

August 1, 2011
5:15 P.M.
Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for regular meeting on Monday, August 1, 2011 at 5:15 p.m. in the City Hall Commission Room.

Mayor Lentz called the meeting to order and the prayer was given by Candy Schmitt, City Clerk.

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

Absent: Commissioner Krug.

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

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve the minutes from the July 18, 2011 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve the minutes from the July 25, 2011 special meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve appropriation ordinance #3147 (Payroll) in the amount of \$43,487.40. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve appropriation ordinance #3149 (Disbursements) in the amount of \$263.88. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Commissioner Forkenbrock inquired about the purchase of police under armor shirts. He would like to clarify if this is listed on their uniform items. The City Clerk was directed not to pay the bill for these shirts until it is discussed at the next meeting. Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to approve appropriation ordinance #3148 (Disbursements) in the amount of \$166,542.53 with the exception of the bill to Wal-mart for the shirts. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye.

Public Comments

Jessica Gigstad presented the Commission with information and a planned route for a Drama Club 5K walk/run to be held on October 15, 2001. Proceeds will go to pay for new curtains in the high school auditorium. No public comments. Services needed from the City would be traffic control, parking in the soccer field area and the use of portable toilets.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to support the event. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Assistant Chief Tom Williams reported on the activities of the Police Department. There has been an increase in animal calls and domestic calls. There was a child endangerment case and the parents are in treatment. A stolen vehicle was recovered and a hit and run was solved. The dispatchers received 8 hours of EMD training and the officers received 4 hours of training on domestic laws and DUIs. There were 2 ½ hours of overtime in the last pay period.

Discussion of Alternative Utility Billing Policies

Pastor Pat Lovitt from the First Baptist Church discussed some of the issues he has experienced in the community. There are a large number of citizens who are entrenched in the social services programs. The Ministerial Alliance is approached often for assistance on paying utility bills. Pastor Lovitt asked the Commission to consider making the landlords responsible to include the utilities in the rent and that the City provide incentives to prepay the utilities.

Pastor Lovitt also stated he felt the south part of the County, which includes Horton, does not get the same services as the north part of the County.

The Commission advised they would consider the suggestions.

Grant Administration for the Sewer Project

Nancy Gafford from Rural Development Association of Northeast Kansas advised the Commission that since their certified grant administrator, Virginia Diestbeir, had to retire they would not be able to fulfill their contract on the administration of the sewer project grant. Ms. Gafford expressed appreciation for the opportunity to work with the City of Horton and hopes to work with them on future projects.

Approval of Contract for Grant Administration

Since RDANEK is unable to administer the sewer project grant the Department of Commerce advised that the other person submitting a proposal would have to be hired. A contract for services from Governmental Services, Donna Crawford was presented for approval. Motion by Commissioner Edwards to approve the contract. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Request to Use Fire Station for Fire Marshall Office

The Fire Marshall's office is outsourcing office space to the different areas around the state. They are requesting to use the office at the Horton Fire Station and feel this will increase work productivity and increase public relations. They would like to know by September if the City is willing to allow this use of the fire station. The consensus of the Commission is to pursue the matter and request a contract from the Fire Marshall's office. The fee would be \$200 per month to offset utilities. Lamar Shoemaker will take this information back to the State and report back at the next meeting.

Ordinance for No Parking

City Attorney Kevin Hill presented a draft ordinance for no parking on the north side of East 16th Street. The Commission will review and approve at the next meeting.

Discussion of the 2012 Budget

There was discussion of selling the farm ground to recoup funds. It was noted that the proceeds from the sale of the ground would have to go towards payment on the bonds for the dredging project. There was a consensus of the Commission to sell the easement to The Watershed Institute. There was also discussion of trying to see if the Manor could obtain a loan and pay the City back the balance owed to them. It was decided to increase the transfer amount from the

electric fund to a total transfer of \$290,000. Mayor Lentz will meet with the Manor Board to request payment.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to publish the proposed budget with a mill levy of 65.982 and to set the public hearing for August 22 at 8:00 a.m. Seconded by Commissioner Forkenbrock. All aye.

Executive Session

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

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

Staff Reports

Mr. West reported on the activities of the city crews. There were 76 blocks of City streets that were chip and sealed. Smoke testing of the sewer lines along Central will be done on August 8th.

City Clerk's/Administrator's Agenda

Ms. Schmitt presented a letter requesting to dissolve the water district #21. Horton is a member of this project. The funds will be returned to the different entities. Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to sign the document dissolving the district. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

Commissioner's Agenda

Commissioner Krug

Not present.

Commissioner Forkenbrock

The consensus of the Commission is to have the Police Department only work 8 hour shifts on Holiday's to save on overtime pay. The City Clerk will advise the Chief.

Commissioner Forkenbrock asked that a preventative maintenance program be developed for the Police Department on the vehicles.

It was noted that the Police Department will be going over budget in the fuel line item and therefore need to watch spending for the rest of the year. The City Clerk will work with the Chief of Police to hold the purchases down.

Commissioner Edwards

Commissioner Edwards had a complaint from a citizen about horses being ridden on the streets and on personal property and leaving excrement along the way. There are no current ordinances governing this.

Commissioner Davies

Commissioner Davies reported the Scouts are working on their projects.

The community fish fry will be held August 6 at the Blue Building. The Fish and Game Club is sponsoring this event and they have 1100 lbs. of fish.

Mayor Lentz

Mayor Lentz reported that Ohlsen Construction is pumping water out of Mission Lake at 14,000 gallons per minute.

The CDF site needs to be burned and maintained 2 or 3 times a year to keep the vegetation under control.

Mayor Lentz and Commissioner Edwards attended the KPP meeting and were told they want the cities to enter a 20 year contract to help purchase a generation facility. They will know by August 23 if this will be required. Mayor Lentz will meet with the Holton City Administrator and Scott Shreve later this week to discuss options.

Motion by Commissioner Forkenbrock to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss personnel to include the Commission, City Clerk and City Attorney. Seconded by Commissioner Davies. All aye. No action was taken after the executive session.

Motion by Commissioner Davies to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye

Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

Tim Lentz, Mayor