

July 6, 2004
6:30 P.M.
City Hall Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday July 6, 2004 at 6:15 p.m. in the Commission Room at City Hall.

Mayor White opened the meeting and the prayer was given by Pastor Tom Stone who then everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.

Present: Mayor White and Commissioners Smith, B. Stirton, and K. Stirton.

Absent: Commissioner Lentz.

Also present was the new City Attorney, Kevin Hill.

An executive session was added to the agenda as well as a report on the generation project.

Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2004 regular meeting, the July 1, 2004 special meeting. Seconded by Commissioner K. Stirton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve Appropriation Ordinance #2775 (Payroll) in the amount of \$32,220.45. Seconded by Commissioner K. Stirton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve Appropriation Ordinance #2776 (Disbursements) in the amount of \$173,969.20. Seconded by Commissioner K. Stirton. All aye.

Appointment to Library Board

Motion by Commissioner Smith to appoint Rita Boller to the Library Board. Seconded by Commissioner B. Stirton. All aye.

Report on Mission Lake Study

Dan Harden, an engineer from BG Consultants, gave the Commission an update on the study for Mission Lake. The purpose of the study is to create a base of knowledge so that the governing body and the community can make an informed decision. Mission Lake has problems concerning eutrophication and atrazine levels. The original size of Mission Lake was 169 acres with an average depth of 12'. The current lake is 71 acres and an average depth of 6.95'. Several mitigating strategies were presented. These included treating the lake with aluminum sulfate, using copper sulfate as an algaecide, dilution, do nothing, hypolimnetic withdrawal, land use controls and sediment removal.

There is 2.2 million cubic yards of sediment that would have to be removed to return the lake to its original area. The cost to remove sediment is approximately \$3 per cubic yard.

Report from Firing Range Advisory Board

Ken Krug reported that the final inspection was completed by the Department of Wildlife and Parks and the Firing Range was approved. The Board recommended that the Range open to the public on July 18 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. They also recommended that the range be open the first and third Sundays of each month with the possibility of being open more if the use warrants. The suggested maintenance fee is \$3.00 per day and that the fee be waived for non-profit organizations and youth organizations. There will be safety glasses, earplugs and targets available for a fee.

The Commission requested that the new City Attorney review the Standard Operating Procedures for the range. They also requested that the Advisory Board bring back a recommendation for a fee for rental of the range for special events.

Motion by Commissioner B. Stirton to accept the recommendation of the range advisory board on schedule and fees. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. All aye.

Approval of Job Descriptions

Chief Luzier presented job descriptions for the Police Officer II and the Sergeant positions. Motion by Commissioner B. Stirton to table the matter until he can meet with the Chief of Police and review the job descriptions. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. All aye.

Health Insurance Options

The cost of health insurance through Blue Cross Blue Shield decreased by 9% if the policy stays the same. Another option was presented to the Commission. The deductible would increase to \$1500/\$3000 instead of \$500/\$1000 and the employees would receive a prescription card instead of the deductible of \$100 and 50% co pay. This would be another 5% decrease in costs. The employee would have the option to upgrade to a lesser deductible and they would pay the difference in premiums. This plan is called the triple option.

Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton to approve the triple option plan. Seconded by Commissioner B. Stirton. All aye.

Report on Generation Project

Bill Delzeit informed the Commission that he and the Engineer had discussed the inspection of the generator and would like to have Baylor or National Oilwell do the inspection on July 23 but would not want to have INCO present to do the startup. There is a good chance that it will not be ready for startup and this would be a waste of money.

The Commission requested that the inspection be videotaped. Chief Luzier advised that his department would be available to do that.

Discussion of Budget

A proposed budget was presented. After much discussion, it was decided to have the City Clerk bring back information at the next meeting comparisons on utility rates of other cities, camping fees, fines and court costs, and mill levies. The department heads are to have an "A", "B", and "C" budget prepared for the next meeting. The Commission wants an inventory by the end of the year.

Discussion of Request to Sell Cannon

A request to sell the cannon located in the Horton Cemetery was received from Bruce Stiles from the Civil War Artillery Museum in Pennsylvania. They offered \$30,000 plus a replica or \$35,000 if no replica was supplied.

Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton not to sell the cannon. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. All aye.

Discussion of CMK

Commissioner K. Stirton reported that the Doniphan County road crew is waiting to see if they get funding and how much rock they will be able to buy. This matter was tabled for the next meeting.

Bids on Janitorial Services

Bids were received on janitorial services at City Hall and the Blue Building. The bids were as follows

Bertha Brown-Hill	\$465.00 per week
Laura Pahmahmie	\$160.00 per week
Helen Ashton	\$150.00 per week
Benny Tinio	\$12.00 per hour

The bid sheets asked for price per week. Mr. Tinio had not picked up a bid sheet and his bid stated \$12 per hour for at least 12 hours a week.

After some discussion about how the bids were submitted, a motion was made by Commissioner K. Stirton to award the bid to Helen Ashton, the low bidder per week. Seconded by Commissioner B. Stirton. All aye.

Executive Session

Motion by Commissioner Smith to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss personnel to include the Commission and the City Administrator. Seconded by Commissioner K. Stirton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Smith to extend the executive session for an additional 10 minutes to discuss personnel. Seconded by Commissioner K. Stirton. All aye.

Upon reconvening, no action was taken.

City Staff Agenda

Dennis Hawkins had approached the City Clerk stating that in 1998 the previous City Administrator told him that the City would give him the property adjacent to his because he was moving and maintaining it but he had never received deed to the property. The City Clerk advised the Commission that she found no record in the minutes to substantiate this claim. The consensus of the Commission was to get the property description to the City Attorney and have a deed drawn up.

The City received a request for easement access to the property at 722 1st Ave. E. (south of the City Hall) to drill soil test borings and obtain soil and water samples for analysis and to install permanent monitoring wells if needed. The easement would be granted to Tank Management Services, Inc. Motion by Commissioner Smith to grant the easement. Seconded by Commissioner B. Stirton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton to approve the change order for Layne Western in the amount of \$7,812.80 for additional test hole drilling and abandonment and to approve the payment request in the amount of \$66,492.64. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. All aye.

The City Clerk reported that CDBG will be here to do the final monitoring on the water well project grant on July 14.

Commissioner's Agenda

Commissioner Smith

Commissioner Smith reported that there are potholes in the alley behind his residence that need to be repaired.

Commissioner B. Stirton

Commissioner B. Stirton reported that a tree in the alley that runs behind his residence needs to be trimmed.

Commissioner K. Stirton

Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss personnel to include the Commission, City Attorney and City Clerk. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. All aye. Upon reconvening, no action was taken.

The City Clerk was instructed to write a memo to all employees advising that no personal work is to be done on city property or with city equipment. This is a liability issue as well as being illegal and subject to prosecution.

Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton to have the police department temporarily handle the dog calls and pound maintenance for 30 days. Seconded by Commissioner B. Stirton. All aye.

The Commission instructed that the Sewer Plant Operator get approval from KDHE for hauling sludge at the airport so that it would be available if needed.

Mayor White

Mayor White had a call from Virginia Radford inquiring why the street in front of her residence was not chip and sealed. The City Clerk will check it out.

The Mayor would like to discuss an ordinance setting time limits on garage sale signs being left out. This will be discussed in September.

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 p.m.

Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

Dale A. White, Mayor