

City of Houston Lake
Official Minutes of the Council Meeting
November 10, 2014

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on November 10, 2014 at City Hall. The following members were present: Aldermen Phil Otte, Dan Coronado , Rick Cowan and Jean Anderson.

Opening Session

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

Public Discussion

The President of the Homes Association, Larry Haines submitted to the Council, a list of residencies that the Board had some concerns with. Mayor Hallauer will submit this to the Codes Enforcement Officer for review.

Resident Bob King asked why the minutes were not published in the following months Houston Laker. Alderman Rick Cowan told him that the Council has to approve the minutes before they are published. Mr. Cowan will provide more information to Mr. King at the next meeting.

Kerry Hollowell, Iris Arnold and Chuck Stone voiced their disapproval of taking down the quilt and the painting of City Hall. Joyce Kullman said that City Hall needed to be updated. Mayor Hallauer said that City Hall needed to be cleaned and painted and that it will be up to the Council to decide what will stay or be removed from the walls. For the record Alderman Otte noted that the removal of the quilt had never been discussed by the Council.

The residents also asked about the spillway bridge and the potential closing. Mayor Hallauer stated that the Council was looking at all options in the repair of or replacement of the bridge as all of the wood needs to be replaced.

Mr. King asked about the gates the City had ordered and if they were in the city garage. Mayor Hallauer told him that the gates were not and have not been in the city garage.

Mr. King also asked about the money collected from the court. Mayor Hallauer told him that some of the money goes to the state, some to Synergy and the remainder goes into the General fund which is recorded on the Collectors report.

Minutes October 13, 2014

The October, 2014 minutes were approved by general consent.

Building Permit

A Building permit at 5400 NW Wagon Trail for a garage was approved by the Council. The Council also approved a building permit for an existing room addition at 5355 NW Edgewood Trail.

Treasurers Report

The treasurers' report was approved by the Council.

The Treasurers report shows a grand total balance of \$270,592.26.

Resolution11-10-14 (paybills)

The City Council approved Resolution11-10-14 unanimously.

Collectors Report

City Collector Joyce Kullman reported deposits of \$1,529.74 for the month of October, 2014.

Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report

The Platte County Sheriff's Department submitted reports for the month of October, 2014.
No report from Codes Enforcement Officer Mitch Kelly.

Emergency Management

Emergency Management Director Dan Coronado reported that he will be attending classes on Radio C program which is a state wide system for emergencies. He will also attend a Regional Council meeting for Hazard Mitigation.

Old Business

None

New Business

a. Mayor Hallauer submitted 2 Proposals to the Council for painting the inside of city hall. One Proposal from About Time General Contracting LLC for \$8,230.85 and the other from L&H Painting for \$2,800.00. The Council unanimously approved the proposal from L & H.

Reports from Aldermen

Alderman Cowan – No report

Alderman Otte – Alderman Otte thanked Alderman Anderson for completing the National Flood Insurance Program.

Alderman Coronado – Alderman Coronado thanked Bob King and Any Spottswood for their help in correcting the drainage problem on Venetian Drive.

Alderman Anderson – Alderman Anderson reported that during recent public discussions, because of the water issues on Venetian Drive there's been a push to enact a law to prevent encroachment to city streets. She consulted neighbors and asked if they'd support a new law preventing encroachments especially if that law were made retroactive requiring property owners to remove encroachments. Those that she talked to before this meeting do not support such a law and it would upset them if they had to remove their off road parking. Therefore she would not support enacting a law against encroachments unless there was a clear majority of residents supporting the law. Rather she'd prefer to spend the energy on improving the water drainage issues we have surrounding city streets. She suggested the city work on using ditches, curbs and culverts along our streets so the cost and benefit is city wide.

Pumpkin Festival was fun, 32 people showed up even though game 7 of the Royals World Series was that night. She thanked Joyce Kullman, Jan and Nick Jackalone, Linda Kramer, and Wendy Thompson for all their help. Everyone had a great time.

She was asked to research printing costs for photos to hang in city hall. "I was not asked to display my photos in city hall as has been reported in the paper. I don't know how that rumor started." She found two bids within reason, \$27 and \$30 per print.

Although she liked the idea of resident's scenic photos on display, she suggested that we not limit the display to just photos. She would prefer to see visual art of all types, including paintings and textiles. She would also like the display to be more like a museum, nothing permanent, rather refreshed quarterly. She would like to see the Houston Lake quilt cleaned and mended if needed, then back on display as part of the rotating cycle of art.

Mayors Report

a. Mayor Hallauer outlined 3 entities that review bills and make sure that we are in compliance with State law: The Missouri Municipal League, Sullivan Publications and the City Attorney. Each entity reviews bills that may affect 4th class cities as well as other cities. The Cities are notified periodically on these changes. The City Attorney checks case law so that cities are not in conflict with State Law. The law states that the City Clerk shall be elected by the Board of Alderman. On 3-10-03 the City Clerk was elected by the Board of Alderman with all four Alderman voting in favor.

b. Mayor Hallauer responded on the “Glorious 90’s” of Houston Lake. The Homes Association at that time ran out of money and the City had more expenses than income. The Homes Association had a leased dredge and begged for volunteers to help. The City had to rely on the welfare of another City to help cover the money shortage for several years to come. The community was divided with hatred. Mayor Hallauer read a comment from one of the residents complaining about the 90’s dredging project. The resident complained on how horrible the Lake looked at that time. “Have a good look at your lake” wrote a resident, “do you really see any improvement”. It seems this resident was “against it” before he was “for it”. Sound Glorious?

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.