

December 30, 2002
6:00 P.M.
City Hall Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 30, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Room at City Hall.

Candy Schmitt opened the meeting with prayer.

Present: Mayor Thomas and Commissioners Stirton, Dave McClain, Lentz and John McClain.

Public Hearing—Budget Amendment

Mayor Thomas opened the public hearing on the budget amendment for 2002. Mr. Leighton explained that the court diversion fund needed to be amended due to the purchase of two laptop computers for the court system and for the code enforcement officer. There were no questions from the public or the commission. Mayor Thomas closed the public hearing at 6:04 p.m.

Motion by Mayor Thomas to adopt the amended 2002 budget. Seconded by Commissioner Dave McClain. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Stirton to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2002 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Lentz. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Lentz to approve appropriation ordinances #2695 (Payroll) in the amount of \$27,858.96 and #2696 (Disbursements) in the amount of \$117,051.53. Seconded by Commissioner Dave McClain. All aye.

Steve Davies—USD #430

Mr. Davies appeared before the Commission to report that changing the bus unloading zone at the High School has worked very well. He also requested that a pedestrian crosswalk be placed at the corner of 1st Ave. E. and 12th Street. This would be in addition to the school crossing already in place. Motion by Mayor Thomas to approve placing a pedestrian crosswalk at 1st Ave. E. and 12th Street upon approval of KDOT. Seconded by Commissioner Dave McClain. All aye.

Approval of Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses

Motion by Mayor Thomas to approve cereal malt beverage licenses for Mary Ann Bontrager, Wagon Wheel; Carrie Miller, Pat's Thriftway; Sara Sanderson, King's SuperStore; Tammie Diebolt, Horton Charger Stop; and James Gormley, Horton Pool Hall. Seconded by Commissioner Stirton. All aye.

Change Order on Electric Generation Project

Mr. Leighton presented a change order to clean up the area around a diesel fuel leak at the Electric Plant. The cost of the change order is not to exceed \$9,775.00. KDHE may pick up some of the cost for the clean up because the leak is due to an underground tank.

Motion by Commissioner John McClain to approve the change order and have the City Administrator assure himself this is well documented and apply for funds from KDHE. Seconded by Mayor Thomas. Aye—Mayor Thomas and Commissioner John McClain. Nay—Commissioners Stirton, Dave McClain and Lentz. Motion failed. (This motion was presented a second time later in the meeting and approved)

Approval of Charge Off List for 2002

Motion by Mayor Thomas to approve the 2002 charge off list for unpaid utilities in the amount of \$6,329.43. Seconded by Commissioner Dave McClain. All aye.

City Administrator's Agenda

Mr. Leighton requested that an additional \$25,000 be transferred from the electric fund to the General Operating Fund for the year 2003 to cover some of the loss of revenues caused by the State of Kansas cuts in the demand transfers. Motion by Commissioner Lentz to transfer \$25,000 from Electric to General Operating for 2003. Seconded by Commissioner Dave McClain. All aye.

Mr. Leighton asked that the issue of the change order be reconsidered by the Commission. If this change order is not approved the whole project will be shut down and there could be possibilities of lawsuits.

Motion by Commissioner John McClain to approve the change order and have the City Administrator assure himself this is well documented and apply for funds from KDHE and that the City Administrator convey to the engineer that this almost didn't pass and any further change orders will be looked at closely. Seconded by Mayor Thomas. All aye.

Commissioner's Agenda Commissioner Stirton

Commissioner Stirton inquired if everyone who participates in the ride-along program is being documented when they ride. Mr. Leighton advised that there have been incidences where a commissioner rode with an officer and it was not documented. Mayor Thomas asked if anyone can drive a police vehicle. It was explained that it was at the officer's discretion. Mayor Thomas suggested that a policy be developed for all ride-along participants. Commissioner Dave McClain stated he felt the policy in effect was sufficient and that he did not feel one needed to be written just to cover Commissioners.

Commissioner John McClain

Commissioner McClain inquired about the progress on the water project. The legal descriptions for the easements were received and sent to the City Attorney for contracts to be written. It is possible that the purchases will close within 60 days.

Commissioner John McClain informed the Commission that there will be a Legislative Forum at the Fischer Center in Hiawatha on the morning of January 3, 2003.

Mayor Thomas

Motion by Mayor Thomas to reappoint Charles Patry to the Library Board for a four-year term. Seconded by Commissioner Dave McClain. All aye.

A letter was received from Carson Communications stating that they would be raising their rates. Mayor Thomas would like to look at raising the pole rental fee at the next meeting.

Mayor Thomas asked for figures showing the increase in the family health insurance premiums for the employees so that the Commission can look at options available to cut costs to the City.

Motion by Mayor Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Dave McClain.

All aye.

Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

Jeanne Thomas, Mayor