

City of Elk Run Heights
Regular Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers
August 9, 2016 - 7:00 p. m.

Mayor Swope called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All present recited the pledge of Allegiance. Roll call of Council Members: Present – Wilson, Smock, Heth, Bass and Ratchford. Quorum present. Ratchford/Wilson motion to approve the August 9, 2016 Agenda. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

Heth/Bass motion to accept the Consent Agenda approving the July 12, 2016 regular council meeting minutes and the July 26, 2016 special meeting minutes, accept the City Clerk's Report, Investment Report, the Revenue and Expenditure Reports as of July 31, 2016 as presented, approve Resolution 2817 approving and authorizing the payment of city bills, approve Resolution 2818 approving the Annual Road Use Report. Ayes – 5. Motion carried. City Clerk Kristi Lundy ask and received council's approval to pay the 65th Anniversary Celebration vendors prior to this week's celebration.

Wilson stated residents have requested a walk/bike path on Lafayette and Gilbertville Roads. Mike stated this involves drainage and storm sewers which may become pricey. Drainage is the biggest hurdle. Ratchford ask about the trenching. Mike replied this could be done without tearing up the road and then striping would be needed. Wilson suggested the east shoulder of Gilbertville Road be used. Mayor Swope stated Lafayette Road drains back into the street and needs to be cut down. Bass thinks this should be done when the roads are replaced. Mike will get a cost estimate for leveling and widening both road shoulders.

The Safe Speed Program was discussed. Mayor Swope spoke to Sioux City law enforcement about the traffic camera program which they are currently using. Sioux City employs one full time officer to review the tickets. The officer stated it is labor intensive, costly and a lot of time is spent on returned mail. Ratchford thinks Redflex takes care of returned mail. Rick Willing, Redflex representative replied yes. Attorney Hosack discussed portions of the Elk Run Heights Ordinance, mentioning the officer and attorney review of the videos and not adding extra steps as reporting to credit records. City Clerk Lundy questioned if appealed is Attorney Hosack involved and if Chief Jensen would have to make a court appearance. Attorney Hosack replied yes. Rick Willing noted less than one percent end in court. Mayor Swope ask if Redflex had any small cities such as ours. Rick could not recall. Mayor Swope mentioned the \$384,000.00 cost and the fact Elk Run has had no vehicle wrecks or anyone killed. Mayor Swope is concerned over the time the Police Department will spend in the office rather than on the street. Rick stated police may view the videos anywhere at any time by WIFI. Ratchford thought tickets could be a couple hundred daily. Bass felt \$384,000.00 required a lot of tickets with some not paying out. Ratchford stated the Redflex Survey data proved this would be paid in six to seven months. Bass stated there is no liability on the City. City Clerk Lundy reminded council there will be attorney fees. Mayor Swope approves if the City not liable for the \$384,000. Ratchford thinks most of the speeders are not residents. Heth ask if a passing situation would be caught by cameras. Rick replied yes from the opposing lane. Smock ask length of time before contract ready. Rick responded four to six weeks, two to three months to get the license, equipment and the initial warning system in place.

Mayor Swope opened the Public Hearing regarding Ordinance 241 Automated Traffic Enforcement, at 7:46 p.m. Mayor Swope ask those in attendance if there were any comments. Resident Pat Winberg, 225 Sunrise, questioned the number of cameras for \$384,000.00 and the City's obligation. Ratchford replied four and a handheld unit. Winberg also questioned the Police Department's cost to review videos. Chief Jensen estimated three hours daily which is already in the City's contract if over that next year's budget would increase. Pat Winberg ask about a survey that Redflex did and the results. Ratchford reviewed the survey results. Pat Winberg suggested just letting the Evansdale Police Department do their job. Bass is concerned about the Waterloo school bus leaving children on Shirley Avenue. Resident Al Cross,

434 Amber Lane, is worried about the cost for equipment. Ratchford emphasized no cost to the City and the goal is to slow the speeders down. Attorney Hosack stated there is no penalty at the end of the contract. Al Cross noted the lack of an escape clause, three years. Ratchford replied three to five years. Attorney Hosack stated there is no contract yet, termination, cut and penalty not addressed in draft. Bass thought Redflex is taking a gamble with the City. Al Cross questioned then why is amount stated. Ratchford replied is in the contract to clarify the amount that must first be paid out by tickets. Al Cross ask the number of small cities participating and the tax basis. Heth answered council has yet to approve and no one on the council would do something detrimental to the City. Al Cross wanted the Evansdale Police Department given a chance first. Ratchford felt Redflex would be a compliment to the police department. Resident Gene Edler, 424 Gilbertville Road, thinks a five year contract okay if not the City has no liability. Gene Edler reiterated if not all paid the City not responsible. Mayor Swope questioned the option to get out of term. Rick stated the City can walk away. Bass questioned after the \$384,000.00 is paid who owns the system. Rick replied if paid the City owns the system per the contract. Bass stated this is an option at no cost to the City and will protect the City. Heth/Ratchford motion to close the Public Hearing at 8:05 p.m. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

Ratchford/Wilson motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 241. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

Heth/Wilson motion to set the Public Hearing for the Automated Truck Enforcement to be held at the regular council meeting September 13, 2016. Ayes – 5. Motion carried. Ratchford ask about the length and familiarity of trucks. Rick explained the length could be determined and local trucks exempt.

Bass/Ratchford motion to approve the reappointment of Melanie Rasanen to the Library Board for a term to expire June 30, 2021. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

Mayor Swope informed council he had hired a part-time replacement for Jamie Eder who will be off on medical and he reminded all of the final 65th Anniversary Celebration August 13 and of the League of Cities Conference to be held September 14th thru the 16th. Mayor Swope ask council what they valued the Amber Lane Lot #27 at. Council was not interested.

During new business Smock thanked Chief Jensen and the Evansdale Police Department for the good work they are doing. Chief Jensen stated he had worked on the “Your Speed Is” sign to improve its accuracy. Bass ask the cost of a “Your Speed Is” sign. Chief Jensen replied Evansdale paid \$800.00 for their used one, adding the cost of a new one would be \$5,000.00.

Ratchford/Heth motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

Tim Swope, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Kristi Lundy, CMC, City Clerk