

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

May 3, 2012

The City Council met at 5:00 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Larsen presiding. Council present: Bierbaum, Humann, True, Shepherd. Council absent: Tooley.

Guests in attendance: Michael Jones II, Ron Hamilton, Izetta Dierking, Briar Brockmann, Linda Booth, Carol Rosenbaum, and Bob Martens.

City staff in attendance: Jim Blum and Terri Abel.

Motion by Shepherd, seconded by Humann to approve the agenda. Ayes: Bierbaum, Humann, Shepherd, True. Carried.

Motion by Shepherd, seconded by True to approve the preceding month's minutes and Library minutes. Ayes: True, Bierbaum, Shepherd, Humann. Carried.

Motion by Humann, seconded by Shepherd to approve the Treasurer's and Clerk's reports. Ayes: Humann, Bierbaum, Shepherd, True. Carried.

Michael Jones II was present at the Council meeting to request permission to remove sidewalk from the north side of his residence, which is located at 212 Pacific Street. Jones explained that surface water is washing back toward his residence because of the way that the yard is landscaped. He said that he would be able to correct the problem by removing the sidewalk and reshaping the yard. Mayor Larsen further explained that the sidewalk essentially goes nowhere as it extends to the west only as far as the Jones's driveway. Larsen also commented that the sidewalk makes it difficult to maintain the ditch between the sidewalk and the street. The Mayor recommended that the Council allow Jones to remove the sidewalk with the understanding that if the City would ever make the decision that sidewalk is required in that area of the community, Jones would be obligated to replace the sidewalk at that time.

Motion by Humann, seconded by True upon the recommendation of the Mayor, to allow Michael and Jennifer Jones permission to remove the sidewalk on the north side of their residence, which is located at 212 Pacific Street. Ayes: Shepherd, True, Bierbaum, Humann. Carried.

Ron Hamilton was present at the meeting to discuss employee health insurance. Hamilton reminded the Council members that the decision was made approximately one year ago to create a partial self-funding health insurance account, which is currently being administered by Employee Benefit Systems. At that time, the City Council raised the deductible on the employees' health insurance plan and offset some of the increased financial responsibility to the employees by partially self-funding the plan. The plan is funded from the premium savings that are derived from increasing the deductible; the savings amount to approximately \$1,475.00 per month. The employees are responsible for deductibles, out-of-pocket maximums, and co-pays on the EBS plan.

Hamilton provided the Council members with a financial breakdown of the self-funding plan. The breakdown accounted for the ten months that have passed since the changes were made on July 1 of 2011. According to Hamilton's figures, the City saved \$17,433.72 by increasing the deductible, changing the dental plan, and deleting the employees' vision insurance. Eleven total deposits have been made into the plan amounting to \$16,225.00. Dollars remaining in the account, after all claims have been paid, amounted to \$13,746.00.

Ron reviewed a benefit summary that was provided by Employee Benefit Systems. The current primary plan, C52/A48, is with Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. The deductible, in-network, is \$2500/\$5000 with an out-of-pocket maximum of \$5000/\$10,000. The deductible, non-network, is \$2500/\$5000 with an out-of-pocket maximum of \$6250/\$12,500. The current reimbursement plan has a deductible, in-network, of \$750/\$1500 with an out-of-pocket maximum of \$1500/\$3000. The deductible, non-network, is \$750/\$1500 with an out-of-pocket maximum of \$1875/\$3750. Hamilton explained that the non-network figures are essentially not applicable because Wellmark has such a large network of providers. The maximum dollar exposure to the employer per member, in-network amounts to \$3500/\$7000. Accordingly, the City's potential liability could total up to \$21,000.00.

Ron explained that partially self-funding the employees' health insurance plan allows the City to take control of its health insurance without greatly diminishing benefits to the employees. He provided a partial self-funded illustration to further explain the

mechanics of the plan. The cost-sharing begins after an employee has reached a deductible of \$750.00.

Hamilton reported that the current health insurance plan will increase in premium cost by 9.43%. He provided the Council members with a detail of the renewal rate change, a copy of which is on file at City Hall. Family coverage for health benefits will increase from \$1,584.76 per month to \$1,734.24 per month; family coverage for dental will increase from \$146.63 per month to \$150.32 per month. During the course of discussion, Hamilton also reviewed the renewal claims experience, which amounted to \$89,402.82 worth of covered charges incurred from November of 2010 to December of 2011.

Shepherd calculated that the City is paying in excess of \$21,000.00 per year per employee for insurance benefits. Hamilton explained that the self-insurance fund would allow the City the flexibility of possibly lowering premium costs over time while maintaining the level of deductibles.

Shepherd distributed an article that was recently published in the Harlan Newspaper concerning a health incentive that would reduce the premium cost for Shelby County. Susan commented that Shelby County is providing insurance benefits to the County employees that amount to approximately \$12,000.00 per employee per year. She also provided the Council members with an article concerning a profile of fringe benefits provided by employers located in the Greater Council Bluffs Region. Shepherd stated that most companies that were profiled provide health insurance benefits for their employees but not the employees' families. She felt that the City Council should consider requiring the employees to participate in paying a portion of their premium costs.

Hamilton commented that he believed that the self-funding program that the City began last year has proven itself to be effective, and it has saved the City money without substantially decreasing the health insurance benefits to the employees. He also stated that the premium increase became effective on May 1, 2012; however, it is possible to change plans at any time. Ron also commented that the cost of health insurance may eventually level out due to possible changes in the legislature that have already been anticipated and reflected in increased premium costs.

Mayor Larsen synopsised that the City pays 100% of the premium costs for the City employees' health and dental insurance coverage. Last year the Council opted to raise the deductible, thereby reducing the premium. The savings that was derived from the reduced premium has been deposited monthly into an account to help fund the difference in coverage.

Shepherd stated that she felt that perhaps the City should possibly pay for insurance coverage for its employees; however, according to Shepherd, most companies do not pay for insurance for spouses or families. She commented that the City would realize a tremendous savings by paying only the premium cost for the employees. Mayor Larsen felt that it would be drastic and financially devastating to require the employees to pay for insurance coverage for their families. Larsen noted that the City has routinely planned for and allocated the cost of insurance benefits for the full-time employees. The Mayor recommended that the City Council carefully consider the impact on the City employees before making any changes to insurance coverage or required premiums. He cautioned that the City should introduce the employees' financial participation gradually. In any event, the Mayor stated that the current health insurance plan will continue unless changes are made by the City Council. Discussion of employee health insurance will not appear on the agenda for the next City Council meeting unless a Council member decides to make a proposal to the City Council.

On a final note, Linda Booth commented that an upcoming Supreme Court decision could perhaps impact future decisions regarding health insurance benefits.

Relative to discussion of the possible development of a sand volleyball court, Briar Brockmann, representing the Youth Advisory Board, gave an oral presentation concerning a request from the community youth for a sand volleyball court. Briar explained that the proposed location for the court is between the batting cage and the water tower, both of which are located in Veteran's Memorial Park. The location is far enough from Peace Haven that noise and lighting should not be issues. The proposed budget for the facility amounted to \$5,000.00, which did not include the cost of lighting. The cost of installing a light could range from \$2,500.00 to \$3,200.00. Brockmann noted that the Youth Board would be willing to raise the money for lighting. She provided a breakdown of the proposed budget line items for the Council members' review.

Bierbaum explained each line item in detail. She stated that if a light pole were to be donated for the project, the cost of lighting the court would be closer to the bottom end of the lighting budget. Bierbaum stated that the City had received a bid for wiring the light; the bid amounted to approximately \$2,200.00. It will be necessary to extend electricity from the football scoreboard to the site, and a timer box and eye will be included. Jim stated that the box on the back of the crow's nest needs to be replaced; the box is currently capable of handling only the electricity for the crow's nest. Blum noted that it would be possible to convert an old ball park light to be suitable to light the sand volleyball court without a great deal of cost. Jim explained that the refurbished light would take a few minutes to warm up, so if someone should turn off the light during a match, it would take a few minutes for it to warm up to again properly light the court.

The Council members discussed the fact that the sand volleyball court would definitely be grant eligible; however, Abel stated that it would most certainly delay the project.

Bierbaum noted that Hallett Materials had given her a break on the cost of sand from \$17.00 per ton to \$12.00 per ton; the cost included transportation. She assumed that Tim Branan's price of \$275.00 for the poles included the cost of the poles.

Marye said that she personally felt that the court needs to be lighted to be attractive to the youth and to enhance possible fundraising opportunities. She reiterated that that Youth Advisory Board would be willing to fundraise to light the court.

When questioned about available funding, Abel indicated that the budget for FY 12-13 included \$5,000.00 for repairs to the west restroom. Since those repairs have essentially already been finished, the allocation would be available for other park-related expenses. There is an additional allocation in the upcoming budget for routine park maintenance and repairs. Should it become necessary to purchase a light pole, the proposed budget for the facility could total approximately \$8,200.00.

Marye commented that the Youth Advisory Board is planning to host a softball tournament during Fun Fest activities, the proceeds of which could be used to reimburse the City for lighting the sand volleyball court. Mayor Larsen recommended that the City fund the development of the facility, with the Youth Board to reimburse the City \$1,500.00. He commented that the court would constitute another improvement to the park area at a fairly inexpensive cost.

Motion by Humann, seconded by Bierbaum to approve up to \$8,500.00 for the installation of a sand volleyball court in Veteran's Memorial Park, with \$1,500.00 to be paid back by the Youth Advisory Board within two years of the completion of the project. Ayes: True, Shepherd, Humann, Bierbaum. Carried.

Bierbaum commented that it would be possible to host a tournament this summer if the court were to be finished by mid-July. Jim estimated that it would take approximately one week to excavate the site, and it would be necessary to coordinate the project with other contractors.

Discussion of the development of a sand volleyball court is to appear on the agenda for the next regular City Council meeting.

The Council members briefly discussed improvements that are planned for Fireman's Park. Jim reported that four old-fashioned street lights have been ordered, along with a bench, picnic tables, a bicycle rack, two new water features, and a grill. It is anticipated that the splash pad will be opened for Memorial Day weekend; a new sign with splash pad rules has been ordered. The bricks have been installed between the splash pad and the Alec Mertz Playground.

There was no Fire Department discussion.

No one was present at the Council meeting to request the City's financial participation in the replacement of residential sidewalk. The Council members had approved the continuation of a Residential Sidewalk Program, not to exceed a cost of \$5,000.00 per fiscal year. The program is on a first-come first-served basis, and property owners must appear before the City Council to participate in the program. After the completed sidewalk has been inspected by the City Superintendent, the City will reimburse property owners for sidewalk replacement at \$5.00 per running foot.

Blum suggested that the City encourage the public to participate in sidewalk replacement by running an ad in the Walnut Bureau publicizing the program. Mayor Larsen noted that some of the sidewalks in the residential area are in extremely bad condition and should be replaced. The City and the property owners are potentially liable should someone incur an injury because of deteriorated sidewalk.

True noted that some of the sidewalk in the Business District is in bad shape and should be replaced. The Council was reminded that the City shares in one-half of the cost of commercial sidewalk replacement. Shepherd reported that she had recently fallen on the sidewalk going north from the post office because the sidewalk has deteriorated. The Mayor requested that the Council members document the bad spots for review and possible action by the City Council. True felt that all the sidewalks in the Business District need to be replaced, not just patched. The Mayor noted that if a sidewalk is hazardous, patching is better than doing nothing. He also indicated that the property owner would be financially responsible for one-half of the cost, whether it be patching the bad areas of the sidewalk or replacing the sidewalk. Blum stated that the ordinance mandates that sidewalk be replaced in one pour so that the sidewalk is even. According to Blum, replacing the entire sidewalk would be preferable to patching only the bad areas.

Abel commented that it is possible to assess the cost of sidewalk replacement to property taxes, payable over several years.

Mayor Larsen stated that if the Council feels strongly that sidewalk replacement is needed in the Business District, the members should take pictures of the deteriorated sidewalk and propose a plan to the Council. He commented that perhaps some of the sidewalk would suffice without the need of replacement. Once the sidewalk has been identified, the City Council would need to formulate a plan including costs and financial responsibility. The Mayor stated that the City should make certain that all City-owned sidewalks are in good condition.

Shepherd reminded Blum that the City men should either repair or remove the sidewalk that extends from the Eldon Ranney property east across the alley.

On a final note, Mayor Larsen stated that it is the Mayor and Council's job to determine whether sidewalk needs to be replaced. He also said that if the Council feels strongly that sidewalk needs to be replaced in the Business District, the Council members need to document the deteriorated areas. Mayor Larsen stated that a plan is needed, and the services of an engineer can be enlisted if necessary.

There was continuing discussion concerning solid waste disposal. The Council members were provided with a draft agreement for residential trash collection. Abel reported that she had compiled a preliminary count of 349 household units, and she requested Council input and clarification concerning the dwellings that should be counted for the purpose of the agreement. Abel noted that the preliminary count included all vacant houses and apartments in the community, including apartments in older two-story houses. The count also included four units for each of the two Walnut Housing buildings. Abel indicated that several houses in the community have been vacant for many years, and she questioned whether those houses should be included in the household unit count. Abel stated that contractors will be bidding on the agreement according to the number of household units, and an inflated number of units would be costly for the City. Abel was advised to not include any household units that have been vacant for two years in the total of household units. She is then to include one-half of all other vacant houses in the overall total.

Abel referenced the minutes of the May 5, 1992 City Council meeting where the decision was made to bill the two Walnut Housing buildings only for the monthly landfill charge for garbage collection. Consequently, the City has been charging each building \$8.00 per month for garbage collection since 1992. Abel questioned whether she should continue to charge according to the 1992 decision or whether each building should be considered four units each. Mayor Larsen commented that he had no problem with the City subsidizing Walnut Housing for a portion of its garbage fees. It was also reported that there is one water meter at each Walnut Housing building, so each building is actually saving three minimum water charges. After a brief discussion, Abel was advised to bill for two garbage fees per building; for the purposes of the agreement, each building will be considered to be four units. Abel was advised to send Walnut Housing a letter prior to the change in garbage billing.

The Council members reviewed some of the aspects of the draft agreement. The agreement states that the contractor is not obligated to pick up more than six containers per household unit. Shepherd did not feel that the agreement should limit the number of containers per household unit. Both Blum and Mayor Larsen felt that there should definitely be a limit of containers because there is already a problem with people outside of the community transporting their garbage to the City limits for disposal without paying for the service. Abel also pointed out that a specified number of containers would give

bidding contractors an idea of tonnage when they are preparing their bids. According to the agreement, the contractor is financially responsible for all landfill fees.

Mayor Larsen stated that the draft agreement includes a clause stating that if the contractor's actual fuel cost exceeds \$5.00 per gallon for a period of at least three consecutive months during the term of the agreement, the City would allow the contractor to increase the per unit monthly fee by an amount necessary to recapture the increased fuel cost to the contractor. The increase would be mutually agreed upon by the City and the contractor. Any such increase would be terminated at such time the price per gallon of fuel would fall below \$5.00. Mayor Larsen felt that the clause was much simpler than a fuel surcharge, which oftentimes varies from week to week.

The draft agreement included two general pickup events and weekly curbside recycling. The agreement also specifies that the contractor will collect City trash from City Hall, the Library, a dumpster at the Water Plant, and a dumpster at the park. Since the agreement is only for residential collection, each commercial business will have to make arrangements for garbage collection with any hauler of choice. Blum noted that the AMVETs will also have to make arrangements for trash collection during the June Antique Walk. Mayor Larsen made note that general garbage cleanup is only for residential properties. During the last cleanup event, a landlord set out accumulated furniture and debris that was left when someone moved from the house. Larsen stated that the landlord should have been responsible to pay Walnut Sanitation because the rental house is actually being operated as a business.

Mayor Larsen requested that the Council members review the draft agreement, which will again be discussed at the next regular City Council meeting. Abel felt that the contractors could prepare their bids based on the specifications that are contained in the agreement. There have been eight to ten contractors who have expressed an interest in bidding on the agreement.

Discussion of solid waste disposal is to appear on the agenda for the next regular City Council meeting.

Relative to discussion of nuisances, the Council members were provided with a citizen complaint that had been filed by Jean Bornholdt. The complaint included nuisances at three separate properties. Bornholdt complained about the property that is owned by Robert Sieck at 505 Walnut Street, where a scaffold has been on the property for years, home wrap paper is coming off the house, and there are boards, cement blocks, trash, and weeds in the yard. Bornholdt's complaint suggested that the City should change the ordinance to put a time limit on building permits, including a fine schedule. Jean wrote that the remodeling of the house has been continuing for several years. Jean also complained about a boat that is parked by a fire hydrant in front of 409 Walnut Street on property owned by Dennis Brix. Her final complaint was made about a wrecker in the alley by the garage on the property that is located at 407 Walnut Street, which is owned by Megan Olsen.

The Council members discussed each portion of the complaint individually. Mayor Larsen questioned whether some of the issues regarding the Robert Sieck property would be classified as nuisances. He noted that there are probably indeed weeds on the property which could be construed as a nuisance. True felt that there should be a time limit to complete a building project, after which, a fine would be imposed. Bob Martens, the City's Zoning Administrator, stated that there is an 18 month to 2 year maximum time allotment to complete a building project without having to reapply for a new building permit. According to the Zoning Ordinance, building permits expire two years after the date of issuance if work is begun within 180 days of issuance or after 180 days if no substantial beginning of construction has occurred. Abel noted that this complaint has been discussed in the past, and it was determined that everything that remains to be completed on Sieck's house does not require a building permit. There are currently things at the property that could be determined to be nuisances, however, according to the direction of the Council. The Mayor stated that the Council members should personally view the property to determine whether or not there is anything on the property that could be construed as a nuisance. If there are nuisances, the Council members were instructed to contact Abel who, in turn, would contact Mayor Larsen.

No one was certain how close the boat was parked to the adjacent fire hydrant in front of the Dennis Brix property. Blum noted that there is a 72-hour parking limit on the street, and Brix's boat has been parked on the street for several years; the boat trailer also needs to be licensed. Abel was instructed to send an abate of nuisance letter to Dennis Brix requiring him to either remove the boat from the street or move it every 72 hours.

Blum noted that the wrecker that is parked along the alley behind the Megan Olsen residence was licensed one year ago; he was not certain whether the wrecker is currently properly licensed. Blum was instructed to determine whether the wrecker is currently licensed. If not, Abel is to send an abate of nuisance letter regarding junk vehicles, requiring the owner to remove the vehicle within ten days.

True provided a definition of nuisance to Mayor Larsen; the nuisance definition was taken from State Code. True felt that the Council should take action when written complaints are filed. She stated that there have been instances in the community where residents leave because of nuisances in their neighborhood.

Shepherd made note that there is a small mower trailer that is parked across the street to the south from Calvary Baptist Church. She stated that people have told her that they have come close to hitting the trailer with their vehicles while traveling the street.

Discussion of nuisances is to appear on the agenda for the next regular City Council meeting.

The meeting was recessed at this time for a short break.

The acquisition of 308 Atlantic Street remains in the hands of the City Attorney, who is working through the process to gain title to the property.

True reported that she had requested bids for pruning the trees in the Business District; however, she had not yet received any bids for the service. Cheryl stated that she should be able to obtain two bids by the next City Council meeting. Jim thought that the trees should be trimmed soon before they start rubbing on the buildings; some trees should not be pruned until the fall of the year. The Mayor stated that if True is able to obtain bids before the next meeting, she should contact the Mayor to receive permission to proceed with pruning the trees. The bidders should know the proper time to prune trees. During the course of discussion, it was noted that three of the trees need to be replaced; one is essentially dead; one was destroyed by a recent wind storm; and one was hit by a vehicle. True stated that she would also obtain a cost for replacing the three trees. The Council members agreed that a consensus of True, Larsen, and Blum would determine any decisions that are made regarding either pruning the trees or replacing three of the trees. Mayor Larsen noted that he would like to be able to reach a decision within a week from the date of the meeting.

Blum reported that Steve Epley had expressed a desire to purchase a gate from the City; Blum had agreed to sell the gate to Epley for \$100.00. Blum stated that Epley had wanted the City to know that his new garden business would have plants available, which would be suitable for the City's planters. True indicated that the planters in the Business District have already been planted, and the plants have already been purchased for the planters in the park. She noted that she would definitely keep Epley's business in mind for future plant and plant supply purchases.

There was no discussion pertaining to the Walnut Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Motion by Shepherd, seconded by Bierbaum to approve a Class B Native Wine Permit for Frannie's Attic, LLC. Ayes: Humann, True, Bierbaum, Shepherd. Carried.

Motion by Shepherd, seconded by True to approve a Class LE Liquor License for Kum & Go #46. Ayes: Shepherd, True, Bierbaum, Humann. Carried.

It was reported that the Walnut Optimist Club's Antique City Car Show is scheduled to be held on Sunday, August 5, 2012. The organization had requested permission to close Antique City Drive from Highland Street to North Street and the affected side streets as has been customary in the past.

Motion by Humann, seconded by Shepherd to close the affected streets as customary in the past for the Antique City Car Show. The Antique City Car Show is scheduled for Sunday, August 5, 2012; the Walnut Optimist Club is sponsoring the event. Ayes: Bierbaum, Humann, Shepherd, True. Carried.

Mayor Larsen reminded those in attendance that the regular June City Council meeting has been rescheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 6, 2012 at City Hall. The change was made to allow the Mayor, Council, and staff the opportunity to attend training.

There was nothing new to discuss concerning City maintenance issues. The City men have been preparing the ball field area for upcoming ball games, and they have been cleaning ditches and working on the streets.

Regarding Mayor items or announcements, Mayor Larsen reported that he had sold the Mayor's desk and removed the City Council meeting table from City Hall, replacing the desk and table with a table that was purchased from Walnut

Communications. The overall cost of the table, after selling the desk, amounted to \$50.00.

The Mayor reported that the publication of the Earl Caddock book has been quite successful, and he has received positive feedback from the public. Larsen stated that he is planning an event to dedicate the book and, at the same time, designate Pearl Street as Earl Caddock Memorial Drive; applicable street signs will be ordered. The designation of the street would be accomplished by proclamation in conjunction with a ceremony honoring Caddock. Larsen reported that he had discussed the timing for such an event with members of the Caddock family and with Elimar Sudmann, the owner of the building that was originally built by Earl Caddock to house his business. Larsen reported that the ceremony dedicating the book and designating the street will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the Sunday morning of the June Antique Walk, which is Sunday, June 17, 2012. The ceremony, which should take less than one hour, will be held in front of the Village Blacksmith, which is located at 610 Pearl Street. A press release will be featured on the City's website and the AMVET's website and invitations will be sent to members of the Caddock family. The press release will also be provided to TV, local radio stations, and local newspapers. On a side note, Larsen reported that this is the 30th year of the AMVET's Antique Show and Walk, which could possibly equate to increased coverage by the press. The Mayor welcomed input regarding the Caddock event from the members of the City Council.

The Council members were provided with a letter of resignation from Darren Tooley. Tooley has resigned from the City Council because he will be moving from the community. His resignation would become effective on Thursday, May 3; Tooley's term was to end on January 2, 2014.

The Council members were also provided with information concerning the requirements for filling a Council vacancy. The Council members discussed filling the vacancy on the City Council. The City Council has the option to fill a vacancy on the Council by appointing someone to fill the remainder of the term until the next special or general City election, whichever comes first. The City Council also has the option to call for a special election to be held to fill the office for the remaining balance of the unexpired term.

Should the Council choose to appoint someone, the appointment would be for the period until the next pending City election, and the appointment must be made within forty days after the vacancy occurs. If the Council chooses to proceed with appointment, it shall publish notice stating that the Council intends to fill the vacancy by appointment, but the electors have the right to file a petition requiring that the vacancy be filled by a special election. If a petition is signed by at least fifteen percent of those who voted for candidates for the office at the last preceding regular election at which the office was on the ballot, but not less than ten persons, an appointment to fill the vacancy is temporary, and the Council shall call a special election to fill the vacancy permanently.

The Council can also call for a special election to fill the office for the remaining balance of the unexpired term. The special election may be held concurrently with any pending election if by so doing the vacancy will be filled not more than ninety days after it occurs. Otherwise, a special election to fill the office shall be called at the earliest practicable date.

Mayor Larsen noted that the next regular City election is not scheduled until November of 2013, so anyone who is interested in serving on the City Council would hold office until January of 2014. The Mayor recommended that the City request a special election; he felt that the length of time involved would justify the cost of the election, which would amount to at least \$1,000.00. Bierbaum reminded the Council members that there were not many people interested in running for City Council during the last City election.

Shepherd noted that the last time that a vacancy occurred on the City Council, the Council advertised for volunteers from the public to complete the unexpired term. Tooley's term will expire on January 2, 2014. It was the consensus of the Council to place an ad in the Walnut Bureau requesting that anyone who is interested in filling the vacancy on the City Council should contact City Hall by Thursday, May 31, 2012. Abel will include a list of the volunteers in the Council members' packets for the next meeting. Shepherd also requested that any interested residents should attend the next Council meeting, where the successful candidate will take office and participate in the meeting.

Abel was instructed to begin immediately advertising in the Walnut Bureau requesting volunteers to fill the vacancy on the City Council. She is also to place a notice

on the local cable television channel and the advertising board at Walnut Community School. Humann volunteered to advertise the position on Facebook. Interested individuals are to be invited to attend the June City Council meeting where someone will be appointed to the position. That person will take office during the June City Council meeting.

Appointment of a City Council member is to appear on the agenda for the next regular City Council meeting.

Relative to Council items or announcements, the Council members received information regarding the 2012 Small City Workshop, which will be held on June 7, 2012 at the A-H-S-T Community School. The training will be held from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. All of the City Council members, the Mayor, and the City Clerk are planning to attend the workshop.

A Pottawattamie County Home Town Competitiveness meeting has been scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2012 at the Treynor Community Center.

Blum reported that he is planning to work on the clock that is located in the Business District. Even though he recently repaired the clock and installed new motors, one side is again not operating.

There were no public items or announcements.

Motion by Humann, seconded by Shepherd to pay the following bills and issue warrants for the same. Ayes: Bierbaum, True, Shepherd, Humann. Carried.

#18324 Lynn A. Driver, 1 st payment – development agreement	10,000.00
#18325 Terri Abel, wages	1,136.55
#18326 James Blum, wages	1,107.95
#18327 Wayne Rush, wages	879.55
#18328 Shannon Wood, wages	331.57
#18329 Cardmember Service, recorder; tapes	43.13
#18330 Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, employee insurance	5,876.06
#18331 Bedwell Aluminum, 2 street lights	1,390.00
#18332 Terri Abel, wages	1,136.55
#18333 James Blum, wages	1,107.95
#18334 Wayne Rush, wages	879.55
#18335 Shannon Wood, wages	342.18
#18336 Herb Wood, hauling; recycling fees; rent of dumpsters; general pickup	3,510.00
#18337 U.S. Postmaster, billing postage	125.12
#18338 Terri Abel, wages	224.21
#18339 James Blum, wages	328.08
#18340 Sherry Jacobsen, wages	103.21
#18341 Margo Matthies, wages	1,281.95
#18342 Wayne Rush, wages	73.52
#18343 Judy Schrecengost, wages	390.52
#18344 Akin Building Centers, repair of west restrooms	23.19
#18345 Avoca Building Material Center, dugout repair; repair of west restrooms	384.43
#18346 Bob Martens, building permit fees	30.00
#18347 Center Point Large Print, books	41.34
#18348 City of Atlantic, sewer testing	300.00
#18349 Counsel Office & Document, copier maintenance	116.23
#18350 Countryside Trucking, trucking rock	150.00
#18351 Dona Grooms, Treasurer fee	100.00
#18352 Drew Cable, EMT mileage; test fees	130.13
#18353 Emergency Apparatus Maintenance, tanker pump repair	496.80
#18354 Gale, books	310.91
#18355 Gary Nash, sign lease payment	200.00
#18356 Hawkins, Inc., water chemicals	555.43
#18357 Ingram Library Services, books	193.91
#18358 Iowa Department of Transportation, billboard permit	50.00
#18359 I.P.E.R.S., withholdings	1,570.08
#18360 Jessica Newcomb, cleaning City Hall	50.00
#18361 Kasperbauer Cleaners, Inc., cleaning floor mats	50.03
#18362 Kum & Go, fuel	739.87
#18363 Margo Matthies, bike rack; supplies; books	383.21
#18364 McAtee Tire Service, tractor tire repair	45.24
#18365 Michelle Tooley, EMT licensing	30.00

#18366	MidAmerica Books, books	118.47
#18367	MidAmerican Energy Co., gas & electricity	2,878.86
#18368	Mike Gettler, EMT mileage; test fees	511.74
#18369	Orschelns, spade repair; bleacher repair	38.79
#18370	Patrick Sachs, EMT mileage	135.98
#18371	Quill Corporation, supplies	187.68
#18372	Richard Holtz, EMT continuing education	250.00
#18373	Richter and Son Towing, Inc., towing of tanker	292.50
#18374	Sam's Club, supplies; magazine; DVD's; books	255.88
#18375	Shannon Wood, EMT mileage; test fees	143.70
#18376	State Hygienic Lab-AR, water testing	375.00
#18377	Terri Abel, mileage	8.88
#18378	U.S. Postmaster, postage	90.00
#18379	Verizon Wireless, cell phones	136.92
#18380	Walnut Bureau, publication	179.49
#18381	Walnut Communications, Council table	200.00
#18382	Walnut Telephone Co., phone; fax; Internet	232.36
#18383	What's Your Sign Graphics, senior mailbox names	16.00
#158E	Internal Revenue Service, Federal withholdings	1,176.85
#159E	Internal Revenue Service, Social Security withholdings	1,717.65
#160E	Internal Revenue Service, Medicare withholdings	478.97
#161E	Employee Benefit Systems, insurance handling fee	77.49
#162E	Employee Benefit Systems, insurance partial self-funding	1,474.62
#163E	Rolling Hills Bank & Trust, ACH fee	10.00
#164E	EMS Billing Service, Inc., ambulance billing service	93.46

Summary of Receipts: General, 59,523.70; Road Use Tax, 6,092.92; Trust & Agency, 23,297.44; Water, 9,396.66; Sewer, 3,090.87; Customer Water Deposit, 200.00; Water Revenue Bond Sinking Fund, 1,650.00; Eagle Monument Project Fund, 985.00; Splash Pad Project Fund, 250.00; Local Option Capital Improvements Fund, 6,809.69; TIF Fund, 15,287.24; Ransom Subfund, 6,477.09; IPAIT Fire Account, .16; IPAIT Library Account, .41; TOTAL: 133,061.18.

Meeting adjourned, 7:20 p.m.

Gene Larsen
Mayor

Terri L. Abel
City Clerk