**REGULAR MEETING**

**May 17, 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 Kat Souza, Commissioner Kitty Walter, Commissioner Mark Hager, Commissioner Dave Jones, City Manager Ed Patton, City Attorney Brad Jantz, and City Clerk Debra Wendt. Commissioner Michelle Stanford was absent.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve the agenda. Dave pointed out that Ray Perez was present at the May 3, 2016 meeting. The motion was amended to reflect that, and it passed unanimously. Appropriation Ordinances #C0430-16 and #P0510-16 were discussed and reviewed.

At the public forum, Gabriele Simmons, 15 North 12th, asked for an update on the demolition of 18 North 12th. Brad said the title search is being done and the finalization of ownership is near. Kenny Staatz said that in the meantime, he can secure the holes.

Also at the public forum, Duane Bauer, Vice-Commander of the VFW, inquired about the property at 304 South 3rd. The VFW is interested in constructing a building, and the owners in the area are Lupe Bargas, D.J. Neuberger, and the City of Herington. The property is in the flood plain, and would be subject to the FEMA and Kansas Department of Agriculture regulations and permits. It was also noted that the property may need to be rezoned.

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

Police Chief Russ Almes gave an update on the Police Department, which included calls responded to, on-line training, reduced overtime, acquisition of Tasers and Taser training, and the “read with the Chief” program at the elementary school.

Buck Driggs of Driggs Design Group and Rita Clarey of Kansas Rural Water Association gave an update on the water plant project. USDA is reviewing our grant application. Rita thanked the City for allowing her to assist in the project. She said that she got Ed registered tonight for the submission of the on line application. The environmental review should be wrapped up by the end of the month, and there will be some paper forms for the City Attorney to review. Buck said he met with Ed at the project site to get him up to speed.

Ed had hoped to have a picture presentation of 5 West Walnut, but had some problems with his laptop. Kenny met with a representative from Associated Insulation Inc. and went through the building. The floor is warped, the building is not safe, and it is a health hazard. KDHE will need to tell us what we can and cannot do to the building. The owner will be updated on what is going on, and Ed hopes to have the pictures of the inside available for the Commission to review.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Mayor Souza, to appoint Peggy Hilliard to the Library Board for a 4-year term, to expire 5-18-20. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Hager, to reappoint Diane Walters (general public member) to the Convention and Visitors Bureau for a two-year term, to expire 4-30-18. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Mayor Souza, to appoint Robbin Bell to the Recreation Commission for a 4-year term, to expire 5-18-20. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Hager, seconded by Mayor Souza, to appoint Ed Patton as the City Representative to the Fair Board. Motion carried, all voting, “Aye.”

Ed mentioned a variety of issues in his comments:

* Ed signed a revised contract with Lochner for overlay at the airport. The amount is $60,575 instead of $61,975.
* Estimates are being taken for telephone system upgrades.
* Accepted bids from Comm-Tronix for $3,850 to repair a pump at the water plant, and from Ka-Comm for $2,818 to repair a storm siren.
* Briefly mentioned property on 3rd Street, a letter from Rita Clarey, and easements on 16th Street.
* Request for bids for the airport project have been published, with a pre-bid conference to be held on May 25th, and the bid opening on June 8th.
* Ed met with Mike and Karen Walsh concerning the solid waste contract.
* Due to the deficit occurring in the solid waste fund, Ed recommended an ordinance that would make property owners liable for charges.
* Benesch Engineering is working on a proposal for the Vine Street Bridge. It is possibly eligible for a grant.
* Ed spoke with Bruce Ballard concerning his electrical and plumbing business.
* Gene Wilson would like to speak to the Commission concerning our Plexar system.
* Ed and Brenda will be attending a grant-writing class in August, Ed will be attending a public finance class on May 26th, and he would like to attend the ICMA National Conference in Kansas City.
* Ed expressed his concern about his City Manager Report being posted on Facebook. Mayor Souza said people have asked her to do this.
* Dave suggested going electronic with agenda packets.
* Solid waste fund and rates were discussed.
* Rick Freeman asked if he can get a copy of Ed’s report. Ed said it could be put on the City’s web site.

Commissioner Jones suggested a “shop local” ordinance. This will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

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

Also present at the meeting were Shirley Meyer, Duane Bauer, Rita Clarey, Buck Driggs, D.J. Neuberger, Gabriele Simmons, Gloria Boomer, Jerry Barta, Maria Girolamo, Wendy Jones, Russ Almes, Rick Freeman, Mike Mowat, Cynthia Naylor, Virginia Neuberger, Ken Staatz, David Ebersole, Ken Walters, Ron Maggard, and J.R. Sparke.

Debra Wendt

City Clerk