

October 19, 2009
5:15 P.M.
Commission Room

The regularly scheduled meeting for the Horton Commissioners was held on Monday, October 19, 2009 at 5:15 p.m. in the City Hall Commission Room.

Mayor Lentz called the meeting to order and Candy Schmitt, City Clerk, offered the prayer.

Present: Mayor Lentz, Commissioners Forkenbrock, Edwards and Davies.

Absent: Commissioner Krug.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2009 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2009 special meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3049 (Payroll) \$34,302.48. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3050 (Disbursements) \$101,215.73. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Report on Water Rate Analysis

Pat Cox reported that it takes \$235,000-\$237,000 to run the water department. The average water usage in Horton is 5,185 gallons per month and the average usage in Willis is 4,771 gallons per month. In 2008 the water department had a \$32,600 net revenue. The City should set up a reserve/escrow fund for the future and it is recommended that at least 10% of the operating budget should be put in that reserve account. The cost of producing water in 2008 was \$4.36 per 1,000 gallons. In 2006 it was \$3.60 per 1,000 gallons. With 865 active water meters in the City the rate to cover the bond payments for the lake dredging project and current bonds would be \$19.39 more per month on each meter. The recommended rate structure is to have a step increase to promote water conservation. The Commission agreed that they would like to promote conservation.

Mr. Cox also recommended that this would be the time to add the upgrades to the water treatment facility and the repairs to the Mission Lake dam to the request for funds from USDA/RD. Since there are stimulus funds available at this time and there is the possibility of 45% of the total project being a grant the City should apply for all the needs at once. This would require a facility study of the water treatment plant. Mr. Cox advised his fee for that study would be \$25,000-\$30,000 and he would also include the needs on the dam in that amount.

The Commission chose to wait to make that decision until Mr. Krug could be at the meeting. Mr. Cox will return to the next meeting with a rate structure.

Tri-County Manor Quarterly Report

Mary Brown, Administrator, was present to report that the Manor is doing well.

They held their annual Oktoberfest and there was a good attendance and more entries this year in the car show. They have reserved the Blue Building for next year on October 16.

Discussion of Business Licenses

Mary Brown, President of the Chamber of Commerce, was present to give the input from the local businesses on the subject of enforcing the ordinance that requires business licenses. Most of the those responding were unsure why this subject was being brought up since they have not had to buy licenses in the past. There was discussion about the purpose of the licenses being to register the businesses to aid in economic development and for demographic information. No action was taken on the matter.

Designated Dates for Trick or Treating

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to designate October 30 & 31 for trick or treating. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Aye—Mayor Lentz and Commissioners Forkenbrock and Davies. Nay—Commissioner Edwards.

Ordinance Allowing Possession and Consumption of Alcohol and Cereal Malt Beverages at the Community Building

A proposed ordinance was presented for review by the Commission concerning allowing cereal malt beverages at the Community Building (Blue Building). A final decision will be made at the next meeting. Commissioner Forkenbrock asked that the staff provide a suggested fee structure for the community building to the Park Board for their review and recommendation to the Commission.

Appointment to Vacancy on Park and Recreation Board

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to appoint Jamie Bottom to the Park and Recreation Board. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Appointments to the Library Board

Nola Crooks and Retha Haltom resigned from the Library Board.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to appoint Mary Jane Thomas to the Library Board. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to appoint Tammy Shoemaker to the Library Board. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Business Recruitment and Retention Initiatives

Mr. Whisenant reported that the retail store planning to locate in Horton is requesting assistance from the City to demolish the building on the site where they want to locate. The Commission felt the business representatives should come to the Commission in person. Mr. Whisenant will contact them and invite them to a meeting.

Repairs of pumps at Wastewater Treatment Facility

Repairs were needed to pumps at the wastewater treatment facility. Motion by Commissioner Edwards to approve the repairs. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Executive Session---Discussion of Non-Elected Personnel

Motion by Commissioner Davies to go into executive session to discuss personnel to include the Commission, City Attorney, City Administrator and City Clerk. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye. No action was taken in executive session.

Staff Report

Rex West reported that the concrete was poured at Hickory Point. The Lake Caretaker, Dale Monson, will redo the picnic tables and replace them under the shelter.

The equipment is ready for the winter season.

Executive Session

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

Motion by Commissioner Davies to go into executive session for 12 minutes to discuss personnel to include the Commission, City Attorney, City Administrator and City Clerk. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye. No action was taken in executive session.

City Attorney, Kevin Hill, left the meeting.

City Administrator's Agenda

The City Administrator reported that RC&D Glacial Hills has a possible light industry looking for a site, the commercial kitchen is still a possibility for Horton and there is also a chance for an small business incubator site.

BG Consultants provided an estimate of the costs to complete the cement road by Sweet Pro. The estimate is \$106,000. There was a recommendation that the company would need to put in a loading dock at a cost of approximately \$24,000.

The KANCAP meeting has been moved to November 9 from 8-5 in Seneca at the Willows restaurant.

Mr. Whisenant, Bill Delzeit and Rex West will be conducting interviews for a lineman position in the electric department.

The LKM pay study should be completed soon.

There is still a need for volunteers at the Blue Building.

Commissioner's Agenda

Commissioner Krug

Commissioner Krug asked Mayor Lentz to report that KBI will be using the firing range for a night shoot. Motion by Commissioner Davies to allow the event. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

Commissioner Forkenbrock

Commissioner Forkenbrock discussed a possible solution to alleviate some overtime in the Communications department. He felt that the part time dispatcher could be hired full time and the dispatcher covering court clerk could have some hours dedicated to court instead of dispatch. Mr. Whisenant advised that Chief Luzier hired another part time dispatcher and was supposed to have contacted Commissioner Forkenbrock about it. Commissioner Forkenbrock was not aware of this and stated that should take care of the problem.

Commissioner Forkenbrock would like to see right of entry added to the environmental code. He also thought the height of the grass and weeds should be lowered to 8" to be in violation. These items will be discussed when the City Attorney is present.

Commissioner Edwards

Commissioner Edwards advised he would be having knee surgery on November 3 so he would be at the next meeting.

Commissioner Davies

The senior class is working on projects. An eagle scout will be redoing the shelter houses. The Girl Scouts shelter house needs to be repaired. The staff will contact the Girl Scout leaders.

Commissioner Davies would like the Ministerial Alliance contacted since they have not been showing up to say the prayer and determine if they will be continuing or not.

Mayor Lentz

Mayor Lentz reported that the Mission Lake celebration went well.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

Tim Lentz, Mayor