The Council met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Humboldt Public Library meeting room. Mayor Sharp called the meeting to order with the following Councilmembers present: Aikins, Crawford, Griffith, Julich, McReynolds and Walburn. Councilmembers Murrow and Weilert were absent. Also present were City Administrator Larry Tucker, City Attorney Fred Works, Chief of Police Dan Onnen, and City Clerk Jean Flores.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Crawford gave the invocation.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Crawford, second by Aikins that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented with the exception of Item d, which should be corrected to read 2010 (remove 2011). Motion carried unanimously. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

a. Approval of minutes of Regular Council Meeting November 9, 2009 and Special Council Meeting November 30, 2009
b. Warrant Ordinance No. 1687 dated November 30, 2009 in the amount of $80,503.81 and Warrant Ordinance No. 1688 dated December 14, 2009 in the amount of $106,645.40
c. Approval of cereal malt beverage license applications: Dennis W. Guenther, d/b/a Tip On In; Johnson's General Store; Pump N Pete's; Monica Gomez, d/b/a Estrellita Mexican Restaurant; and Moon's Hometown Market
d. Approval of Reiss & Goodness gas consulting contract for 2010
e. Approve Resolution No. 12-14-09A to waive City from GAAP accounting procedures

Richard Zingre, Zingre & Associates, and Charles Heath, United States Department of Agriculture, were present to answer questions concerning architect plans for the new city hall building at 725 Bridge. After a lengthy discussion among Councilmembers, it was decided to schedule a Special Council Meeting Monday, December 21, 2009 at 6 p.m. to meet with Rick Zingre at the new city hall location and tour the facility to better understand the architect’s drawings and plans for renovation of the building.

Motion by Aikins, second by Walburn to pursue funding for the city hall renovation project at 725 Bridge and adopt Resolution No. 12-14-09B, a resolution of Governing Body adopting and providing for standards for procurement, bidding and contract awards, and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign necessary documents during the process. Motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor requested a short recess at 8:34 p.m.

The meeting resumed regular session at 8:39 p.m.
Motion by Aikins, second by Crawford to approve interim financing for the water line improvement project. Motion carried unanimously. Community National Bank has offered to provide the interim financing which will cover the first $680,000 of the project.

Motion by Julich, second by Aikins to adopt Resolution No. 12-14-09C, a resolution to establish pay plans for the employees of the City of Humboldt. Motion carried unanimously.

A short discussion was held to consider combining the Cost of Gas and the Operations and Maintenance charges on utility bills. Councilmember McReynolds asked why the Operations and Maintenance charge on the bills increases with each unit of gas used when it costs the same to maintain the lines, etc. whether a customer uses one unit of gas or four units. City Administrator Larry Tucker said he will present more information on these issues at the January council meeting.

A Public Hearing to amend the 2009 budget was opened at 8:55 p.m. There being no public questions or comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 8:58 p.m. Motion by Aikins, second by Walburn to amend the 2009 budget Sanitation and Swimming Pool Utility Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmembers discussed 20 mile per hour speed limit signals on Wulf Drive from 9th Street to the Sweat/Mansion baseball complex. It was the consensus of the Council to pursue this project.

City Administrator Larry Tucker updated Councilmembers on nuisance properties as follows: Kenneth Rowe, 107 Cherokee-Continuing to work on the property; Roy Fritch, 916 Cherokee-Has made an attempt to clean up the property; old Standard Gasoline Station at the corner of 9th and Sycamore and North 8th Street behind 8th Street Auto-City Administrator to follow up on both properties.

City Administrator Larry Tucker gave an update on the following: concrete was poured today on the Indiana Street project; Rebuilding the Public Square will meet in January; Southeast Kansas broadband initiative will meet in Greenbush this week; market study has not been completed on the Senior Housing Project, the next step being to pursue funding; Dollar General Store plans to stock shelves next week and open the first week in January.

Councilmember Julich asked if there would still be guardrails installed on the bridge on North 8th Street and was told by City Administrator Tucker that yes, there would be, but the project was moving slower than anticipated.

Motion by Julich, second by Aikins to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

/s/ Robert Sharp
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Jean M. Flores
City Clerk