

**FOWLER TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
200 MAIN STREET
DATE: February 23, 2009
6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Mayor Wards led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order. Present were Trustees Pat Christensen, Chuck Hitchcock, Jack Hobby, Randy McKown, Monie Stites and Larry Vibber. Also present were Administrator Snider, Klinkerman, Rein, and Pagnotta.

Public Comments: None

Changes to the Agenda: None

Approval of previous minutes (February 23, 2009): Trustee Christensen made a motion to approve the February 23, 2009 minutes. Motion was seconded by Trustee McKown and passed unanimously.

Reports:

Mayor Wards had nothing to report

Committee/Board Reports: Trustee Hobby reported that the library board met last week and the computerization of the books is taking place and the library is running short on funds. At this time they are about \$2500 short in getting all the books computerized and he asked Treasurer Klinkerman what the town might be able to do to help the library out. He stated that The Friends' of the library has donated about \$700 and continue to raise donations. They have applied for grants and should be receiving 14 refurbished computers from Pueblo. In addition they received a grant for \$350 to be put towards a scanner.

Trustee McKown had nothing to report on but wanted clarification as to his position on the Golf Course Board. He was under the impression that he was to serve as a liaison and had no voting privileges.

Trustee Stites reported that the Town needed to be on top of hiring pool managers, life guards and employees. Klinkerman has already advertised. She felt that there was no need to hold a meeting to go through the applications. She felt that Administrator Snider could hire the pool employees as he sees fit. Stites commented on how well the park is looking.

Trustee Vibber asked Klinkerman if messages are relayed to the Utility Board regarding the progress report prepared by Administrator Snider that showed the time line for the different projects. Administrator Snider said that all the projects have been reported on at the Utility Board meetings and in addition he would make sure all the members had a copy of the report.

Trustee Vibber also asked if arrangements could be made to allow the summer recreation programs to use the playground at the Park School for games. It was discussed to supply bleachers for seating. Klinkerman stated that they had budgeted \$2500 to be used for the recreation department.

Administrator Report: Administrator Snider reported that the Town has received the award letter from DoLA for the sewer project. Snider stated that we are currently working on getting the easement agreement for the depot. Snider said as soon as this is returned we can start on the project.

Snider discussed the annexation for the Cummings property. He stated that we are waiting on a waiver from Otero County for the EIS Statement. In addition to the annexation, Snider stated that he will be adding an addendum to the agreement regarding the lift station of the sewer. It will state that in the future if the owners decide to expand the cost to upgrade will be the responsibility of the owner or tenant.

Snider stated the Town has signed and sent in the State Historic Fund Contract for the Park School project and should have it returned to us by next week.

Snider reported that CDOT was in town last week to work on the drainage issue on the east side of town. Snider stated that the engineering has been completed. Snider said the town may have to look at putting

a culvert or pipe across the drive way at Bushy's Blue Sky Motel and tie into CDOT's drainage. The Town may have to purchase the pipe. Trustee Hitchcock said the issue would have to come before the Utility Board and could be discussed more during this meeting. Snider stated the CDOT is still planning on starting the project in May.

Snider stated that the Park project is moving right along and we are currently waiting on several things to be delivered.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Klinkerman reported that the field work for the audit has been completed and she felt it went very well. Klinkerman stated the cash flow in the enterprise fund is better this year compared to last and we were able to put away a couple of thousand dollars in the sanitation fund so that when we have to start paying OCLI back we will have some money saved. She stated the sewer fund maintained a balance, which has not happened in a year. Klinkerman stated that the general fund will be really tight throughout the spring due to the park project. She stated the reason for this is because the Town can not request any money from GOCO until the project is complete. She explained that the Storm Sewer Drainage charge went into effect in January and has collected \$1100 for January. Klinkerman stated that over all with the increases in rates we have not had a lot of complaints. She reported that the town has budgeted to give \$24,000 to the library this year for them to use however they see fit to keep the library operating. She stated that the bill payment list has been posted and nothing out of the ordinary is on this list.

New Business: Resolution 762-09, adopting Comprehensive Land Use Plan – Trustee Christensen stated that the Planning Commission met at the conclusion of the public hearings and voted unanimously to approve the plan. The next step was to submit a resolution to council to approve the plan. Trustee Christensen made a motion that the council approves Resolution 762-09, adopting the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Motion was seconded by Trustee Stites. Motion passed unanimously.

Art show for Missouri Day – Klinkerman stated that representatives were not able to be at the council meeting this evening but requested permission to use the Park School for the art show again this year. Trustee Stites stated that use of the building would all depend on the progress of the renovation project, but felt that some accommodations could be made for the event.

Ordinance 647-09 (Adoption of ordinance eliminating term limits) During the April 2008 elections this issue was voted on by the people of the Town of Fowler and passed. Trustee Hitchcock introduced Ordinance 647-09 providing for the elimination of term limits for the elected offices of trustee and mayor pursuant to a ballot issue approved by voters on April 1, 2008. Trustee Hitchcock then made a motion to approve the ordinance; motion was seconded by Trustee McKown. Motion passed with all voting yes except Trustee Christensen.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Trustee Hitchcock, seconded by Trustee McKown. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Ray Wards

Shawn Pagnotta, Town Clerk