

REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2014

The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Herington, Kansas met at City Hall at 4:30 p.m. on the above date—the following being present: Mayor Beth Wade, Commissioner Fred Olsen, Commissioner Chuck Miller, Commissioner Michelle Stanford, Commissioner Kitty Walter, City Attorney Brad Jantz, and City Clerk Debra Wendt. City Manager Ron Strickland was absent.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 6, 2014. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

Appropriation Ordinances #C0430-14 and #P0510-14 were discussed and reviewed. There were no additional agenda items. A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Walter, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to re-appoint Jenette Clark to the Library Board, term to expire 3-14-18. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Walter, to re-appoint Rick Freeman to the Convention and Visitors Bureau, term to expire 4-30-16. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

Commissioner Stanford brought up several ideas. She suggested putting the minutes of the meetings, payments made, board appointments, etc. on a consent agenda. She felt this would save time and make the meetings more efficient. Michelle also would like to see a public forum prior to meetings, or else a monthly “town hall” meeting where citizens could voice their concerns and ideas. Brad indicated that public forums are not readily used in this form of government, and that the Appropriation Ordinances do not need to be approved by the Commission. Fred felt that it is courteous to vote for each person on a board, and Beth said there have been “issues” with the public forum before. Chuck commented that people can call someone and ask to be on the agenda. Brad said that when people speak at a public forum, they may ask for a response right away, when the Commission has not had sufficient time to study the issue. D.J. Neuberger spoke in favor of both the consent agenda and the public forum. The Commission was in favor of trying a town hall meeting, but no action was taken.

Ron had suggested restricting truck traffic and parking on D Street during the Highway 77 bridge construction. This was discussed, but no action was taken.

The proposed animal ordinance was discussed. Chuck suggested having a work session with the Commission and the committee that revised the regulations. Brenda said she would come up with some dates and let them know at the next meeting. D.J. Neuberger asked if there could be citizen input at the work session.

Michelle asked Brad about the Hodgdon perchlorate contamination issue, and he said the specialized law firm is working on it, and he expects an answer soon. Kitty said she has heard about grants from the State for shared community gardens. She will get some information on this.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Walter, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

Also present at the meeting were Rick Freeman, D.J. Neuberger, Dave Jones, Virginia Neuberger, Pat Moyer, Mike Ryan, Ken Walters, Tandi Arevalo, Cynthia Naylor, Brenda Wildman, Kenny Staatz, Cathy Hagerman, J.R. Sparke, and Stephanie Gilbert of the Herington Times.

Debra Wendt
City Clerk