

Waitsburg City Council Regular Meeting – May 7, 2008

Mayor Markeeta Little Wolf called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

City Clerk/Treasurer Randy Hinchliffe called the roll. The following were present:

Mayor: Markeeta Little Wolf

Council Members: Larry Clinton, Larry Johnson, Leroy Cunningham, Jeff Broom and Ken Lenhart

Others: City Attorney Janelle Carman, Debara Whitmore, Delores Nettles, Dona Little Wolf, John Mason and Loyal Baker

Agenda Approval:

Council Member Clinton moved to approve with Council Member Cunningham seconding. The motion approve the agenda was approved and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes April 16, 2008 Regular Meeting:

Council Member Cunningham moved to approve with Council member Johnson seconding. Motion to approve was approved and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Lupe Torres approached the City Council about the possibility of supporting an auto show to be held on August 17th. Economic Development Committee Member Marilyn Johnson presented the Council a rough plan related to the possibility of setting up a Chamber of Commerce. Delores Nettles informed the City Council that the Spring Clean up day went well and that they were able to get all the piles of debris picked up across the City. Debara Whitmore asked about the possibility of getting some handicap access issues resolved with the Touchet River Bridge pedestrian crossing.

New Business

a. Mayor Pro Tem Election

Mayor Pro Tem is selected by the current sitting council members and must one of the members. Mayor Little Wolf recommended that the City Council consider nominating Council Member Cunningham for the position. Council Member Larry Johnson felt Council Member Broom should be the Mayor Pro Tem due to the fact that he received the highest number of votes in this year's election. Citing a lack of experience with Governmental Operations, Council Member Broom thanked Council Member Johnson, but decided not to accept a nomination for mayor pro tem. Council Member Clinton moved to nominate Council Member Cunningham for the position of Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Lenhart seconded and the motion to nominate/appoint Council Member Cunningham to the position of Mayor Pro Tem was approved and passed unanimously.

b. Water Tower Mural

Request to have the City's Water Reservoir exterior repainted in conjunction with the addition of a mural to be added with the City's Streetscape logo through a formal bid process. Council Member Clinton moved to authorize the project be put out to bid. Council Member Cunningham seconded and the motion to bid the project was approved and passed unanimously.

c. Resolution 2008-524

Resolution related to pool/seasonal items including wages, fees, times, etc. Council Member Johnson moved to approve with Council Member Clinton seconding. Motion to approve was approved and passed unanimously.

d. Critical Areas Ordinance Update Draft

Discussion only item related to the update of the City's Critical Areas Ordinance as required by the Growth Management Act.

Unfinished Business

a. Equipment Garage

Request to construct a new equipment garage at the City Shop location through a formal bid process. Council Member Lenhart moved to authorize the project be put out to bid. Council Member Cunningham seconded and the motion to bid the project was approved and passed unanimously.

b. Vacant Lot

Request by a Citizen to lease a lot owned by the City located adjacent to the Touchet River for the use of pasture ground for horse boarding. Due to the restrictions associated with the lot, Mayor Little Wolf recommended that the Council not lease the ground. Council Member Clinton moved to decline the request with Council Member Johnson seconding. Motion to decline was approved and passed unanimously.

c. Animal Control

Resolutions reestablishing the City's animal control program and appointing an animal control office. After a long discussion which revolved around overtime and payment issues associated with the ACO, Council Member Lenhart moved to approve both Resolutions A & B associated with the City Animal Control Program. Council Member Cunningham seconded the motion and the motion was approved three votes to two with Council Member Johnson and Clinton voting against.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Little Wolf read an executive order to the City Council directing that City Council packets would now be ready on the Friday prior to the meeting rather than the Tuesday before in an effort for the Council Members to get any additional information they need prior to the meeting on Wednesday to make a better informed decision. She also stated that requests for additional information related to the packet items need to be in writing and to the Clerk no later than noon on the Tuesday prior the meeting. She also asked if there was any interest by the Council in serving on the Blue Mountain Action Council governing board.

Committee Reports

a. Committee Assignments

Mayor Little Wolf assigned committees for the 2008 – 2009 term. Committees are as follows:

Finance: Leroy Cunningham and Larry Johnson

Water/Sewer/Streets.: Larry Johnson and Jeff Broom

Parks/Cemeteries/Pool/Fairgrounds: Leroy Cunningham and Ken Lenhart

Nuisance/Police/Health: Larry Clinton and Jeff Broom

Flood/Emergency Preparedness: Larry Clinton and Ken Lenhart

Mayor Pro Tem: Leroy Cunningham
Personnel: Markeeta Little Wolf

At the conclusion of the committee assignments, Council Member Johnson questioned the Mayor's directives in assigning committees as he felt that he as not qualified to serve on the Finance Committee. He voiced his opinion that Council Member Clinton, who is a retired CPA, was more qualified. Mayor Little Wolf explained to Council Member Johnson that she did not believe that Council Member Clinton truly understands municipal finance. Unsatisfied with Mayor Little Wolf's explanation, Council Member Johnson abruptly left the meeting at 9:02 pm.

Approval of Bills

Council Member Cunningham moved to approve with Council Member Lenhart seconding. Motion to approve was approved and passed unanimously.

Payroll Clearing (Warrants 5999 – 6013)	\$14,749.90
Claims Clearing Vouchers (Warrants 14717 - 14751)	<u>\$28,611.58</u>
	\$43,361.48

Adjournment of Meeting

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

05/21/2008

Markeeta Little Wolf, Mayor

Attest:

Randy Hinchliffe, City Clerk