**REGULAR MEETING**

**February 16, 2016**

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. Commissioner Souza had one change for the minutes of the meeting of February 2, 2016—in the discussion of demolition of several properties, in one place “222 West Main” was referred to as “22 West Main.” A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Souza, to approve the minutes with the aforementioned change. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” Appropriation Ordinances #C0131-16 and #P0210-16 were discussed and reviewed.

At the public forum, Marla Sheppard, 119 South 2nd, had a complaint about sludge from the car wash on 3rd Street being dumped on an empty lot. She said she has reported it to the Police and Fire Departments. Brad said that this needs to be disposed of properly. Ken Staatz said that he has talked to the car wash employee about this issue. It was decided that Ken should send a certified letter to the car wash to inform them to not dump the sludge on the ground. Marla also was concerned about a hole behind the grocery store driveway. Debbie will talk to Leo about this.

Also at the public forum, Dave Jones asked if the Commission had any more information about the removal of trees and the police car being repaired out of town. Mark told him that on the advice of our insurance company, the vehicle was taken to a place that could repair both the body damage and the mechanical issues in a timely manner. Kat told Dave that she has a list of locations where tree trimming had also been done, and that she would email it to him. Wendy Jones asked the Commission to consider hiring a city manager that has economic development experience, skills, and abilities. She suggested that if the finalists don’t have these, then they should continue looking for someone who does.

There were no additional agenda items. A motion was made by Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

At 6:14 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, for the City Commission, City Attorney, Interim City Manager, and City Manager candidate Ed Patton to go into executive session for one hour to discuss non-elected personnel, city manager interviews. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” Ed Patton came out of the executive session at 7:00 p.m. At 7:14 p.m. the meeting was back in regular session. No action was taken. At 7:15 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, for the City Commission, City Attorney, Interim City Manager, and City Manager candidate Bret Beye to go into executive session for one hour to discuss non-elected personnel, city manager interviews. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” Bret Beye came out of the executive session at 7:45 p.m., Brad and Debbie came out at 7:55 p.m., and Brad returned to the executive session at 8:05 p.m. At 8:16 p.m. the meeting was back in regular session. No action was taken. At 8:17 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, for the City Commission, City Attorney, and Ed Patton to go into executive session for ten minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, city manager interviews. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” At 8:27 p.m. the meeting was back in regular session. No action was taken.

Police Chief Russ Almes was present to discuss dogs at large. He suggested educating the public about registering their dogs, and added that it would be helpful if citizens could secure the dogs until they were picked up, because many times when the police department responds to a call, the dog is gone when they get there. Other suggestions where increasing fines and hiring an animal control officer. Brad said that in other cities, it has worked well for several cities to share an animal control officer. There is also the problem of where to shelter the animals. Kat thought we may be able to get some assistance from “Friends of Animals” in Junction City. Eric Gares said that we have live traps, catch poles, and a tranquilizer gun. After more discussion, it was decided to get more information. Brad will get information on interlocal agreements, we will look at the budget, and discuss increasing the fines at the next meeting.

Debbie reported that the power would be off in one section of town on February 17th for a maximum of two hours starting at 6:00 p.m., and that we had received the written report on the accuracy of the water meter at the hospital. She also mentioned two upcoming training sessions.

The Commissioners thanked the audience for their patience during the interviews. Mark also thanked Police Chief Almes for coming to the schools.

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

Also present at the meeting were Gloria Boomer, Vance Donahue, Zarra McKenna, Ken Walters, Jerry Barta, Eric Gares, Dave Peters, Cynthia Naylor, Russ Almes, Ken Staatz, Chris Thiel, Ed Patton, Marla Sheppard, Dave Jones, Wendy Jones, Rick Freeman, Bret Beye, and J.R. Sparke.

Debra Wendt

City Clerk