

Regular Meeting
February 15, 2022
6:00 p.m.

The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Herington, Kansas met at City Hall at 5:30 p.m. on the above date – the following being present: Mayor Eric Gares, Commissioner Robbin Bell, Commissioner Debi Urbanek, and Commissioner Ben Castleberry. Absent was Commissioner Vance Donahue. Also in attendance were City Manager Branden Dross, City Attorney Brad Jantz, City Clerk Megan Lawrenz, DJ Neuberger, Carl Urbanek, and Larry Mann.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Gares called the meeting to order. Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular commission meeting February 1, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Urbanek. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Forum – None.

Additional Agenda Items – Move item 11 Executive Session to item 10. Move item 11 Discuss and Action on Ordinance 1859 Code of Ethics to item 11a. Add item 11 – Discussion on governing body performance.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the agenda with the revisions, seconded by Commissioner Gares. Motion carried 4-0.

KMEA Board Appointment – Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to appoint Branden Dross to the KMEA Board of Directors, term to expire 4/30/2024, seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried 4-0.

Trapp Street/Business US 56 CCLIP Project – City Manager Branden Dross updated the commissioners that Dickinson County is not willing to agree to take responsibility of the road due to the high cost of maintaining a road so far way from their location. Branden will work on a shared responsibility agreement.

Lake Master Plan – City Manager Branden Dross told the commissioners that the next meeting for the Lake Master Plan will be March 1st, from 4:30 to 5:30 down at the community building and will be a formal presentation from Confluence.

Executive Session – Mayor Gares made a motion that the City of Herington Commission recess into executive session, pursuant to the consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship exception K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) in order to discuss potential litigation, to include the governing body, city manager and city attorney. With the open meeting to resume at 6:48pm, seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried 4-0. The regular meeting resumed with no action taken.

Executive Session – Mayor Gares made a motion that the City of Herington Commission recess into executive session, pursuant to the consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed

privileged in the attorney-client relationship exception K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) in order to discuss potential litigation, to include the governing body, city manager and city attorney. With the open meeting to resume at 7:00pm, seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried 4-0. The regular meeting resumed with no action taken.

Discussion on Governing Body Performance – Tabled until all Commissioners can be present.

Ordinance 1859 Code of Ethics – Ordinance 1859 Code of Ethics did not pass. Commissioners requested a more detailed and specific code.

City Manager Comments – Will bring three Hope water line bids to the next commission meeting. Will be having a discussion about another skid loader soon. Working on the possibly getting an electric vehicle charging station in Herington. Should have the pool engineering report for the pool house next week. Branden has received some numbers back about refinancing our bonds.

Commissioner Bell – Mentioned the possibility of allowing kayaking on Father Padilla Pond, currently illegal. Wondered if we are running the street sweeper too much. Wants to clear up confusion on roof repair permitting process.

Commissioner Urbanek – Reminded staff work to work on the IBC community meeting to establish exceptions for the codes.

Commissioner Castleberry – Reminded the community about the wrestling event on Friday.

Mayor Gares – Asked if the vacant building ordinance letters have been mailed out. Mentioned looking at refinancing city dept and looking into investment opportunities. Asked about the status of the bridge at Father Padilla Park. Wanted staff to be aware that the retaining wall between 7th and 9th has fallen over.

Adjourn – Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Castleberry. Motion carried 5-0.

Megan Lawrenz, City Clerk