

**City of Houston Lake**  
**Official Minutes of the Council Meeting**  
**June 13, 2016**

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on June 13, 2016 at City Hall. The following members were present: Mayor Joyce Kullman, Aldermen Phil Otte, Evadene Judge, Pam Freese, and excused was Rick Cowan.

**Opening Session**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Kullman.

Mayor Kullman asked for a moment of silence for the tragic event that took place in Orlando, Florida.

**Public Discussion**

State Representative Kevin Corlew attended the meeting to introduce himself and ask for questions from the audience. Mayor Kullman inquired about the top highlights of his session and he touched on these issues:

- a. Restrictions on lobbying by former government officials
- b. How campaign money is spent
- c. Education
- d. Balanced budget
- e. Public safety
- f. Criminal Justice
- g. Lawsuit Reform Bill
- h. Vehicle sales tax
- i. Municipal Court Reform Bill

Alderman Freese inquired about the Education Bill that will go into effect in 2018-2019; all students will be screened for dyslexia. Ms. Freese asked at what age the students will be screened. State Representative Corlew answered accordingly.

**Minutes May 9, 2016**

The May 9, 2016 minutes were approved by general consent.

**Building Permit**

A new building permit for 5335 NW Edgewood Circle was approved by Council.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mayor Kullman informed everyone that the general fund CD matured, and would be rolled over for the time being. Mayor Kullman informed everyone that the mill & overlay CD, and the road fund CD will mature this month and can be used to fund road work. Alderman Freese inquired as to why a check for \$279.76 came out of our road fund account. Mayor Kullman will check into this matter. The Treasurer's report was approved by the Council.

The Treasurer's report shows a balance of \$353,280.31.

**Resolution 6-13-16 (paybills)**

The City Council approved Resolution 6-13-16 unanimously.

**City Administrator Report**

City Administrator Joe Chepren expressed his gratitude towards Mayor Joyce, Ethan, Glen, Tony, and Anthony for all their help on City Clean Up Day. He thanked Nick Jackalone for spending that morning helping him clean out the maintenance building, and to City Clerk Melinda Cook for helping with follow up on his behalf. He also thanked the mayor for all the work she does and for making all of our jobs a little more enjoyable.

City Administrator Chepren stated that there were concerns from several residents at last month's public discussion about the erosion and traffic impact from the project on Northwood and 56th Street. He has identified that the project is in the watershed and has searched out the development company and exchanged several emails sharing the residents' concerns. The developer has taken action to correct the BMPs (best management practices), and Mr. Chepren has scheduled a site meeting on Friday, June 17th to survey the site to ensure BMPs are in place.

City Administrator Chepren informed everyone that the road survey work has been completed on the southeast section of Houston Lake from the dam to the start of the new pavement on NW Edgewater Trail. The survey work will continue on the East and West sections by Venetian over the next month.

City Administrator Chepren provided an update to the culvert cleaning project; all work has been shut down. It has been decided by some of the residents that use of his personal equipment and his endless, countless hours of effort were not needed, and therefore he has removed himself and his equipment from any further work for the community of Houston Lake. He would like to make this public knowledge and let everyone know that he is not one to walk away from unfinished projects, but in this case he will. He will contact vendors to get bids on the City's behalf for completion of the work. Resident Janette Boehm informed everyone that she walks through the lake and is very impressed by the amount of work Joe has done for our community.

City Administrator Chepren informed everyone that people have been calling City Hall to report the bridge conditions, and someone even reported getting a flat tire. He has pre-drilled and respiked the loose tread plates. He also stated that the traffic impact to our bridge is a concern, and that the largest percentage of the traffic isn't even from residents of Houston Lake. Resident Boehm stated that she noticed the bridge work that had been done and thanked Mr. Chepren for his work.

City Administrator Chepren stated that he, Mayor Kullman, and Melinda Cook, City Clerk, met with John Bellerive from Haynes Equipment last week to discuss the grinder pumps. Mr. Chepren informed everyone that we are in the process of implementing a global pump inspection to gather information to create a plan to move forward. He will give an update upon completion of the onsite inspection by Haynes' employees.

Mayor Kullman informed everyone that Haynes Equipment will be conducting a global inspection next Tuesday and Wednesday to determine how old each pump is, when it was installed, and pump's wiring. A letter will be mailed to the 37 residences which have grinder pumps.

### **Sheriff's Report**

The Platte County Sheriff's Department submitted a police report for the month of May, 2016.

### **Codes' Enforcement Report**

A codes' report was presented to council and attendees. Codes Enforcement Officer Ethan Dean stated that he had received some questions as to why some people get five days to resolve an issue and some people get 30 days. Mr. Dean informed everyone that it is in the City Codes that if it is a lawn issue the homeowner has five days, and if it is the removal of trees or vehicles it is 30 days. Mr. Dean further stated that he had spoken with the city attorney and was informed that after going through the court system there is a new owner for the property at 5426 NW Venetian Circle. Mr. Dean also inquired as to who is responsible for a tree that has fallen and is partially in the lake; is it the HOA or the homeowner's responsibility? Council will research and let him know. He also stated that while four people will be summoned to court, for the most part everyone has been pretty cooperative and progress is being made. Mayor Kullman asked if anyone had seen any activity at 5420 NW Houston Lake Drive. No one has. The City will continue to have the yard mowed until owners can be identified and the invoices will be added to the home's tax bill. If anyone sees any activity at the residence please contact our Codes Enforcement Officer Dean.

### **Emergency Management**

No report

### **Reports from Aldermen**

**Alderman Judge** - Alderman Evadene Judge shared an article that was posted in the Kansas City Star that highlighted the benefits of living in Platte County.

**Alderman Otte** –Alderman Phil Otte **thanked** everyone that volunteered for the City Clean Up Day.

**Alderman Freese** - Alderman Pam Freese stated that she attended the Missouri Municipal League Conference along with Mayor Kullman and found it to be very informative. She briefly gave an overview on these topics:

- a. The Sunshine Law
- b. Closed session Meetings
- c. Community Building
- d. Revenue Streams

**Alderman Cowan** – excused

### **Mayors Report**

Mayor Kullman thanked all the volunteers who helped with City Clean Up Day. This will be the last time the city offers the free dumpsters due to problems with the event. Several non-residents dumped items, many people dumped illegal items, and some people abused the access to free dumpsters. Some of the volunteers were verbally abused by people dropping off items. It is obvious that the original intent/spirit of the event (to help residents) is no longer there and is a waste of the city's resources.

Mayor Kullman stated that on July 4th at 11:00 am at the Mayors' park there will be a pet show, followed by a kids' bike parade across the dam at 11:30 am. Kids of all ages are welcome. At 4:00 pm our traditional pot luck will be held at City Hall. The city will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, and brats; we ask residents bring lawn chairs and a side dish. We will play garage sale bingo followed by fireworks at dark. Alderman Rick Cowan will put on the fireworks show and is in need of a volunteer to assist.

Mayor Kullman informed everyone that we received an estimate from Sullivan to update our City's Codes book.

**Closed Session**

None

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.