

April 19, 2004
6:15 P.M.
City Hall Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 19, 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 Larry Parrish of the United Methodist Church.

Present: Mayor White, Commissioners Smith, Stirton, Lentz and McClain.

The agenda was approved as amended presented.

Mayor White clarified the action after the previous meeting's executive session. The Commission executed the 90-day clause in Mr. Leighton's contract and did not wish for him to work those 90 days but will pay severance pay during that time. Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Lentz. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner McClain to approve Appropriation Ordinance #2765 (Payroll) in the amount of \$29,329.85. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Lentz to approve Appropriation Ordinance #2766 (Disbursements) in the amount of \$98,427.54. Seconded by Commissioner Stirton. All aye.

LEAPS Program

Mark Tomb, from the League of Kansas Municipalities, was present to inform the Commission on the process of advertising for, reviewing and rating resumes for the City Administrator position as well as checking references. The Commission set May 28 as the closing date for accepting resumes and interviews will follow the first part of June. Mr. Tomb recommended that after selection of the top 5 candidates that telephone interviews be conducted to narrow the selection to 3 candidates. Then face-to-face interviews would be set. It was decided that a salary range would not be included in the advertisement. Mr. Tomb will send the top 20 resumes that are received to the Commission for their review.

Wastewater Plant Study

Not present.

Bids on Generation and Municipal Power Pool

Ken Fairchild, Olsson and Associates, was in attendance to present bids on the startup of the engine. Two responses were received, one was a bid and one was a refusal to bid. Mr. Fairchild then informed the commission that the City had received a phone call from INCO, Inc. stating they were waiting for the City Administrator to contact them back and give them a date to proceed with the startup of the engine. They then responded that they would be in Horton on May 3rd and should be done by May 5. They also offered a deduction of \$1,039.00 from the cost of the project for not changing the oil and filter after the startup as they did not feel this was necessary. Mr. Fairchild's recommendation is to take the deduct and allow Inco, Inc. to complete the work according to their contract. Motion by Commissioner McClain to accept the deduct and adopt Mr. Fairchild's recommendation. Seconded by Commissioner Lentz. All aye.

Mr. Fairchild will respond to Inco, Inc. in writing informing them of the Commission's decision.

Mr. Fairchild then gave the Commission some information on the Municipal Power Pool. There are 10 communities who have tentatively signed a letter of intent and there are 5 more communities that are interested but have not signed yet. If the City decides to enter into an agreement later on there will be costs

involved. Mr. Fairchild was not sure if costs would be involved if the letter of intent were signed. The City is about to enter a 3 year contract with Westar. It could be an advantage to sign the letter of intent with the Kansas Power Pool. Motion by Commissioner McClain to sign the letter of intent with the Kansas Power Pool. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. All aye.

Electrical Contract

Bill Delzeit, electric supervisor, submitted a copy of the supplemental contract with Westar to the City Attorney for review. A representative of Westar will be present at the next meeting to discuss this contract with the Commission.

Ambulance Agreement

Jeremy Forkenbrock and Joe Middleton made a presentation explaining the staffing of the ambulance service and the need for equipment and a new vehicle. The ambulance service received an outstanding services award in 2003, has 13 paid volunteers to cover 35,040 hours a year. It was noted that expenses were more than revenues in 2003. The request was made that the City increase their donation to the ambulance service. This was tabled to the next meeting so Commissioners could review the matter and come up with a figure for the contract.

Cemetery Contract

Mr. Potts was not present.

Report on Mowing

Chief Luzier reported that warning letters were being sent to those whose property is mowed every year. This warning states that if the mowing is not kept up the owner will be given a citation to appear in court.

Discussion of Police Force

Police Chief Luzier presented the Commission with a proposed rank structure and salary scale that would increase the salaries of police department personnel. It was noted that Officer Groshong resigned and the Chief would like to be able to hire competitively with other area departments. The Chief was asked to redo the scale and present again at the next meeting.

Grave Opening Bids

One bid for grave openings was received from D & L Construction in the amount of \$179.50 for each grave. Motion by Commissioner Lentz to award the contract to D & L Construction. Seconded by Commissioner Stirton. All aye.

Discussion of Park & Recreation Board

There are currently three members on the Park Board who reside outside the city limits. The ordinance allows for one outside resident. Appointments will be made on May 3.

Homestead Committee

The committee will meet on Wednesday or Thursday of next week at the Senior Citizen's Center.

Report on Library

Bids for repair will be submitted for the May 3 meeting. Commissioner Lentz had Austin Madison look at the library and he recommended that the window wells be cleared of leaves, mud and debris and that the drains be washed out by the fire truck. This was done by the employees.

Report on Blue Building

Harris Service Company presented a recommendation on the HVAC at the Blue Building. His recommendation was for a 40-ton unit. The Commission instructed the staff to get estimates and recommendations from other local companies for the next meeting.

Report on Fair

The City Clerk contacted a member of the Fair Board and was told that the carnival does have two rides that they are not able to put up during the fair due to space limitations. They rotate these rides in and out every year. The Fair Board will discuss with the owner the possibility of putting the extra rides at a different location so that all the rides can be run.

Report on Firing Range

Mr. Compton and Rex West are getting pricing on bridge planking and on the dirt work to raise the back berm. These will be presented to the Department of Wildlife and Parks and then a decision will be made as to which option to choose.

Report on Mission Lake

A contract has been signed with a company to proceed with the sediment sampling. After this is completed, then a draft of strategies will be completed and a second public hearing will be held.

Update on Recycling

Mayor White reported that he had provided a letter of support for Judy Paden who is pursuing a recycling program.

Report on High School Projects

A report was shown to the Commission listing projects that Mr. Leighton had put on hold and the ones that he had told the high school to proceed with. The Commission reaffirmed that they approved of all the projects and would proceed with them for the next year's group of seniors. The Commission requested that Mr. Davies or a representative come to the next meeting and give an update.

Report on Water Well Project

The telemetry system for the new wells will be installed soon. It is recommended that new radios be installed on the old wells to allow for uniformity in the system. This would be an additional \$3,000 from the original bid. This would be paid from the extra funds on the water project. Motion by Commissioner McClain to purchase the radio system. Seconded by Commissioner Lentz. All aye.

Report on Metal Building

The City Clerk contacted the company concerning the proper way to store the building. They advised that since the building was purchased in 2001 and stored outside it was probably too late and that there would be rust on the inside of the metal bundles. The proper way to store would be to cut the bands and stack the metal so that air could flow through. The commission requested that the bands be cut and the metal be inspected.

City Staff Agenda

The City Clerk reported that Carl Gasper had been appointed as the HIDC representative to the Micro-Loan Committee.

The Commission was invited to a reception to welcome the new pastor at the Baptist Church.

It was decided not to pursue health insurance coverage with Coventry at this time since there was no difference in cost with the current provider.

Motion by Commissioner McClain to approve a requisition from the electric department for supplies in the amount of \$2,147.09. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. All aye.

Executive Session—Possible Litigation

Motion by Commissioner Smith to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss possible litigation to include the City Attorney and the City Clerk. Seconded by Commissioner Stirton. All aye.

Commissioner's Agenda

Commissioner Smith

Commissioner Smith requested a report from the City Attorney at the next meeting on the setting up of a foundation for the city and applying for 501c3.

Commissioner Smith would like to look into investing idle funds in High Grade Bonds. The City Clerk will check on the statutes concerning this matter.

Commissioner Stirton

Commissioner Stirton will meet with the Chief of Police about the rank structure and salary scale.

The March report shows officers with a large amount of overtime but their activity as far as tickets and cases is low.

Commissioner Lentz

Commissioner Lentz reported that the Park Board recommends leaving the tennis court as it is and not change it to a basketball court. The net does need to be replaced.

Commissioner McClain

Commissioner McClain reported that a US flag displayed on one of the local businesses was in very poor condition.

Mayor White

No report.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

Dale A. White, Mayor