

November 19, 2007  
7:15 P.M.  
Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 19, 2007 at 7:15 p.m. in the City Hall Commission Room.

Mayor Lentz called the meeting to order and the prayer was given by Pastor Alice Purvis of the United Methodist Church.

Present: Mayor Lentz, Commissioners Krug, Forkenbrock, Luscombe and Davies.

City Administrator Henry was unable to attend due to a family illness.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2007 regular Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2007 special meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve Appropriation Ordinance #2947 (Payroll) \$32,203.22. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to approve Appropriation Ordinance #2948 (Disbursements) \$275,778.97. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

### **Proposed Budget Amendment**

A proposed budget amendment for the 2007 budget was presented by the City Clerk. The amendment would increase expenditures in the general fund by \$226,902 and the electric fund by \$250,000 to cover the purchase of Tri-County Manor property. The water fund would be increased by \$147,598 due to the City's portion of the Central Avenue project and to allow for a purchase of a used truck in the water department. The Court Diversion Fund was increased to purchase a printer for the police department, a printer for the administration department and a speed radar sign.

Commissioner Davies inquired if there were still funds in the Park Department to purchase the rocks and posts for the soccer fields. Ms. Schmitt advised the funds were available for the current year. Mayor Lentz asked if the City had received any news of funding from the Firefighters grant. Ms. Schmitt advised that 14 rounds of awards have taken place but the City of Horton has not received any funds yet. When asked if a grant was filed for 2007, Ms. Schmitt advised that she did not see one listed when looking on line but it could have been filed under a different user id, she will check with Mr. Henry.

Motion by Commissioner Krug to publish the proposed budget amendment for a public hearing on December 17 at 7:15 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Luscombe. All aye.

### **Contract for Auditing Services**

A proposed agreement was received from Lowenthal, Singleton and Webb for auditing services for fiscal year 2007. The consensus of the Commission was to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement.

### **Report on Yates Avenue Agreement**

A written report from Mr. Henry was presented on the Brown County Commission meeting he attended concerning Yates Avenue.

The City Commission still has some questions they feel have not been answered or clarified. The City Clerk was directed to put all the information on costs comparisons for maintenance in a chart format for easier viewing. Also a clarification on the County Commission's feelings on waiting until after the dredging project has been completed to work on the road. A vote on the agreement was postponed until this information could be obtained.

### **City Staff's Agenda**

A change order in the amount of \$6,376.75 for additional work that was required for the sub grade stabilization between 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street on the Central Avenue Project.

Motion by Commissioner Luscombe to approve change order #1. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Mayor Lentz inquired what inspection services the engineers were supposed to be conducting on the Central Avenue project. The representative from Schwab-Eaton told Mayor Lentz he was told not to inspect the concrete, only to inspect the asphalt. Ms. Schmitt stated she thought they were doing all inspections. The Commission directed that a letter be written to Schwab-Eaton outlining what inspections are expected to be performed.

### **Commissioner's Agenda**

#### **Commissioner Krug**

No report.

#### **Commissioner Forkenbrock**

Commissioner Forkenbrock asked Chief Luzier to make a report on the radar speed signs. The lowest price found on these signs was from Radar Sign Co. at a cost of \$2,795 and

the plates to attach the signs are \$46 each. A citizen has expressed that they will pay ½ of the cost of the sign and the school district will pay ¼ of the cost with the City paying the remainder.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to purchase one radar sign from Radar Sign Co. and one plate. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye. Commissioner Davies stated that the shop class at the high school is always looking for projects and they could build additional plates so the sign could be moved to several different positions throughout the city.

Commissioner Forkenbrock reported that a part time officer had been hired and he is already certified through the police academy. Commissioner Forkenbrock would like to see him hired full time as the sixth officer. There were some questions concerning budget and the directive of the Commission given on August 20, 2007. At that time the Commission directed Mr. Henry to continue to advertise for a police officer and to conduct pre-interviews but not to hire another officer without the direction of the Commission.

The Commission directed that the City Clerk put the following items on the agenda for December 3; a.) Blue Building, b.) Central Avenue Project, c.) Mission Lake Project and d.) hiring of a 6<sup>th</sup> officer and explain budget for 2007 versus 2008.

It was also noted that the Commission wanted a report from the Tri-County Manor on a quarterly basis beginning in January. The City Clerk will notify the administrator of the Manor and Steve Stoltenberg at Union State Bank.

### **Commissioner Luscombe**

Commissioner Luscombe expressed concern that the City has a mixture of different types of street lights. He would like to see all of the mercury vapor lights replaced with high sodium lights which would be more economical. The staff was directed to map the mercury vapor lights and begin changing them out with high sodium fixtures beginning on the entrances into the City.

Commissioner Luscombe discussed the previous statement by the Commission that they want zero tolerance on the speed limits at school zones. Commissioner Luscombe feels it is hard to maintain a 20 mph limit and wanted to express his opinion that there should be some variation allowed.

### **Commissioner Davies**

Commissioner Davies reported that he and Officer Stuart gathered the locations of the school crossing signs and they will review them and make suggestions.

Commissioner Davies expressed concern that when the City replaced at 17<sup>th</sup> and Central a fire hydrant was moved and placed in the middle of the sidewalk and a regular curb was

installed instead of ADA accessibility. Commissioner Davies would like to have a reason for this at the next meeting.

The Park and Recreation Board were told that a committee was being formed to build a new pool. The Commission would like a report on this at the next meeting outlining the cost and how it will be accomplished.

### **Mayor Tim Lentz**

Mayor Lentz inquired about the progress on the Blue Building. Ms. Schmitt advised that the City is waiting on a report from Terra-Con concerning the soil samples.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss personnel, to include the Commission and the City Clerk. Seconded by Commissioner Luscombe. All aye. Motion by Commissioner Davies to extend the executive session for 15 minutes to discuss personnel, to include the Commission and City Clerk. Seconded by Commissioner Luscombe. All aye. Motion by Commissioner Krug to extend the executive session for an additional 15 minutes to discuss personnel, to include the Commission and the City Clerk. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye. Upon reconvening, Mayor Lentz stated that no action was taken in executive session.

A proposal for a Christmas party for the employees was presented at a cost less than \$800. This would include a meal and DJ. The consensus of the Commission was to proceed with the party but they would like for it to be held inside the City limits instead of going to Muscotah.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to adjourn at 9:25 pm. Seconded by Commissioner Luscombe. All aye.

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Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

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Tim Lentz, Mayor