

City of Hays
City Commission
Work Session Notes
January 31, 2012

Present: Barbara Wasinger, Kent Steward, Henry Schwaller IV, Ron Mellick, John Bird, Toby Dougherty

Absent: Troy Hickman

Amendment of Abandoned Property Ordinance

Police Chief Don Scheibler requested an amendment to the current city ordinance to allow for donation of lost or abandoned property, collected by the Hays Police Department, to a non-profit organization in lieu of sale of the items at public auction. The change in the ordinance will make it easier to dispose of all the abandoned bicycles, including ones that have been damaged. The Kansas Department of Corrections has expressed an interest in taking the bicycles for refurbishing and redistribution to non-profit groups. The amendment will make the process more efficient and will eliminate the need for long term storage of the bicycles.

The Commissioners will be requested to approve the amended ordinance at the February 9, 2012 Commission meeting.

Long-term Outlook and Plans for Stormwater Utility

Nick Willis, Stormwater Superintendent, addressed the Commissioners about long-term plans to address flooding from Big Creek and the Lincoln Draw watershed. In the next few years, the Stormwater Utility will spend a significant portion of its funds on rehabilitation and replacement of the current system. Mr. Willis also discussed infrastructure maintenance of the storm sewer system as well as the treatment of stormwater discharge, which is regulated by a National Pollutant Discharge Eliminations Systems permit.

There are maintenance needs that can consume the entire budget of the Stormwater Utility for several years. The primary maintenance need is corrugated metal pipe lining or pipe replacement. At approximately 10,000 linear feet, corrugated metal pipe lining or replacement represents a cost, spread over numerous years, of \$2 to \$5 million. The actual cost of flood control will be in the millions and ultimately depends upon the level of flood control desired.

Short-term Stormwater Maintenance Projects

Nick Willis, Stormwater Superintendent, discussed with the Commissioners the following stormwater projects that are planned to commence in 2012:

- The continuation of concrete storm lining
- Installation of pet waste stations
- Repair of ditches on north Vine Street
- An assessment of the levee's safety
- An engineering analysis to determine the best projects to control flooding in the Lincoln Draw watershed
- Implementation of best management practices at the fuel farm/utilities building

Staff will bring forth a suggested plan for each project. After Commission approval is given, staff will bid out the various aspects of the maintenance projects. The bids will then be presented to the Commission for final approval.

Residential Tiered Stormwater Rates

Prior to adopting Ordinance No. 3829 establishing stormwater rates, City staff was directed to review possible methods of tiered residential stormwater rates.

I. D. Creech, Director of Public Works, presented four different methods for implementing a tiered residential stormwater rate. Three of the methods involve measuring all residential parcels for non-porous surfaces. It is estimated it would take 15 weeks, with an estimated cost of \$174,000 to do the

measurements, as well as implement programming changes costing \$6,000. Changes to the building permit process would be required and additional inspections might result. The changes would need to be relayed to the Clerk's Office for calculation to result in the appropriate stormwater fee. The fourth method would be to use County data; however, the data does not include flat work, such as sidewalks, driveways, etc. This method would not be equitable since it is not based on all impervious surfaces.

This was presented as an informational item; no action is required at this time.

Finance/City Clerk's Office Front Counter Remodel

The Commissioners will be requested to approve a bid submitted by Paul-Wertenberger, in the amount of \$20,953, for construction of a new counter in the Finance/City Clerk Office at the February 9, 2012 Commission meeting.

Other Items for Discussion

City Manager Toby Dougherty gave an update on the Skyline Rain Garden project per Commissioner Mellick's request.

Bernie Kitten, Director of Utilities, reported on the condition of sewer lines and manholes. The Utilities Department is planning some rehabilitation/maintenance projects for 2013.

Commissioner Schwaller requested that the position of Water Conservation Specialist not be discussed and voted upon at the February 9, 2012 Commission meeting. He would like more time to gather information and would like to discuss this position when the 2013 Budget is being prepared.

The other Commissioners were in agreement with Commissioner Schwaller. The item was pulled from the February 9, 2012 agenda.

The work session was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

City Clerk

