

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**April 21, 2015**

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 Manager Ron Strickland, City Attorney Brad Jantz, and City Clerk Debra Wendt.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 7, 2015. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” Appropriation Ordinances #C0331-15 and #P0410-15 were discussed and reviewed. Ron added one agenda item—executive session, non-elected personnel. It was added as #5A. A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Mayor Wade, to approve the agenda, with the addition of #5A. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

At 4:32 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor Wade, seconded by Commissioner Olsen, for the City Commission, City Manager, City Attorney, Brenda Wildman, and Commissioners-elect Mark Hager and Kat Souza to go into executive session pursuant to the “non-elected personnel” exception in order to protect the privacy of the employee and associated performance of City policy, for 30 minutes. J.R. Sparke questioned if the commissioners-elect should be included in the executive session. Brad said it could be allowed, since they have been elected, even though they have not taken office. When the vote was taken, it passed 3-2, with Mayor Wade and Commissioners Olsen and Walter voting “Aye,” and Commissioners Stanford and Miller voting “Nay.” At 5:02 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor Wade, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to re-convene into regular session. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” No action was taken.

The results of the April 7, 2015 City general election are as follows:

### **HOSPITAL TRUSTEE**

*Phyllis Bettles	271
*Julie Keithline	230

### **CITY COMMISSIONER**

*Mark Hager	287
*Kathleen Souza	259
Curtis Hartman	110
L. Beth Wade	52

A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Olsen, to appoint Pam Dalton to the Library Board, term to expire 3-14-19. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

The Mayor read a proclamation declaring May 6, 2015 as “Kids to Parks Day” in Herington. A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Walter, to authorize the Mayor to sign the proclamation. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

The Mayor read a proclamation declaring the week of April 26 to May 3, 2015 as “H.O.P.E. Center Emphasis Week” in Herington. A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Olsen, to authorize the Mayor to sign the proclamation. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

Ron explained the Electric Service Allocation Assignment Agreement with Western Area Power Administration. As the allocation is too costly to use, due to transmission costs, KMEA administers our allotment and we usually receive from \$2,000 to \$4,000 per year from them for having it. The agreement would run through September of 2054. A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Mayor Wade, to authorize the City Manager to sign this agreement. The motion passed, with Mayor Wade and Commissioners Olsen, Stanford, and Walter voting "Aye," and Commissioner Miller voting "Nay."

Ron reported that the Kansas Department of Commerce recently conducted an assessment of our revolving loan fund. They suggested turning the money over to the State, due to stricter regulations that will be coming soon in the record keeping. Businesses would still be able to borrow the RLF money, they would just go to the state fund instead of our local fund. We haven't loaned out any money since 2003. At this time, we still have one delinquent loan that a small amount is being paid on each month. A motion was made by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to close our revolving loan fund, turn the balance in to the State, and have them administer the loans. The motion passed 4-1, with Commissioner Miller casting the dissenting vote.

Ron sent out five RPF's for an electric rate analysis, and received one back, from Ranson Financial Consultants, for an initial fee not to exceed \$15,000. Michelle stated that when she asked for a rate study, she wanted Ron to do it, not hire a consulting firm.

The delinquent utility bill policy was discussed. Chuck said he would rather table this until the new commissioners are sworn in. Fred agreed. J.R. Sparke remarked that the commissioners-elect could offer their input now, as they are both present at the meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to table discussion of the delinquent utility bill policy until the next meeting. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

Going back to agenda item #12, a motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Mayor Wade, to reject the proposal for an electric rate analysis from Ranson Financial Consultants. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye." A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to have Ron do an electric rate analysis as soon as possible. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

A work session was set for April 29, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall to discuss the budget and capital improvement projects.

Michelle commented on the annual water report, and thanked Beth and Fred for their years of service, wisdom, and leadership. Kitty and Chuck also expressed their appreciation. Fred said he appreciated the opportunity to serve the City. Beth encouraged the Commissioners to make an effort to attend LKM training, and said she enjoyed her time on the Commission.

Ron presented plaques to out-going Commissioners Fred Olsen and Beth Wade.

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

Also present at the meeting were Gloria Boomer, Mark Hager, Kat Souza, Debbie Goembel, Leslie Mayes, Paula Strickland, D.J. Neuberger, Ken Staatz, Eric Gares, Andrew Reese, Kristen Sneath, Rick Freeman, Virginia Neuberger, Brandy Collins, Bob Clark, Ruth Clark, Ken Walters, Mike Ryan, Brenda Wildman, Tandi Arevelo, Cynthia Naylor, Ray Perez, Duane Bauer, Stephanie Gilbert, Julie Newbury, Cathy Hagerman, and J.R. Sparke.

Debra Wendt

