

**Regular Meeting
October 4, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

The Herington City Commissioners met on the above date and time in the city commission chambers in at city hall. In attendance were Mayor Eric Gares, Commissioner Vance Donahue, Commissioner Debi Urbanek, Commissioner Robbin Bell, Commissioner Ben Castleberry, City Manager Branden Dross, City Attorney Brad Jantz, City Clerk Megan Lawrenz, Deputy City Clerk Chanda Wilson, Police Chief Chad Langley, Fire Chief Andrew Avantagiato and Neighborhood Services Director James Masters. Also in attendance were Pamela Dalton, Corkie Dunlap, Sharon Kolanowski, Carl Urbanek, Gordon Schroeder, Shelly Wirtz, Carrie Hill, Janet Wade, Peggy Hilliard, Gabi Simmons, Phyllis Perry, Karen Soliz, Kim Ditto-Bell, Brandy Sensmeier, John Thissen, Erin Pritchard, Deb Geissert and Marcus Hawkes.

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Gares called the meeting to order.

Public Forum – Corkie Dunlap – 709 Paint Road, Hope, KS – FRE. Pam Dalton – 609 S B St, Herington, KS – FRE. Gordon Schroeder – 2228 400 Ave – FRE. Janet Wade – 602 E Arnold – Paving on Arnold. Gabi Simmons - 15 N 12th Street – Demolition of building near childcare center. Karen Soliz – 602 N D – FRE and Ladies Night. Kim Ditto-Bell – 801 W Trapp – FRE. Brandy Sensmeier – 302 S C – FRE. John Thissen – 1462 Gehrke Ct – FRE.

Additional Agenda Items – Move 11 to number 7, all adjacent numbers down. Mud run agenda item tabled.

Approval of Agenda – Mayor Gares made a motion to approve the agenda moving item 11 to 7, and all adjacent numbers down and tabling the mud run item, seconded by Commissioner Donahue. Motion carried 5-0.

Consent Agenda – Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to approve the items listed in the consent agenda including the Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes from September 20, 2022, the Special City Commission Meeting Minutes from September 23, 2022, and the resignation of Mackenzie Langley from the CVB board, seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion on FRE and Community Assistance - Phyllis Perry – Shared some history on the FRE and provided insight to some of the policies they use for offering services to the community. Brad to provide a policy regarding utility forgiveness for non-profit organizations at the next commission meeting. Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to keep it the same, and grandfather the existing five until we can get a policy worked out, Seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried 5-0.

Police Update – There were 244 calls for service, 68 traffic stops, 5 misdemeanor and 2 felony arrests. Unit 4 has quit running, getting a new motor installed at council grove, motor will be under warranty. Dropped off radio for new unit, should be available in a couple weeks. Can reserve a vehicle for us for next year, but prices are going up approximately \$8000. Cadyn Allen returned to academy week 6. Should be done within in two months.

Fire Update – There were 26 calls for the month, 1 brush fire, 1 grass fire, 14 medical assists, 1 public service, 8 authorized control burnings, 1 citizen complaint and 1 illegal burn. Training topic and hours were car fires with the Abilene Fire Department. There will be an ice rescue training in January, and February. December 5th KSFMO will be holding a class on investigations. Staffing Update- New volunteers have been integrating well, first responders up and running. Dept/Equipment Update – the new brush truck chassis is delivered, expected delivery by the end of the month. Working with a grant company on tanker spec and procurement. 18-24 months for delivery. The fire department has received a grant from KSFMO for \$15,000 for turn out gear, almost 4 sets. A work session is needed for the new fire station.

Neighborhood Services Update – There were roughly 12 complaints and 58 inspections since the September

6th meeting. There were 32 grass inspections with 16 violation notices, 6 cut orders and 3 yards mowed by the city. There were 6 environmental violations, 1 for a yard and fence, 2 for yards and automobiles, 1 for yard and structure and 2 for trash. There were 3 building permits with 3 inspections. 5 electrical permits with 1 inspection. No mechanical permits with one inspection. 1 plumbing permit with 3 inspections and no fence permits. There were 7 inspections for utility connection. There were 5 structural building inspections, and at the October 18th meeting recommendations to repair, remove, or demolish structures will be presented for properties located at 117 W Main, 211 N E, 315 S A, 112 W Main and 507 N F.

Discussion on the Mud Run with Robert Hood – Tabled.

Street Bid for 2nd Street Between Walnut and Main Street for \$126,700 from PP&J Construction – Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the street bid for 2nd street between Walnut and Main from PP&J Construction for \$126,700, seconded by Commissioner Urbanek. Motion carried 5-0.

\$2 Rate Increase and Three-Year Contract Extension Addendum with M&K Trash – Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the three-year contract extension and \$2 rate increase with M&K Trash for trash service and authorize the mayor's signature, seconded by Commissioner Castleberry. Motion carried 5-0.

ORDINANCE 1875

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PRIVATE PROPERTY, BUILDING DEMOLITION, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 4-803, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF HERINGTON, KANSAS RELATING TO REGULATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF PROPERTY DEMOLITION IN THE CITY OF HERINGTON, KANSAS AND REPEALING ANY OTHER CURRENT ORDINANCES OR PORTIONS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve ordinance 1875 and authorize the mayor's signature, seconded by Commissioner Castleberry. Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Donahue casting the dissenting vote.

\$12,000 Contract with Charge Point for Electric Vehicle Charger with 100% Reimbursement from the CVB – Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to approve the \$12,000 contract with Charge Point for the Electric Vehicle Charger with 100% reimbursement from the CVB over 5 years, seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried 5-0.

Executive Session – Mayor Gares made a motion that the Herington City Commission recess into Executive Session, pursuant -to the: Preliminary discussions relating to the acquisition of real property exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(6) in order to discuss a real estate transaction to include the governing body, city manager and city attorney with the regular meeting to resume at 8:05, seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried 5-0. The regular meeting resumed with no action taken.

City Manager Comments – WTP final inspection in the next few weeks. Update on woodbine contact. Next meeting will have accessory structure clean up from planning commission. Sewer and waterline engineering contract for 77/56 work at next meeting. Dept of commerce reached out to see if we would be part of their housing pilot program. BCBS insurance 10% increase. Legislative dinner in Abilene on the 26th.

City Commission Comments

Commissioner Bell – Will be there for LKM Annual Legislative Dinner on the 26th.

Commissioner Castleberry – North 13th street, thank city for regrading the road, and asked if we knew when Vyve is coming. Wants to keep up on the safe walk to school program, Branden talked to a school board member they are trying to get it on their agenda for the November meeting.

Commissioner Urbanek – Nothing.

Commissioner Donahue – Will update on LKM Annual dinner.

Eric – This weekend is the league's annual conference, he and Branden attending. Ad hoc committee for M/V statement, 10/14 meeting at 12:00 there will be action items. Should be on agenda at the next commission meeting.

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

Megan Lawrenz, City Clerk