

REGULAR MEETING

July 7, 2015

The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Herington, Kansas met at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on the above date—the following being present: Mayor Chuck Miller, Commissioner Michelle Stanford, Commissioner Kitty Walter, Commissioner Mark Hager, Commissioner Kat Souza, City Attorney Brad Jantz, and City Clerk Debra Wendt.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Walter, to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 16, 2015. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Souza, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of June 23, 2015. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” Appropriation Ordinance #P0625-15 was discussed and reviewed.

At the public forum, Carl Brown, 817 North D, asked if the City has any contingency plans in place. He specified getting more people to move to town, how soldiers leaving Ft. Riley would affect our budget, and also plans for tornados and other types of disasters. Chuck assured him that we are working on these plans. Krista Pavek, 806 West Day, asked if the City could provide her with a riding mower so she could keep the West Side Park mowed. Brad said there are some liability issues with a private citizen mowing on public property. Krista also asked that the trash at the park be picked up more often.

Under additional agenda items, Kitty asked why we can’t have a City Administrator. This will be discussed under “City Manager Search.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

Mike Koss gave a presentation on the League of Kansas Municipalities LEAPS City Manager recruitment program. He said that they would send a survey to each of the Commissioners, create an ad based on their responses, advertise the position, review and rank the candidates, provide suggested interview questions, and do background checks and non-hire letters. The total cost would be approximately \$3,623.00 plus advertising of \$500-\$750. They also have a “LEAPS Lite” program that costs less, but provides less service. This would include ad placement on the League’s classified webpage, ranking of candidates, background check on the final candidate, non-hire letters, and legal consultation for \$950.00. Mike went over the time frame for recruitment, and the Commission thanked him for his presentation.

Scott McIntyre, RHCCON LLC, Bonner Springs, also gave a presentation on City Manager recruitment. He said he has mainly worked in the health care field, but he felt he could assist us in the recruitment process. He went over the time line, suggested that City staff be involved in the process, and said that since he is a Herington native, he would like to “give back” to the community. His fee would be around \$2,000, and he would be willing to have a “not to exceed” amount in the contract.

The Commission felt that they need to make a decision soon, but they would like some time to review the proposals. A motion was made by Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to schedule a

special meeting for Saturday, July 11, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall for the purpose of discussing the options for City Manager recruitment. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Souza, to approve a cereal malt beverage special event permit for David Gehrke, American Legion, for Saturday, July 11, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. at the Herington Fairgrounds Demolition Derby Arena. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

Yvette Ebright asked that the City Commission consider funding of \$6,000 for 2016 for the Roadhouse Youth Center. This will be reviewed at budget time. Kitty wanted to know how the money would be spent, and if they have any fund raisers. The Convention and Visitors Bureau submitted a 2016 proposed budget of \$17,760.

Lochner Engineers submitted the Herington Regional Airport DBE program for 2016-2018. A motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to authorize the Airport Manager to sign the DBE policy statement. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

Greg Wolf of the Throttle Jockeys Car Club was present to discuss liability insurance for the annual car show and drag races. Ron Strickland had told them that they were covered by the City's insurance for the one day event. EMC Insurance Agent Tandi Reiff stated that the car show is covered, but the drag races are excluded. Even though the participants signed waivers, the spectators are not covered. She will search for a company that would provide an event policy and get a quote. Kat said that she appreciates the Throttle Jockeys hosting the event, and she doesn't want to lose it, but that we need to keep everyone safe.

Brad pointed out that no vote was taken when Debbie Wendt was appointed as Interim City Manager, and no compensation was set. This was moved to #20A.

The abandoned water tower at the airport was discussed. Buck Driggs of Driggs Design Group said that after reviewing the pictures of the water tower, there are several items that create a cause for concern. He added that a formal on-site inspection and structural report could be done for \$650-\$800. It was decided to direct Leo Schlesener to solicit bids for the demolition of the tower.

Recruitment of a Police Chief was discussed. We are now down to four officers. Dickinson County provided some information on possibly contacting with them for law enforcement services. It was decided to proceed with advertising for a Police Chief.

Buck Driggs suggested that the Commission tour the water/power plant to see the condition of the building. A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Walter, to set a work session for 5:00 p.m. on July 21, 2015 at the plant so the Commissioners can tour the facility. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

Re-creation of a Lake Advisory Board was discussed. It was decided to have Brad draft an ordinance that would replace the "Parks and Public Property Board," Section 6-149 of the code book with "Lake Advisory Board." It will have five members with three-year terms.

At 7:23 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, for the City Commission, City Attorney, and Interim City Manager to go into executive session for thirty minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye." At 7:53 p.m. the meeting was back in regular session. A motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to appoint Debbie Wendt as Interim City Manager, with a \$1,200/month pay increase, effective 6-17-15, while serving in that capacity. Motion carried, all voting, "Aye."

Debbie said that a citizen said that the new recommended fluoride level in water is 0.7 mg per liter of water. At the present time, we are not adding fluoride to our water, but there is a minimal amount of natural fluoride in it. Discussion of this will be put on the next agenda. Exchange Bank will be closing the Herington Branch on September 30th. Accounts and certificates of deposit will be moved to Central Bank.

Kitty said she hoped everyone had a nice holiday. Mark encouraged everyone to attend the fair this week. Kat said she appreciated the effort of the fireworks committee. Michelle agreed, and thanked the City employees for their work on a water leak and power outage.

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

Also present at the meeting were Ken Staatz, Karla Mann, Krista Pavek, Deb Hall, D.J. Neuberger, Virginia Neuberger, Laurie Brunner, Ken Walters, Marilyn Hopke, Mike Herbel, Gloria Boomer, Greg Wolf, Rohani Alcorn, Bill Alcorn, Brandy Collins, Scott Collins, Natasha Barnett, Carl Brown, Eric Gares, Scott McIntyre, Bob Clark, Ruth Clark, Yvette Ebright, Mike Koss, Vance Donahue II, Leslie Mayes, Tandi Reiff, Ron Maggard, Mike Mowat, Don Cole, Dave Jones, Wendy Jones, Cynthia Naylor, Brian Haden, and J.R. Sparke.

Debra Wendt
City Clerk