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(Neb.)- Chadron City Council Hears Debate On Residential Parking



By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 08/19/2013 08:48 PM

(Chadron)- The Chadron City Council met at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday evening in city hall council chambers. In old business the council discussed changes made to the city of Chadron employee personnel handbook. The board approved ammended changes to policies regarding procedures in filing grievances as well as funeral leave.

The council hosted a public hearing in regards to Chadron residents having poultry on their property within city limits. Action was not taken as it was just a discussion, but the topic will be revisited at upcoming meetings. We will have more on this later this afternoon.

The council discussed issues concerning the number of renters inhabiting a rental along with parking regulations in those residential areas. Recently, a Chadron resident submitted a letter of concern to the city of Chadron in regards to a large number of occupants in a rental property, and voiced concerns of appropriate parking spaces for those living in the rental. City Manager Wayne Anderson said "there are no rules on the books about on street parking, as long as vehicles aren't blocking a private driveway". Every new dwelling in Chadron is required by city ordinance to have two allotted spaces for occupant parking. It was noted that older homes may not be subject to the same ordinances, as they may be grandfathered in by an ordinance that states you can have a vehicle for every individual occupying the house. City council member Levi Grant asked Chadron zoning official Janet Johnson about individuals who park in their yards, Johnson said "there's nothing on the books about turning your backyard into a parking lot". Mayor Karin Fischer asked if "we could provide something to landlords to educate their tenants" when refrencing a solution to eleviate residential parking issues. Mayor Fischer also stated that landlords should have more "accountability". The city council will await more information surrounding ordinances and will view comparisons to surrounding cities before moving forward on this issue.

Chadron Parks Superintendent Scott Shremmer proposed to the council raising cemetery fees for openings over forty inches and under forty inches. Under the proposal, rates would move from \$200 for an over forty inch opening up to \$300 and \$100 up from \$75 for openings under forty inches. The second reading of the fees ordinance will be in September.

The city council also heard several reports on Monday evening including the Chamber of Commerce, Nebraska Northwest Development Corporation, Senior Volunteer Services, and the Chadron Community Recreation.

The city council approved a grant offer for the Airport Improvement Program which will be designated towards rehabilitation of runways two and twenty pavement and taxiways A and B and also the reconfiguration of the turnaround to meet FAA design standards.

City Manager Wayne Anderson announced that tanks for the SEAT Base will be installed this week and should be functional by mid-September. Public Works Director Milo Rust says that crews will be in Chadron in the next few weeks to install the SEAT Base buildings.

The council adjourned into executive session 8:35 p.m. to review individual performances.

The Chadron City Council will next meet on Monday, September 9th.