

Town Council Workshop
Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2010
5:00 P.M.

The Town Council of the Town of Wheatland held a workshop on Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2010 in the Council Room of the Town Hall at 5:00 P.M. to discuss flowers in the downtown and a request from the American Legion Baseball Program.

Mayor Hensel opened the workshop and present were; Councilmen Madsen, Evans and Shoemaker, Councilwoman Sluss, Clerk/Treasurer, Cindy Kahler, Deputy Clerk/Treas. Sandy Lipps.

Sue Schamel presented a proposal for downtown summer flower planters. She presented three options to the Council:

New concrete planters (supplied by local businesses)

Platte County Concrete - \$50.00 each for 46 planters - \$2300.00

Stack 2 12" high concrete riser rings

Very heavy not allowing for any movement once placed

Indefinite length of life

Bottom portion will be filled with gravel

Top portion would be filled with topsoil, fertilizer, flowers and grasses

(Will need help with placement from City Crew & Skid loader)

Projected Summer plantings

Plant directly to planters (1-2) large grasses plus (12) 3" or larger

Assorted annual flowers-soil-amendments-placards

\$60.00 each for 46 planters - \$2760.00

Three Season Planters:

Autumn - pumpkins, mums, kale, pansies etc.

Winter - evergreen boughs & branches

Spring - artificial tulips, daffodils, Hyacinths etc.

\$50.00 each per season for 46 planters - \$6900.00

Seasonal Supervisor: Sue Schamel

Fee \$10.00 per hour not to exceed 10 hours per month

Probably 4 months...

Watering, Fertilizing, deadheading, trimming, removal and disposal

Plus 350 hours at ? Per hour

Sue Sluss suggested getting a commitment from the downtown businesses to purchase

the planters before the Council made a decision on the flowers, as she felt there needed to be buy-in from the businesses on the downtown flowers. The Council indicated they would be interested in the summer flowers proposal, however, they were not interested in the three season proposal. There was not a lot of discussion on the "season supervisor" proposal, as the Town's Cemetery crew did it in 2009 and it seemed to work.

Chuck Ruwart, Wayne Koerwitz and John Bunker were present and stated that the Town had been donating the funds from the billboard sponsorship in the amount of \$5000.00 to them that last two years, however, those funds have no run out as the contracts have been completed. (M.B.P.P. - \$2500.00, First State Bank-\$2500.00), prior to that time the Town had contributed \$4000.00 per year for several years. Chuck indicated they closed the 2009 season negative \$2070.00. They had maintained the field through the 2009 season and had helped purchase a lawn mower (along with the Town) for the Little League Field and the Legion Field. John Bunker stated that with the lighting system the field is one of the best in the State. They presently have twenty-five kids signed up for the 2010 season and they have collected \$200.00 each from them. They will be doing some fund raisers to raise the other \$1000.00 per kid for the \$1200.00 per kid to run the program. Chuck stated they presently have two vans (one donated by Brown Co and the other one by him), which they pay insurance, repairs and gas for. He stated they are cutting the schedule by two trips, Jackson Hole and Rapid City this year to avoid motel room expenses. They have scheduled 50-60 games for the A Team and 40-50 games for the B Team, most of which are double headers. There will be 16 home games, and no tournaments scheduled for Wheatland.

Chuck requested \$7000.00 for operating funds and \$3000.00 for field maintenance. He asked that the Town supply sprinkler repairs, fertilizer, spray and the Parks & Rec. supply paint and field dry. They would do all the maintenance and field preparation. He presented a 2009 itemized expense report indicating \$49,248.80 expenses and \$47,171.23 in revenue \$2,077.47 negative balance.

After discussion concerning field maintenance and costs associated with the program operations, it was decided that the Legion would provide the Town with a proposed budget for the 2010 season, before any decisions concerning funding would be made.