

June 20, 2005
7:15 P.M.
City Hall Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 20, 2005 at 7:15 p.m. in the Commission Room at City Hall.

Mayor White opened the meeting and the prayer was given by Candy Schmitt.

Present: Mayor White and Commissioners Krug, B. Stirton, Davies and K. Stirton.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to adopt the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner B. Stirton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to adopt the minutes of the June 6, 2005 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve Appropriation Ordinance #2825 (Payroll) in the amount of \$33,328.12. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve Appropriation Ordinance #2826 (Disbursements) in the amount of \$81,434.57. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Discussion of ATVs on City Streets

Bill Willis was present and reported that he has seen ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) crossing the state highways inside the city limits and that this is against the state statutes. It was noted that the law prohibits the operation of ATVs on highways and city streets of first class cities. The City Attorney advised that a police department has to determine where to best spend its resources. After much discussion, the consensus of the Commission was that this was not an issue for them to discuss but for the police department to exercise discretion on enforcement of violations.

Fire Truck Contract

The City of Everest and the City of Horton want to share the use of a fire truck. This requires an interlocal agreement between the cities and must be approved by the Attorney General. The cities would share the cost of the vehicle, Horton would house the vehicle and Everest would supply the insurance coverage. Motion by Commissioner Davies to direct the City Attorney to prepare an interlocal agreement with the City of Everest. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Discussion of Lake Project

Dave Penny was present to update the Commission on the progress of the Lake Project. The state funding will not be available until the summer of 2007 and may not be available then depending on budget restraints. In the meantime, the interest rates will be rising which will make the project cost more than originally expected. Mr. Penny has talked with the representatives from the state about getting in-kind services from them in the way of permits, engineering, etc. If this is possible, the project could probably be completed for the \$4 million that was voted upon by the citizens. There was a question of whether the City would have to revote on the issue since the state would not be granting any funds. The bond counsel has been contacted by the City Attorney but no response was given yet. Commissioner Krug asked that a dollar amount be put on the in-kind services from the state. A special election would cost \$5,000 and a regular election will be held in April.

The City Clerk was instructed to find out the election procedures for a special election and report back to the Commission.

There was discussion concerning whether or not the City should purchase the land for the disposal of the silt or whether the contractor should make that purchase. A request for proposals will be drafted and the City Attorney will review it before the next meeting. The request will have the contractors bid with the City making the purchase of the land and with the contractor purchasing the land. The bid will be for a design-build project.

Discussion of KMEA Services for RFP from engineers

Mr. Smith reported that he had contacted Bob Polys from KMEA about preparing a request for proposals for an engineer to do a study concerning the purchase of power for the electric utility. KMEA will prepare such a proposal at no cost to the city but they will not be able to do so until August because of their schedule. Motion by Commissioner Davies to work with KMEA on a request for proposals. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Bill Delzeit, supervisor of the electric department, had contacted Ken Fairchild concerning the problem with the relays on the generators. Mr. Fairchild advised him not to generate until the issue was resolved. The Commission directed that Mr. Fairchild be contacted and told that the plant would be generating or prepared to generate by the next meeting or Mr. Fairchild would need to attend the meeting to explain why.

Directives on Safety Clothing

Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton to adopt directive 05-ADM-01 concerning radio safety and procedures. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner B. Stirton to purchase 8 ballistic vests for the full time and part time officers and to use the diversion funds to make the purchase. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Directive 05-HPD-06 was discussed and it was decided to wait until the ballistic vests arrive and the safety manual is completed.

Bids on Demolition of 726-728 Central

Two bids were received on the demolition project. They were as follows:

Marlatt Construction	\$8,820
Meridian Construction	\$40,000

Motion by Commissioner Davies to accept the low bid from Marlatt Construction. Seconded by Commissioner K. Stirton. All aye.

Report on Landscaping and Memorial Park Project

Mr. Smith reported that the members of the task force are Charlene Hansen, Sharon McVay, Joyce Moore, Donna Patry, Tom Reed, Connie Werner and Angie Wilson. They have had two meetings and one of the projects they wanted to do was landscaping around city hall for the 120th anniversary of the city next September. The Commission felt strongly that the cannon would not be moved from the cemetery. The direction of the Commission is to disband the task force and stop the project because the city has too many ongoing tasks and projects to complete at this time. Possibly something could be done in the spring.

Discussion of Health Insurance

Mr. Smith reported that the City's health insurance through Blue Cross Blue Shield will see a 7-9% decrease in premiums beginning in August.

Discussion of Budget Process

Mr. Smith reported that it is time to begin work on the 2006 budget. The Commission requested that the department heads present an A, B and C budget to the Commission. Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton to table this discussion until after the executive session. Seconded by Commissioner B. Stirton. All aye.

Executive Session (Non-elected Personnel)

Motion by Commissioner Davies to go into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel to include the Commission, City Administrator Chief of Police and City Attorney. Seconded by Commissioner K. Stirton. All aye. No action was taken in executive session.

Mr. Smith presented job descriptions for the Assistant Chief of Police position. It was decided to change the requirement for years of experience to a minimum of five years. Motion by Commissioner B. Stirton to approve the job description as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye. The Chief of Police advised he would put someone in the position within 30 days.

Executive Session (Non-elected Personnel)

Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton to go into executive session for 20 minutes to include the City Attorney and Commission to discuss non-elected personnel. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye. When the Commission reconvened there was no action taken.

Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton to go into executive session for 5 minutes to include the City Administrator, City Attorney and Commission to discuss non-elected personnel. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye. No action was taken in executive session.

The Commission took a 10-minute recess.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to go into executive session for 5 minutes to include the City Administrator, City Attorney and Commission to discuss non-elected personnel. Seconded by Commissioner K. Stirton. All aye. Upon reconvening, a motion was made by Commissioner K. Stirton to terminate the City Administrator effective immediately. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Commissioner's Agenda

Commissioner Krug

No report.

Commissioner B. Stirton

Commissioner B. Stirton reported he had some citizens inquiring about why the tornado siren was not sounded during the last storm. The City Clerk will obtain the protocol for sounding the siren.

Motion by Commissioner B. Stirton that non-police personnel should not drive marked police vehicles. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner K. Stirton that the summer help under 18 years of age shall not drive city vehicles. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Commissioner Davies

Commissioner Davies reported that he is not pleased with the final workmanship on the pool concrete work. The concrete around the rail on the diving board is crumbling. He would like to hold payment to the contractor until the city gets back to the contractor.

The pool building has some problems and needs to be renovated. Commissioner Davies has some volunteers that will do some of the work on the pool building and the soccer fields.

The Park Board recommends that Louis Sohn be allowed to place a pontoon dock in front of his house on the east side of Mission Lake. Motion by Commissioner B. Stirton to follow the recommendation of the Park Board. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Commissioner K. Stirton

Commissioner K. Stirton reported that the water plant operator had been told she could not go on her vacation if the water maintenance operator was not fully trained before she left. Commissioner K. Stirton felt she should be allowed to go on vacation if someone could be available in case of an emergency. The Commission agreed.

The metal building needs to have rock or some other type of material put on the floor inside the building and then it will be ready for use.

Commissioner K. Stirton requested that the Code Enforcement Officer head up the summer mowing crews since he knows which properties need to be mowed. The Commission agreed.

Mayor White

Mayor White inquired about the progress of selling the motor grader. Commissioner K. Stirton said he would get with the Street Foreman and check on skid steer loaders and trade in values on the motor grader.

Mayor White requested that the Chief of Police check on signs being placed at the entrances to the City that announce a reduction in the speed limit.

Mayor White will meet with the city employees at 9:30 am on Tuesday morning.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to appoint Candy Schmitt as the acting City Administrator. Seconded by Commissioner K. Stirton. All aye. The salary will be discussed at the next meeting.

An article will be placed in the Horton Headlight reminding boaters that the direction of travel on Mission Lake is counterclockwise. The lake caretaker will be instructed to enforce this rule.

The City Clerk will call the League of Municipalities and start the process for advertising for an administrator and will have a representative at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 a.m.

Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

Dale A. White, Mayor