

The Dallas City Council held its regular meeting on April 27, 2016, at 5 p.m. Mayor Kevin Six called the meeting to order with the following commissioners present: Lila Gittings, Esther Newberry, Harold Northup Jr., and Greg Olson.

Others attending the meeting were Linda Rettig, Ruth Higgins, Bob Durand, LaVeta Smith, Sheryl Clark, Carl and Anne Thompson, Ryan Thompson, John Stimpson, Kerry and Chris Stevens, David Griffiths, Jeff Ferguson, Molly McDowell, Craig Beck, Colton Smith, Chris Classen, Eric Icenogle, and Calvin Nutt.

A motion was made by Newberry, and 2nd by Olson to accept the minutes of the April 13, 2016, meeting. Gittings, Newberry, Northup, and Olson AYE.

Commissioner Newberry reported that the city cemetery had been mowed and that she is still trying to get in touch with someone about removing some dead trees that are located on city property.

Discussed getting new floats for the boat docks. A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Olson to purchase the floats for the boat docks. Gittings, Newberry, Northup, and Olson AYE.

Discussed spraying city right-of-way ground along West Fifth Street.

It was reported that the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad has submitted a proposal to the city to close the railroad crossings in town at Sycamore Street, Pine Street, Oak Street, and Osage Street. The proposal included an offer of \$70,000 per crossing for their closure. BNSF Railroad representative, Calvin Nutt, discussed the railroad's proposal to close up to 4 railroad crossings in town. He explained the factors that the railroad uses to determine whether or not a railroad crossing should be closed. He also stated that the main reason for the closure of the railroad crossings is for safety purposes.

Several of the residents that were in attendance asked Mr. Nutt questions, and they expressed their concerns to Mr. Nutt. No one in attendance appeared to be in favor of having any of these railroad crossings closed.

Mr. Nutt informed the council that he will be in contact with them after he has had a chance to research the railroad's proposal more.

After Mr. Nutt was done presenting and discussing the railroad's proposal for the closure of up to 4 railroad crossings in town, a motion was made by Gittings, and 2nd by Newberry that the City of Dallas not approve the closure of any of the four railroad crossings being proposed by the BNSF Railroad. Gittings, Newberry, Northup, and Olson AYE.

Mayor Six reported that he and Chris Classen are going to be meeting with the city engineer next week to discuss the replacing of the sewer line on East Fourth Street.

Discussed a curb at Oak Street and Fifth Street that needs to be repaired. An IDOT representative has looked at this and informed Mayor Six that there is an agreement between the city and the State of Illinois that makes this the city's responsibility.

Discussed residents having chickens and goats within the city limits. The city attorney advised the council that as long as the animals are not creating a nuisance, they are fine.

Discussed a proposal from Land & Water Vegetation Control for the spraying of weeds and other vegetation control around city property. The proposed cost for around the city cemetery fence, along Oak Street, along the guard rails west of the old high school, and around the bridges on First Street is \$341. The proposed costs for around the sewer lagoon is \$325. A motion was made by Newberry, and 2nd by Northup to accept both proposals from Land & Water Vegetation Control for a total of \$666, and to have Land & Water Vegetation Control spray the city right-of-way ground along West Fifth Street that was discussed earlier in the meeting. Gittings, Newberry, Northup, and Olson AYE.

A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Newberry to adjourn the meeting. Gittings, Newberry, Northup, and Olson AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Steven K Vorhies, City Clerk