

June, 5, 2006
6:15 P.M.
City Hall Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 5, 2006 at 6:15 p.m. in the Commission Room at City Hall.

Mayor White opened the meeting and the prayer was given by Father Earl from the St. Leo's Catholic Church.

Present: Mayor White, Commissioners Krug and Davies.

Absent: Commissioners B. Stirton and K. Stirton.

Jason Smith from Carson Communications, Representative Lukert, and the Fish and Game Club were added to the agenda. Motion by Commissioner Davies to adopt the agenda as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2006 regular commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve Ordinance #2874 (payroll) \$29,497.84. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve Ordinance #2875 (disbursements) \$116,965.46. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Proclamation for Business Appreciation Month

Motion by Commissioner Krug to adopt a proclamation naming June Business Appreciation Month. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Update on Carson Communications

Jason Smith was present to update the Commission on changes in Carson Communications. Rainbow Telecommunications purchased Carson Communications and will be upgrading the system. There is a pre-construction meeting on June 14 and they would like the City crews to attend. The project will be completed by early October. There are service problems that need to be corrected and additional services will be provided after this construction is completed. Mr. Smith will come back to the Commission at a later date to inform them about the additional services.

Letter to Editor

Mayor White addressed the issues that were raised in a letter to the editor written by Tom Molt. Mr. Molt was invited to attend the meeting but was unable to attend because he was in Texas. Mr. Molt inquired about the Mayor forgiving a past due utility bill owed

by Tri-County Manor, Mayor White reported that this bill was still on the books in the amount of approximately \$31,000 and was put on a payment plan at one time before Mayor White's term. Police Chief Luzier answered the question about drug enforcement. He reported that the police department takes an active role in drug enforcement and approximately 30 search warrants have been carried out since he began employment with the City. These have only generated arrest for small quantities of drugs. The department will continue in the future to address the drug issue.

Fish and Game Club concern over Little Lake Project

The cement wall was removed and rock placed on the bank of the Little Lake through a grant from Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. The Fish and Game Club suggested that some of the rock be pulled away from the water's edge and used to build up a fishing pier. This would need to be completed by July 4 because of the fishing derby. The Fish and Game Club advised that they had approved to spend the funds to put in a handicap accessible sidewalk.

The Commission instructed the City Administrator to apply for the small lakes grant by April 2007 to do some work on the Little Lake.

Representative Lukert

State Representative Steven Lukert stated he was contacting all the local entities so that he can be aware of what issues are affecting them so he can efficiently represent the communities.

City Administrator's Agenda

Mr. Henry reported that this is the third month of utility billing collections since the new ordinance and the City has seen a decrease in the dollar amount owed on delinquent accounts.

The Department of Commerce has approved the KANSTEP grant and will be sending an architect to review the project on the Community Building.

The E. 7th Street project is completed and the drainage is much improved.

Mr. Henry reported that the cost to increase the water volume at Hammersmith Manufacturing will be approximately \$10,000. This is needed to allow them to operate their sprinkling system properly in case of fire. Mr. Henry reported that funding is available in this year's budget. Mr. Henry will put together a project proposal and present it to the Commission at a later date.

Mr. Henry reported that the sanitation plant was in compliance during the repair to the trickling filter. The next projects on the agenda are to rehabilitate the clarifiers built in

1956 and to replace the comminuter with a muffin monster. The east lift station will be completed by July 12.

Mr. Henry is renegotiating the contracts with Grasshopper Township and Mission Township for fire protection. The Bureau of Indian Affairs has returned the new contract that meets the requirements of Kansas Statutes. The next step is for the Attorney General to approve the inter-local agreement.

Mr. Henry investigated the complaint against Officer Keller that was filed by a citizen. He recommended that no further action be taken and reported that Officer Keller handled the situation correctly.

Mr. Henry would like to apply for a CDBG grant to correct the infiltration in the sewer system. The estimated cost to do a preliminary engineering study is \$2500-\$7000. The cost of the study would not count as a match for the grant. Request for proposals were sent out and the deadline is June 12. The City Administrator will review and interview the candidates and make a recommendation to the Commission. Mr. Henry would like permission to hire a part time assistant to enter data and prepare a spreadsheet of information for the grant application. The person would be used 20 hours or less a week. The consensus of the Commission was to allow Mr. Henry to hire a part time person.

It was discovered that the reason for the cracked head on the EMD #4 generator was caused by gravel in the heat exchanger not by the pump. Since there was not a engineering problem, Olsson and Associates is requesting payment on their services. The Commission did not approve the payment for Olsson and Associates.

Commissioner's Agenda

Commissioner Krug

Commissioner Krug has received complaints about ATVs running in the streets and alleys on 1st and 2nd Avenue West, north of 15th Street. A reminder will be published in the paper to remind citizens that ATVs have to obey traffic laws.

Commissioner B. Stirton

Not present.

Commissioner Davies

Commissioner Davies reported that the swimming pool opened on Memorial Day and everything went well. A bicycle rack has been installed at the pool. The new workshop building has been completed at the lake.

The drainage problem by the football field needs to be addressed.

Commissioner Davies asked where the City was on the code violations on the building at 101 E. 8th. The Code Enforcement officer is looking into it. The owner has not returned the release of liability agreement so the City has not filled in the holes where the stairway was torn down.

It was noted that Chris Burger has until July 17 to pay for the sidewalk that was put in front of his residence.

Commissioner K. Stirton

Not present.

Mayor Dale White

Motion by Commissioner Davies to appoint Nola Crooks to the Library Board to replace Sherry Wellman. The term will expire April 30, 2010. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to appoint Dennis Ross to the Planning Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Executive Session

Motion by Commissioner Krug to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel to include the Commission and City Attorney. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye. Upon reconvening there was a motion by Commissioner Davies to go back into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel to include the Commission and City Attorney. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye. No action was taken in executive session.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

Dale A. White, Mayor