

HOKAH CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

5:30 PM TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING

Meeting opened at 5:30 PM by Council President, Pfiffner. See Roster of attendees. Discussion regarding taxes by attendees. Mayor Martell arrives at 5:50 PM. At 6:35 PM Mayor Martell adjourns the Truth in Taxation meeting.

DECEMBER 4, 2007 COUNCIL MEETING

- MEETINGING OPENED BY MAYOR at 6:40 PM.
 - ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Pfiffner, Christianson, Ross, Walther, Martell
 - CHANGES TO AGENDA. None.
 - MOTION TO CONSENT TO AGENDA. Martell asks for motion to consent: Walther makes, Christianson seconds, all in favor.
 - APPROVE MINUTES COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 6, 2007. Motion to approve, Walther makes, Pfiffner seconds, all in favor.
 - APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE. Motion to approve by Christianson, second by Ross, all in favor. Walther has change of bill submitted by Clearey's. \$4,953.82 to be removed from payables by this vendor. Blank discusses format presented to Council regarding payables. That in the future the format will reflect a more detailed listing of items payable.
1. **WWTP – JIM KOCHIE & ANDY KLINGSPORN:** Discussion regarding progress report, process of the new WWTP, and after the Holidays the new system will be put on line. Blank discusses he had a conversation with Paul Dornfeld regarding the purchase of a new truck from funds left from construction of the plant. Kochie reports that Wapasha request for payment this month was \$238,833.52. Wurm Electric \$108,640.54. Change orders presented: Change order # 6, Wapasha \$6,232.80 digester elimination. Change order for Wurm Electric. Transformer relocation \$475.00. Motion by Pfiffner, second Ross, all in favor. Pending or requested change orders, and budget. Current budget reflects \$84,750. That is how much change orders we may spend for the rest of the project. Kochie talks about a pickup with a blade at \$35,000. Lab equipment that Klingsporn wants, a garage door opener on maintenance building that Welke requests. Modify plumbing at control building, and discussion regarding sludge storage facility. Kochie reports that we still are within budget. Kochie also talks about user fees regarding the financing of plant. Klingsporn: 116 Main Street, meter out. Novak property curb stop is in. Klingsporn reports conditions of city trucks. Martell speaks about table location for Council Meetings. Pfiffner reports that people hear the Council better when the table faces the audience. Bissen agrees. Comments from audience that they can now hear the Council proceedings. Walther states that he also likes it this way, rather than the old way. Bissen states that the audience has been quieter because then now hear what is being said. Blank asks Kochie, he says he thinks this is better also. Discussion of placing the table into a V shape. No decision made.

2. **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Chief Schuldt is ill and not in attendance.
3. **RECREATION BOARD REPORT:** Christianson reports no information to report.
4. **STREET AND MAINTENANCE :** Reported earlier by Klingsporn.
5. **LIBRARY REPORT :** Bissen reports that she received a plaque for her service, and a souvenir.
6. **ZONING:** Two permits this month: Dorothy Humfeld utility shed okayed. Larry Erickson garage reviewed, meet setbacks, and approved.
7. **CREDIT CARD RESOLUTION AND POLICY:** Blank explains his interest in having a policy for the use of City credit card. Motion by Walther, second by Christianson to approve policy, all in favor.
8. **JANUARY 2008 COUNCIL MEETING DATE CHANGE:** Date changed to January 2, 2008. 6:00 PM.
9. **EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL AND QUESTIONNAIRE APPROVAL:** Council reviewed Appraisal and Questionnaire forms. Motion by Christianson, second by Walther, all in favor to adopt and implement.
10. **HOKAH FUN DAZE TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE FEB.23, 2008:** Motion by Christianson, second by Pfiffner all in favor to approve. Walther and Ross abstain.
11. **ACE TELEPHONE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AMENDMENT, ADDITION OF FEES:** Discussion regarding the original contract, and the failure of Ace Telephone to enter contract language and failure of the City to collect fees that originally were discussed, and dependent upon those fees to pass the resolution. Blank also speaks of Mediacom's contract that they are only bound to pay the same fee that their competition pays, in this case, nothing. The fee should be 3% of the gross receipts. Also, that Ace has installed cable TV into 102 Main Street building. Motion by Pfiffner, second by Walther to approve, all in favor to amend franchise agreement, and ordinance with Ace for the addition of the franchise fee.
12. **ARAMARK CONTRACT:** Discussion regarding the items and charges by Aramark. Plans to reduce the monthly charges. Blank will do a RFP and send to both G & K and Aramark for bids. Blank will review those rates.
13. **MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS-XMAS PARTY-JANUARY 5, 2008:**
At Commodore Club, La Crescent at 5:30 PM.
14. **COUNCIL MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES UPDATES:** Blank suggests one of the Council Members meet with Doug Moen and review the City Financials, payroll, etc. Christianson would be available on Friday mornings. She would be available at 8:00 AM. It was discussed, and agreed upon that once a month would be sufficient.

Martell discussed NRCS and the City of Hokah being involved with them for the Gerri Pizinni project. Blank discusses the need for a written agreement with Houston County so no fees would be attachable to the City of Hokah. Martell asks if he has the agreement of the City Council for himself and Blank to participate with the Houston County and NRCS. Christianson agrees, but states that she is concerned regarding signing the paper. Martell states he is unable to sign the document because the City of Hokah cannot sponsor a non-resident for EWP with the NRCS. Martell states he will take care of the situation with Houston County. Bottom line, we need a written agreement with both NRCS and Houston County. Walther talks about the Fire Station needs a good cleaning, if not it shouldn't be rented out. Discussion about painting the interior. Discussion also regarding A.B.L.E assistance. Walther also discusses Employee reviews completed. Martell states we just approved the package tonight. Walther discusses cost of living raises. Martell asks if we need to set this up tonight. Martell asks are we talking about January, February looking at it then. Christianson discusses getting it done tonight. Discussion on Council participation in reviews. Walther asks Pfiffner regarding her participation. Ross thinks we should just do it and get it done. Christianson agrees, and Pfiffner also. Blank is going to set up participants and scheduling, hopefully completing this in the month of December. Blank asks if any Council Member would NOT like to participate. Pfiffner sates she wouldn't like to participate. She explains her reasoning. Martell states he also isn't interested. Ross, Walther and Christianson are interested. Christianson asks are we doing anything about reevaluating the water and sewer rates. Rita is going to speak with Jim Kochie regarding this. Martell states he will also speak with Jim.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ross motions and Christianson seconds to adjorn. All in favor at 8:15 PM.

Attested this day _____ of _____, 2008

Administrator

Mayor