

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
February 6, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Retzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Golden, McRae, Schaefer, Mackleit, Guenther and Kackman: Present. Huntwork: Absent. A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to excuse Huntwork. Roll Call: All Yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Mackleit to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2023 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

The new coffee shop Shotz opened today, they were very busy with 195 cars coming through.

Hen House Chicks has moved across Main Street to their new location. The CDA has purchased the building they were in previously to start two restaurant incubators.

Both the boys and girls basketball teams moved on to districts.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

A motion was entered by Schaefer, seconded by Mackleit to approve all bills and claims as presented. Roll Call: All Yes.

CLAIMS

#8393-8444 & EFT

\$315,255.71

PAYROLL

#8386-8399 & EFT

\$75,035.41

GRAND TOTAL: \$390,291.12

CITIZENS REQUEST:

PUBLIC HEARING:

PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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NEW BUSINESS:

FEMA Flood Map Discussion:

Mathis received an email regarding a meeting with FEMA and flood zone. The rules have changed since Hurricane Katrina and every 10 years we need to recertify our levies. Mathis stated in 2010 the city started the process to certify the levies but did not finish. The draft maps presented in the meeting included several homes on A and B Avenues, Riverside Lane, Cedar and Oak Street in the flood map. These maps will not go into effect for a couple of years. Mathis reached out to an engineer that the city had worked with in the past and he will get us headed in the right direction for certifying the levies. It will likely require some studies to complete the process.

There was discussion about the cost of the recertification of the levies and if that is worth doing. To get an engineer to certify the concrete channel and levy system in its entirety will not fail may be at a cost we can't afford.

Mathis stated this could be why the study in 2010 was not completed. 130 homes are at risk of moving into this flood zone. It will increase the cost of insurance for these residents. We will do our due diligence to see the cost and compare that against what benefit that is overall. Mathis will keep the council updated as she gets information on this.

Resolution 23-01 – 2023 Legislative Priorities:

Retzer introduced Resolution 23-01 - 2023 Legislative Priorities

Parks: pool renovation project and the Lake Street Greenway project.

Infrastructure: Water and Sewer infrastructure; Highway 195/26 intersection; Highway 195 bridge at Island Street.

Economic Development: Downtown revitalization; support Colfax Downtown Association in their efforts for economic development.

Retzer and Golden will attend the AWC Conference and the Legislative Session this will be the first time for both of them.

Mathis thought it was important to have a list the council agreed on for Retzer and Golden to take with them, she meshed her list with Golden's.

Golden stated he has been asked if Colfax has put together a legislative priority document, he views this as an elevator speech of things we agree on that if you are ever in a situation where you can talk to one of our legislators you can pick a topic off of this list and advocate for Colfax.

A motion was entered by Kackman, seconded by Mackleit to approve Resolution 23-01 2023 Legislative Priorities. Roll Call: All Yes.

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DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police:

Chief Bruce Blood purchased Tasers from another department brand new out of the box. They also came with holsters and batteries, which was a great deal.

Pearson Farm and Fence is repairing the dog pound, the fencing will be stronger fencing with a barrier placed between pens to prevent the dogs from seeing each other in hopes of less damage to the fence.

Kackman suggest this not come out of the police budget for these repairs. Mathis agreed and stated if it can't be absorbed into the budget we can do a budget amendment later in the year.

Administration:

Mathis reported Whitman Hospital has put in an application for annexation. They intend to annex 6 acres where the McGraw house was above the hospital. Mathis stated staff will start working on that to bring before council

COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

MAYORS REPORT:


Retzer received a message from a citizen regarding speeders through town. They had a couple of suggestions: placing marked cars at each end of town and lighted speed signs to help slow down traffic. Retzer informed them we will have lighted speed limit signs installed this year and the police are very active with traffic patrols daily.

McRae stated the Hospital Foundation was a big success, the auction brought in \$120,000 and she thanked the elected officials and city staff that donated the pool pass for the auction.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.


Jim Retzer, Mayor


Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk