**REGULAR MEETING**

**March 1, 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: Commissioner Michelle Stanford, Commissioner Mark Hager, Commissioner Kat Souza, City Attorney Brad Jantz, and City Clerk Debra Wendt. Mayor Chuck Miller and Commissioner Kitty Walter were absent. The meeting was conducted by Vice-Mayor Stanford.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Commissioner Souza, to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 16, 2016. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” Appropriation Ordinance #P0225-16 was discussed and reviewed.

At the public forum, Rick Freeman, 201 East Helen #5, asked for an update on the ADA compliance projects. Debbie said that a total of $15,000 has been set aside in 2015 and 2016, from the 2010 sales tax fund, to complete some downtown corners. She will get with Leo to see what is planned.

Also at the public forum, Eric Gares, 15 North 12th Street, asked when a condemned trailer located at 18 North 12th would be demolished. This has been through the abatement process, but one person owns the land, and another owns the trailer. Brad thought we may be able to get a limited certificate from the abstractor. He will continue working on this and try to get it resolved.

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

Buck Driggs gave a brief update on the water plant project. He said that the engineering report is complete and the environmental report should be finished by the end of the week. He was required to send some high resolution pictures to the State Historical Preservation Organization. Buck said that if they would not allow the building to be demolished, a potential option would be to close it and leave it standing. He hopes to have a report for the Commission to review by the next meeting.

Brad said that he has talked to several cities concerning sharing an animal control officer. Heidi Lockwood, 804 West Walnut, cited some problems she is having in her neighborhood with dogs running loose. Raising the fines for when the animals are caught was discussed. Jim Iverson, 219 South Broadway, asked if pit bulls are now allowed in town. He was told that the ordinance has been amended, and no breed of dog is banned. Dave Jones, 103 North 16th, felt that we need to raise the fines and promote City registration. Raising the sliding scale for fines was suggested, as well as adding extra fees for not being registered. Brad will work on this and bring it back to the next meeting for discussion.

Gloria Boomer spoke to the Commission regarding the demolition of the structure located at 222 West Main. She has sent some information and pictures to the State, and she has not heard back from them. The Commission gave her until the first meeting in April, when this will be placed on the agenda again.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Hager, to appoint Wendy Jones as our representative to the Dickinson County Economic Development Corporation Board. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to appoint David Gehrke as Director #2 to the KMEA Board of Directors for a two-year term, to expire 4-30-18. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Hager, to appoint Kat Souza as the Alternate Director to the KMEA Board of Directors for a two-year term, to expire 4-30-18. Motion carried, all voting “Aye.”

Michelle read a proclamation declaring April, 2016 as “Fair Housing Month” in Herington. A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Hager, to authorize the Vice-Mayor to sign the proclamation. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

Debbie gave an update on the upcoming car show and drag races which will be held on April 30, 2016. The Throttle Jockeys car club has provided a certificate of insurance and a map of the requested street closures. The Chamber of Commerce will be contacting the businesses involved, as well as police, fire, and ambulance service regarding the street closure permit.

At 6:37 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Hager, for the City Commission, City Attorney, and Interim City Manager to go into executive session for 10 minutes, attorney/client privilege, matters related to litigation. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” At 6:47 p.m. the meeting was back in regular session. No action was taken.

At 6:48 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Hager, for the City Commission, City Attorney, and Interim City Manager to go into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” At 7:08 p.m. the meeting was back in regular session. At 7:09 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Commissioner Hager, to continue the executive session for another 15 minutes. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” At 7:25 p.m. the meeting was back in regular session. No action was taken.

Debbie informed the Commission that Lori is looking into having the High School art class paint new signs for the Homestead Village. Creating a new City logo was discussed. Public notices concerning the trihalomethanes in the water will be sent out with the March 1, 2016 utility bills.

The proposed leases with the American Legion and the Boy Scouts were brought up. Jessietta Denham told the Commission that the Scouts are now working with the American Legion to be their sponsor instead of the VFW. Mark said that the property lease with the American Legion needs to be done before the lake gets busy. Michelle showed everyone some “light bulb cards” that were presented to the City from Cub Scout Pack 49. They have been learning about saving energy and recycling. Kat said that we have not received any correspondence from the CVB, and she requested that the members come and talk to the Commission. Mark commented on the water notices, and said that the water plant project should take care of this problem. Michelle said that she had received calls from a realtor wanting the Commission to change the number of animals that are allowed for each household.

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

 Also present at the meeting were Eric Gares, Cynthia Naylor, David Gehrke, Jim Iverson, Heidi Lockwood, Paul McIntire Sr., Rick Freeman, Jerry Barta, Dave Jones, Gloria Boomer, Buck Driggs, Ken Staatz, Ken Walters, Jessietta Denham, and J.R. Sparke.

 Debra Wendt

 City Clerk