

**Regular Meeting
June 21, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

The Herington City Commissioners met on the above date and time in the Commission Chambers at City Hall. In attendance were Mayor Eric Gares, Commissioner Vance Donahue, Commissioner Debi Urbanek, Commissioner Robbin Bell and Commissioner Ben Castleberry. Also in attendance were City Manager Branden Dross, City Attorney Brad Jantz, City Clerk Megan Lawrenz, Billy and Rohani Alcorn, Dan and Chris McDonald, Larry Mann, Carl Urbanek, Todd Anderson and Jeff Mills.

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Gares called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the regular city commission meeting minutes from June 7, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Donahue. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Forum – Billy Alcorn – Ramona, KS. Tax auction.

Additional Agenda Items – Addition of 6a – Update on Policy Regarding Tax Abatement.

Commissioner Donahue made a motion to approve the agenda, with the addition of 6a update on policy regarding tax abatement, seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried 5-0.

6a. Update on Policy Regarding Tax Abatement - According to the City Attorney Brad Jantz, the policy is drafted. Staff is still needing some guidance from the Commissioners. Draft will be sent to the Commissioners for input.

Presentation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Preliminary Engineering Report for Phase 2 - Todd Anderson SMH Consultants presented the preliminary engineering report for the next phase of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Looking to get funding through CDBG and KDHE. Department of Commerce will not take grant applications this year. Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to proceed with design aspect, seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried 4-1, with Commissioner Donahue casting the dissenting vote.

Presentation on the Pool Preliminary Engineering Report - Jeff Mills with Earls Engineering presented the preliminary engineering report.

Revisions to the CVB By-Laws – The bylaws were updated to include representation of a senior from USD 487 and reducing board membership from 10 to 9 members. Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to approve the revisions to the CVB bylaws, seconded by Commissioner Donahue. Motion carried 5-0.

Budget Workshop Dates - Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to set the first budget workshop date for July 5, 2022, from 4 to 6pm, seconded by Commissioner Donahue. Motion carried 5-0.

Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing and Budget Hearing Date – Mayor Gares made a motion to set the RNR hearing date and the Budget Hearing Date for August 23, 2022, at 6pm, seconded by Commissioner Castleberry. Motion carried 5-0.

City Manager Comments – Effective June 1, 2022, KMEA is our energy provider. The city received the annual dividend check from EMC for about \$25,000. Dennis Albrecht retired on Friday after 32 years of service to the city. Branden and Commissioner Urbanek attended the first Kansas Association of Trail Towns meeting in Topeka last week. Branden received a scholarship for an upcoming grant writing course.

Commissioner Comments -

Commissioner Bell - none.

Commissioner Castleberry – Wished a happy retirement to Dennis Albrecht. Asked about the status of the mud run, staff is waiting on insurance. Requested the square foot of pool house.

Commissioner Urbanek – Asked for a public update on ANS requirements.

Commissioner Donahue – Wished the community a happy 4th of July. Fair starts on the 8th. New roof on the fair building is being installed now.

Mayor Gares – Asked where staff is on rec commission lease. Asked for an update UPTICC grant, specifically if there is a system in place to confirm that work has been completed.

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

Megan Lawrenz, City Clerk