

Regular Meeting

March 3, 2020

5:30 p.m.

The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Herington, Kansas met at City Hall at 5:30 p.m. on the above date-the following being present: Mayor Debi Urbanek, Commissioner Robbin Bell, Commissioner Curtis Hartman, Commissioner Eric Gares, Commissioner Vance Donahue II, City Clerk Marcus Hawkes and Deputy Clerk Kathy Matkins.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Donahue II to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting February 18, 2020. Motion carried with all voting "Aye."

There was one signee for Public Forum. Janet Wade spoke on the status of the City Manager Position and asked for clarification on the relationship between the City and Herington Hospital. Janet encouraged the Board of Commissioners to be transparent and keep the community informed in an open fashion on the status of the vacant City Manager position as the process continues. Janet asked about the "Special Meeting", Monday evening and if any actions took place that needed to be shared with the community. Janet asked whether the Hospital was a private entity or a Municipal Hospital and what the relationship is with the city.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Gares to approve the agenda with the addition of 6A- Update on City Manager search. Mayor Urbanek gave a brief update on the current status and stated Bob Davis is reaching out to obtain more candidates. A semi-finalist list has not been finalized and the process is moving forward. A plan is to introduce the newly hired City Manager to the community when the Commission reaches that decision. Motion carried with all voting "Aye."

Discussion with Tom Sydow and Associates from Evergy Concerning Powerlines on Trapp Street. Tom handed out project sheets to the Commissioners and all Audience Members. He said the city has had lots of outages and the distribution problems remain. Evergy Associates explained how this system would work and all that it entails from beginning to end. Mr. Sydow said they are going to have an Open House March 26, 2020 at the Community Building to work with the community and answer questions on this project. David Kahle spoke and stated this project needs to be done for the city to have consistent electricity voltage and ensure the City's future growth and advancements for the residents and the businesses for the city to be able to grow and thrive. US Stone representatives expressed the need for consistent electricity as this has cost them lost production time and increased wages. Every time an electrical outage or blip occurs, the employees' have to start over with the job they were working on. US Stone wants to enhance their computer technology with updates and this project with Evergy is vital and essential to their continued growth and success on many levels. Completion of this project results in "extra load capacity" for future needs and growth and the city has maintained an affiliation with Flint Hills Rural Electric as an added option if a natural disaster should occur. In closing, Mr. Sydow requested permission from the governing body to place poles in town on the city right of ways on Trapp Street. A motion was made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Mayor Urbanek to grant permission to let Evergy

proceed on the project on Trapp Street. Motion carried with Commissioner Vance Donahue II voting "Nay" and all others voting "Aye".

Discussion with Janet Wade from the Ad Hoc Committee Concerning a Community Clean-Up. Janet explained the group who does this work is not a committee or formal group but is comprised of various individuals who volunteer and clean up the city for the good of the community. Janet would like to see a park clean-up in March and a downtown cleanup in Mid- April due to upcoming events happening in the city. Janet further stated Liggett Park needs cleaned up again. Janet said there are a group of students who help them and once they get this cleaned up, Janet would like the city to assume responsibility and maintain this cleanup effort moving forward. Janet suggested developing and setting expectations for the community's appearance. Janet also suggested the Commissioners look at starting a Public Spaces Board to help track the clean-up activities. Mayor Urbanek stated the City appreciates her involvement with Ad Hoc and work they have performed on behalf of the City.

Discussion of Electrical Rate Study- David Kahle. David talked with KMEA to get rate study done. This will be done for free due to the City being a member. David recommended doing an In-Depth Full Rate Study since the City has not had one done for several years and it won't cost the city any money. David recommended doing the Rate Study first before the Solar Feasibility Study as that will help when adopting the Solar Policy. KMEA will do a power point presentation. A motion was made by Mayor Urbanek, seconded by Commissioner Bell to proceed with the Rate Study and Feasibility Study. Motion carried with all voting "Aye".

Discuss and Consider Solar Use Policy. Mayor Urbanek said the City received a "revised" copy of the Solar Use Policy and wanted all the Commissioners to look at it and be familiar with it so when the time comes to adopt the Solar Use Policy it can be approved quickly. A motion was made by Commissioner Gares, seconded by Mayor Urbanek to table the Solar Use Policy until the Rate Study is completed. Motion carried with all voting "Aye."

A motion was made by Mayor Urbanek, seconded by Commissioner Donahue II to recess into Executive Session K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4); Executive Session – I move the City Commission recess into executive session to discuss business opportunity, pursuant to the confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4) involving Herington Municipal Hospital. To Include: Governing Body, City Attorney, City Clerk and Chief Financial Officer and Chief Executive Officer of Herington Hospital. Meeting to resume at 6:52p.m. Motion carried with all voting "Aye." Meeting resumed with no action taken.

A motion was made by Mayor Urbanek, seconded by Commissioner Gares to recess into Executive Session K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4); Executive Session – I move the City Commission recess into executive session to discuss business opportunity, pursuant to the confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4) involving Herington Municipal Hospital. To Include: Governing Body, City Attorney, City Clerk and Chief Financial Officer and Chief Executive Officer of Herington Hospital. Meeting to resume at 7:05p.m. Motion carried with all voting "Aye." Meeting resumed with no action taken.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gares, seconded by Commissioner Bell to adjourn. Motion carried with all voting "Aye."

Also, present: Carl Urbanek, Brian Hornaday, Denise Shoff, Duane Bauer (VFW 1281), Janet Wade, Tandi Reiff, Ben Retter, Josh Skocny, Isabel Schmedemann, Cynthia Naylor, Butch Knight, Bill Donahue, David Kahle, Jeff Zuirchir, Tom Sydow, Justin Campbell, Gene Nixon and J.R. Sparke – Herington Times.

Marcus Hawkes, City Clerk