

City of Houston Lake

Unofficial Minutes of the Council Meeting

July 11, 2011

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on July 11, 2011 at City Hall. The following members were present: Aldermen Phil Otte, Perry Davis, Dan Coronado and Rick Cowan.

Opening Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Hallauer presided.

Public Discussion

Resident Larry Haynes asked the Council when the pot holes will be fixed as there are getting to be more. Mayor Hallauer said that weather permitting all the trouble spots can be fixed at one time.

HOA Director Bill Winton addressed the Council with a proposal for cutting the costs of copying as he felt that the Homes Association could produce the Houston Laker in a more cost effective way. He was provided a copy of the annual invoice sheet. This sheet shows the total cost of the shared printing and mowing for the City and the Homes Association. Mayor Hallauer pointed out that the total number of copies used last year was approximately 40,000 of which the City used approximately 1600. The rest was for the printing of the Houston Laker. This means that the City pays 50% of the total cost (\$603.14) for 4% of the usage. He also pointed out that the City pays 50% of the mowing costs and owns only 15% to 20% of the property mowed. Mr. Winton will present this to the Homes Association Board for possible adjustments to the Houston Laker or ceasing publication altogether.

Minutes June 13, 2011

The minutes were approved by general consent.

Building Permit

None

Treasurers Report

Alderman Coronado moved that we accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Alderman Cowan. Motion passed.

Emergency Management

Director of Houston Lake Emergency Management, Alderman Coronado told the Council the City of Parkville is letting him have a copy of their Emergency Management Binder for all of the Council to see. He also is in the process of finishing one of the courses for Public Works and ICS, Instant Command System. ICS shows the City how to interact with local, county and state officials in case of a disaster. He also plans to introduce himself to other city Emergency Management Officials.

Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report

No reports

Reports from Aldermen

Alderman Cowan – Alderman Cowan wanted to thank everyone that came out to help setup the mortars, Andrew Garcia and Bob King. He asked the Mayor if we ever got the KCPL poles numbers for some minor repairs. Mayor Hallauer said that he received the numbers and KCPL has been notified.

Alderman Otte – Alderman Otte said that he thought that the 4th was one of the best fireworks display he had seen, and thanks to all that helped. Another thank you to Joe Chepra for cleaning the ditches and to Glenn Morris for a great job on mowing in this heat.

Alderman Coronado – Alderman Coronado contacted the contract manager with the Kansas City Water Department about reseeding the areas that are not really growing very well. He was informed that the contractor will be coming back out to reseed these areas.

He also stated that he has observed late at night someone climbing the hill above the Mayor's Park with an SUV. That property is private and would make it difficult to block off.

Alderman Davis – Alderman Davis thanked everyone for the wonderful 4th of July event.

New Business

a. 2011- 2012 Budget Hearing:

The Council was given a copy of the proposed 2011-2012 budget. With some discussion, public and from the Council, Alderman Coronado made a motion to accept the 2011-2012 budget, seconded by Alderman Otte.

Roll call:

Cowan – Aye

Davis – Aye

Otte – Aye

Coronado – Aye

Motion passed

Resolution 7-11-11 (paybills)

Alderman Cowan moved that we accept Resolution 7-11-11, seconded by Alderman Otte.

Motion passed.

Mayors Report

a. Mayor informed the Council that there will be a Household Hazardous Waste program scheduled for August. We are part of a Co-op agreement with MARC. This will be posted in the Houston Laker.

b. The sewer maps are now on a CD and a flash drive. Mayor Hallauer thanked Mayor Head and Alderman Coronado for their endeavors putting that together.

c. The July 4th event was a great time for all. Mayor thanked all the Aldermen for their continued support. The only problem was a group of people doing fireworks in the street. This is not allowed.

d. Mayor Hallauer had a comment and false assumption by a resident regarding the Closed Session. The statement from this resident was that the City goes into a Closed Session to “spend money under the table”. Mayor needed to set the record straight by noting that spending is approved and conducted in an open forum. Spending is tracked monthly by the Council, Bank and Bookkeeper. **The State of Missouri allows a City Council to enter into a Closed Session for the following reasons:**

1. Discussion of Legal issues

2. Real Estate (purchasing or selling)

3. Personnel issues.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm