

REGULAR MEETING
April 16, 2013

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: Commissioner Fred Olsen, Commissioner Woodie Haire, Commissioner D.J. Neuberger, Commissioner Beth Wade, City Attorney Brad Jantz, and City Clerk Debra Wendt. Mayor Robbin Bell and City Manager Ron Strickland were absent.

The meeting was conducted by Vice-Mayor Fred Olsen. A motion was made by Commissioner Wade, seconded by Commissioner Haire, to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 2, 2013. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” Appropriation Ordinances #C0331-13 and #P0410-13 were discussed and reviewed.

Under additional agenda items, Beth wanted to move #14, “Changing the times of Commission meetings” to #7A, and D.J. wanted to reserve the option of adding an agenda item, depending on the outcome of #7A. A motion was made by Commissioner Haire, seconded by Commissioner Neuberger, to approve the agenda, with the aforementioned changes. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Haire, seconded by Commissioner Wade, to authorize the signing of a proclamation declaring May 3, 2013 as “Arbor Day” in Herington. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Wade, seconded by Commissioner Haire, to re-appoint Mike Wendt to the Director #1 position on the KMEA Board of Directors for a two-year term, to expire 4-30-15. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Wade, seconded by Commissioner Haire, to appoint Fred Olsen as an Alternate Member to the KMEA Board of Directors for a two-year term, to expire 4-30-15. The motion passed, with Commissioners Haire, Neuberger, and Wade voting “Aye,” and Commissioner Olsen abstaining.

Brad Jantz presented on ordinance that would change the time of Commission meetings and adopt the second edition of the “Code of Procedure for Kansas Cities” that was developed by the League of Kansas Municipalities. He noted that the current code of procedures that the City has adopted is the first edition, and the major changes are in the “executive session” section. Brad recommended that the Commission go through the second edition of the code “line by line” and “page by page,” and he also urged the Commissioners to attend training sponsored by the League of Kansas Municipalities. A motion was made by Commissioner Wade, seconded by Commissioner Haire, to have a work session on Monday, April 29, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Building to review the code of procedures book. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” A motion was then made by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Wade, to table the proposed ordinance that would change the meeting time and adopt the code of procedures until after the work session. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

D.J. brought up the confusion of getting on today’s agenda. B.J. Davis asked if the Commissioners can invite the public to comment, and Debbie Goembel asked why the public forum was taken off the agenda without a vote. These things will be discussed at the work session next week.

Jeremy Purkeypyle spoke to the Commission about fireworks. A volunteer committee has been formed to “save the fireworks,” as the Chamber of Commerce is no longer sponsoring the event. Jeremy requested that they be allowed to hold a carnival at the fairgrounds as a fund raiser during Memorial Day Weekend, with electrical hook-ups for the campers and housing, water, and trash barrels provided. (The rides and

booths are run by a generator.) A motion was made by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Wade, to provide these things. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye." The committee also asked for permission to hold the fireworks display at Lake Herington on July 5th, and for the City to provide fire protection, traffic control, and EMS service for the event. A motion was made by Commissioner Neuberger, seconded by Commissioner Harie, to approve these requests, as long as they provide proof of liability insurance. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

Rick Freeman voiced his concerns about handicapped parking in the downtown area, particularly at the Post Office and City Office, and also at the Community Building. He said that the handicapped parking that we do have is inconsistent and not in compliance with the ADA. The postmaster said that they would not spend the money to change their parking. Rick suggested talking to Gary Bates of the OCCCK who would do an ADA compliance survey at no charge. Leo will be given his name and phone number.

Bart Hinkle brought up several areas of concern, including the City codes, lack of a job description for the City Attorney, that the hospital is not listed in the code book under public property, bond discrepancies, and the storm water fund. Commissioner Haire asked Mr. Hinkle why he didn't run for City Commission. Bart replied that the City Manager was given a raise after the filing deadline, and then he asked the Commission why they gave the raise.

Debbie Goembel thanked the City Attorney for getting in touch with her to discuss the code of procedures. She stressed that the way the Commission conducts their meetings sets an example for all of the other city-appointed boards, and added that these boards should be diverse and filled with qualified members. Debbie also urged the Commissioners to get additional training and communicate with the public.

The revised Municipal Water Conservation Plan was discussed. The State of Kansas has approved the plan. D.J. questioned the fact that the plan states that water bills will show the amount of water used in gallons and the cost of the water, but our bills don't show the usage in gallons, but rather by hundreds of gallons. A motion was made by Commissioner Neuberger, seconded by Commissioner Olsen, to approve the Water Conservation Plan. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

A motion was made by Commissioner Wade, seconded by Commissioner Haire, to approve the resignation of Jada Baker from the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

D.J. praised the Street Department for their cleanup effort. Fred Olsen presented a plaque to out-going Commissioner Woodie Haire for his service on the City Commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wade, seconded by Commissioner Neuberger, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

Also present at the meeting were Buck Buckner, B.J. Davis, Debbie Goembel, Pat Moyer, Mike Ryan, Tandi Arevalo, Chuck Miller, Tammy Miller, Michelle Stanford, Jeremy Purkeypyle, Bart Hinkle, David Stroda, Karen Ketterer, Dennis Wendlandt, Jackie Mueller, Wendy Jones, Ruth Clark, Lyle Wade, Rick Freeman, Gloria Boomer, Heather Felpel, Bob Clark, Kenny Staatz, Karla Mann, Cindy Roberts, Larry Mann, Gabriele Simmons, Sabrina Burt, Gail Bettles, Serena Weldon, Marc Toomey, Melissa Barton, Michelle Clore, Duane Bauer, Rod Coon, Eric Gares, Cynthia Naylor, Keith Longabaugh, Larry Mein, J.R. Sparke, and Stephanie Berry of the Herington Times.

Debra Wendt
City Clerk