapped in metal. Councilmember Rossi mentioned that they could possibly coordinate this with the repairs to the Manor.

Councilmember Carmine spoke to the Council regarding the pool repair bids. Goracke reported that he had made 16 phone calls to check on the references and thought that Mid-America had the best reputation and the best guarantee (15 year unconditional). If the Council approves their bid, Mid-America would like to start prepping this fall with the actual repair to be done in the spring. Councilmember Rine moved to approve the Mid-America bid of \$80,000 and Councilmember Rossi seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by Councilmember Rossi, seconded by Councilmember Murphy, to cease blowing the whistle at 7:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, 1:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. effective immediately, and to manually test the whistle once a month until it can be automatically programed to do so. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilmember Rossi reminded the Council that the Tecumseh Manor will be sponsoring a cookout on Thursday, October 6th at 4:00 p.m. and that they are invited to attend. She also stated that they are working on their 1 & 5 year plan and will be replacing more roofs as money becomes available.

Motion by Councilmember Rine, seconded by Councilmember Baum, to increase the Code Enforcement Officer's salary to \$6,000 per year. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Doug Goracke reported that the Economic Development Committee is considering the purchase of property for commercial use in the Shawnee area of town and that this year's round of demolitions could start sometime this fall. He is also asking the committee to approve \$9,000 in housing assistance grants.

There was no action taken on changes to the financial compensation for the City Council, Board of Public Works or Mayor.

Motion by Councilmember Rossi, seconded by Councilmember Baum, to approve the Board of Public Works recommendation to increase Utility employee wages per the wage assumptions of the new 7-year step plan with no additional cost of living increase for this year. All wage increases, including city employees, will be retroactive to October 1, 2011. Motion carried by 5-1 roll call vote, with Rine voting nay. The following is the proposed rate of hourly pay for utility employees: Deputy City Clerk, \$16.25; Secretaries, \$15.50; public works equipment operator, \$18.50; Asst Power Plant Superintendent, \$17.57; maintenance mechanic, \$17.14; plant operator/mechanic, \$15.54; public works managers, \$21.25 and \$21.55.

The Council asked that they have more time to address city employee wages and asked Clerk Darling to e-mail current salaries for them to study.

Motion by Councilmember Rossi, seconded by Councilmember Jansen, to approve changes to Section 12.4 (#7) of the City of Tecumseh Personnel Manual so employees can carry over 15 days of unused vacation leave instead of 10 days effective October 1, 2011. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

At 9:29 p.m. Councilmember Rine moved that the Council go into executive session to talk about bidding strategies for purchase of the property from the Sheriff's sale of Lot 2, Block 7, 1890 Addition to Tecumseh, and Councilmember Rossi seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. At 9:45 p.m. Councilmember Carmine moved to come out of executive session and Councilmember Rine seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilmember Murphy's motion to allow City Attorney Dalluge to act on behalf of the city in purchasing Lot 2, Block 7, of the 1890 Addition to Tecumseh was seconded by Councilmember Rine. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Agenda

A motion by Councilmember Rine, seconded by Councilmember Murphy, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

1. Approve minutes of September 8, 2011 special meeting and the September 12, 2011 regular meeting
2. Pay bills for City Funds
3. Review and consider approval of allowing Doug Goracke to make decisions on behalf of the City of Tecumseh for the siren project in Tecumseh, including signing authority for completion of project.
4. Agenda Item added 9-29-11: Approve SENDD recommendation to award contract to Clark Contracting for Tecumseh's Housing Rehabilitation Program, Project 09-TEC-020 for \$15,889.00
5. Agenda Item added 9-29-11: Approve sending extension request to NDED to extend the Tecumseh Housing Rehabilitation Program for six months.

On motion the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

CITY CLERK

Paula Darling

MAYOR

William J. Montz, Sr.