

HUGO — The Hugo City Council met in regular session Tuesday evening to discuss the possibility of enlisting a tourism coordinator, who will work with the city, county commissioners, chamber of commerce and other facilities for the purpose of planning and recruiting events for the area.

Hugo resident, Tonya Payne has expressed an interest in this position and feels very strongly about utilizing and marketing what Hugo and Choctaw County have to offer. Payne is civic-minded and volunteers for many community groups.

Councilwoman Francine Morris made a motion to allow the city's attorney, Gary Brownsworth, city manager Jeff Rabon and Tonya Payne to devise a contract to be voted on at the next scheduled council meeting.

Hugo girls softball coach, Teresa Montague addressed the council and asked permission for the softball team to use the new field for practices. Montague stated that the girls never had a home-field advantage because they never get to practice on it.

The council agreed upon a motion by Bart Tedder to grant a variance in the ordinance to allow the team to practice on the field, under supervision, for one year.

The Wall Engineering work order in the amount of \$9,450 for a required environmental study was approved by the council.

Also approved by the council was a \$12,060 payment to Farris Electric for their work on the Boys & Girls Club. This project is still within budget and looking to open sometime during the beginning of February.

Members of the city council retired into executive session for close to one hour to interview applicants for the position of city treasurer. Applicants who were interviewed were: Dama McLemore, Ronald Teague and Wanda Ward. More interviews will possibly be conducted during the next scheduled council meeting.

Purchase order lists, financial statements and the minutes of the Jan. 3 meeting were approved by the council. All members were present.

Hugo Municipal Authority Meeting

The Hugo Municipal Authority met in regular session directly following the city council on Tuesday evening.

Matt Lail, water/waste water supervisor at the Hugo Water Plant, addressed the council regarding the repair of a Headworks filter screen. Lail stated that the filter screen removes debris from water while it moves through and has been down for more than a year. He also stated the plant currently has the parts to repair it.

The council tabled the decision to hire the manufacturing company to send two men to repair it, until the current mechanic can assess the situation. The current mechanic is out on medical leave and is waiting to be released by doctors.

Approved by the authority were the minutes of the Jan. 3 meeting. All members were present.

