**SPECIAL MEETING**

**March 19, 2016**

The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Herington, Kansas met in special session on Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall for the purpose of discussing a lease with the American Legion, fines for dogs at large, and non-elected personnel. Those present were Mayor Chuck Miller, Commissioner Michelle Stanford, Commissioner Mark Hager, Commissioner Kat Souza, City Clerk Debra Wendt, Ron Maggard, James Pilcher, Bruce Krause, Terry Payne, Steven Laun, Javier Sanchez, Gloria Boomer, Ed Patton, and J.R. Sparke. Commissioner Kitty Walter was absent, and City Attorney Brad Jantz arrived late.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. A revised lease with the American Legion was reviewed. Michelle said she is against the 99 year term of the lease. Ron Maggard said that they may have trouble getting a loan for any building improvements with a one or two year lease. The subject of the electric pedestal north of the Legion building was brought up. The Legion would be willing to purchase the pedestal for their own use, and to have one of their members camp there for security purposes. Mark thought this would show preferential treatment over the other campers, who are required to move every 14 days. Brad Jantz arrived at this time. He went over the changes he had made to the lease. It was discussed as to whether the pedestal location is an actual camping spot, as it was installed to accommodate the camp host. The camp host will be parked at a different location this year. Kat said she didn’t see any reason to not allow the Legion to purchase the pedestal. Mark disagreed, and said that he feels the 14 day rule should apply. It was decided to approve the lease, with the option that an addendum could be added at a later time, and that long-term camping could also be discussed. A motion was made by Commissioner Stanford, seconded by Mayor Miller, to approve the lease with American Legion Post 12, with one change—that the 60 day notice for early lease termination should also be included in section 2 of the lease. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

At 9:35 a.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 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.” At 9:55 a.m. the meeting was back in regular session. A motion was made by Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Stanford, to enter into preliminary negotiations with Ed Patton for the City Manager position, giving the City Attorney authority to negotiate on behalf of the City. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

Brad said he has a rough draft completed for the increase in fines for dogs at large. It includes a $100 fee for the first offense, and then doubling the fee for additional offenses, as well as an additional fee for the animal not being spayed or neutered. This will be considered at a later time.

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

City Clerk