

Falls City Hit With Lawsuit Over Legal Fees

(KLZA)-- Good news last Friday that the Nebraska Supreme Court had ruled in favor of EDGE in a lawsuit over public records and attorney fees was tempered when the City of Falls City was notified a suit had been filed against the City for nearly \$1.5-million.

Mayor Jerry Oliver told the City Council Monday evening that the Haughton Law Firm and the Weaver and Merz Law firm filed the suit over fees they claim the city owes the firms from their representation of the City in a lawsuit several years ago against the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool.

Doug Merz was the City Attorney at the time the lawsuit was filed.

Oliver said the City firmly believes they have paid all the monies owed to the firms for the lawsuit.

In other business, no one from the public spoke during a public hearing on the One and Six Year Street plan proposed by Patrick Malcolm with Osson Associates Engineers.

The One Year plan includes seven overlay projects at an estimated cost of \$690,000. The six year plan includes 10 projects at an estimated cost of more than \$1.5-million. Only three new projects have been added. They include an overlay of Old Highway 73 and of Barada Street on the One Year Plan. Added to the Six Year Plan was an overlay of Fulton Street.

Following a public hearing the Council voted unanimously to approve the plans as presented.

Council members also approved use of streets and Pioneer Park for the Sauces and Cycles Barbecue Contest scheduled for July 10 & 11. Chamber Manager David Branch has high hopes for the event. He said he has sponsors are already on board and they are setting up for up to 50 professional contestants and 30 Back Yard Grillers.

A request from Steve and Carol Hollens to rezone approximately 1.5 acres in the Bared Subdivision was also approved following a public hearing drawing no comment. A request for favorable comment for a special designated liquor license for a wedding reception February 7th at Prichard Auditorium by The Would Eye was approved on a 5-2 vote. Council members Judy Murphy and John Vaughn cast nay votes. Council member Mike Dougherty was absent.

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