

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON FEBRUARY 9, 2006

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, February 9, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Kent Steward
Wayne Billinger
Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger
Henry Schwaller IV

Chairperson Steward declared that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

2. MINUTES: There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular session held on January 24, 2006; the minutes stand approved as written.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS: There were no comments.

4. SPECIAL RECOGNITION: Samantha Kochanowski, a student at Felten Middle School, was recognized for her achievement in winning the "If I Were Mayor" Contest for the northwest region of Kansas. Chairperson Steward presented Samantha with a proclamation and a key to the City of Hays.

5. CONSENT AGENDA: Mayoral Appointments: Chairperson Steward presented the following proposed appointments for the Commissioners' consideration:

Airport Advisory Board: Jeff Wheeler

Care Council: Jeremy Dannenbohm, Robert Muirhead

Convention and Visitors Bureau Advisory Board: Dr. Jerry Choate

Hays Housing Authority Board: Sue Rouse, Shirley Green

Formal action will be taken on Chairperson Steward's recommendation at the February 23, 2006 Commission meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

6. REQUEST FOR RESERVED PARKING: The Hays Public Library Board has requested four spaces be designated for reserved parking in the City-owned public parking lot on the south side of the 100 block of West 12th Street. This issue was on the January 24, 2006 Commission agenda; however, no action was taken.

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Kent Steward seconded, that the request from the Hays Public Library Board for reserved parking be approved.

Beth Bowerman, a member of the Board of Trustees for the Hays Public Library, stated that there has been some confusion about the parking issue. Prior to the City allowing angle parking in front of the Library, the request for reserved parking was for Library patrons, not Library staff. Once angle parking was allowed and installed, the request for the reserved parking was changed to allow Library employees carrying large amounts of educational materials to be able to do so without walking long distances.

Commissioner Wasinger stated she would be in favor of some type of short-term parking for unloading or loading.

Mrs. Bowerman felt that it would be hard to monitor/control short-term parking.

Commissioner Schwaller stated he felt that reserved parking should be tried out on a trial basis.

Melanie Miller, Library Director, stated that Library staff is not allowed to park in the north lot. Having reserved parking for staff in the lot south of 12th Street would free up parking spaces in the south lot for public use.

Chairperson Steward stated that staff needs a loading zone as well as a place where they can park that is fairly near the Library because they often have to carry materials in or out of the Library.

Commissioner Wasinger stated she understands the problem, however, she does not think there should be reserved parking spaces for Library employees when there are many employees downtown who need parking places.

Commissioner Billinger stated he would prefer that more data be gathered about the use of the parking lot before making a decision. He would rather do a needs assessment and then designate parking places.

Chairperson Steward commented that the Library is different than other businesses downtown. It is a public institution. He thinks that approval of this request would be a fairly unobtrusive way to take another step to make sure that the public has convenient access to the Library.

City Manager Gustafson noted that City staff observed the lot and found that it is full most of the time.

Vote: Ayes: Kent Steward

Henry Schwaller IV

No: Wayne Billinger

Troy Hickman

Barbara Wasinger

7. WASTEWATER TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES: The City's Wastewater Treatment Plant has experienced a history of expansions, upgrades, and modifications which has resulted in a facility which appears to be overly complicated and costly to operate.

The City Manager stated that it is budgeted to spend \$1.3 million over the next three years for sewer treatment. He would like to explore whether there is a better alternative that could save the City operational costs, as well as address odor problems. Therefore, City staff solicited proposals from professional engineering firms for the analysis of the current plant processes as well as recommendations for alternative methods of wastewater treatment.

Three firms submitted proposals: Bartlett and West, Burns and McDonnell, and Carollo Engineers. While Bartlett and West submitted the lowest cost proposal, Burns and McDonnell submitted a proposal which exceeds the others in terms of qualifications, experience base, and innovative thinking.

City staff recommended accepting the proposal from Burns and McDonnell and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Agreement for Engineering Services for Phase I of the study in the amount of \$51,900.

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Barbara Wasinger seconded, that the City of Hays enter into an agreement with Burns & McDonnell for engineering services related to the study of wastewater treatment alternatives at a cost of \$51,900.

Vote: Ayes: Kent Steward
Wayne Billinger
Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger
Henry Schwaller IV

8. WATER PLANT FILTER MEDIA AND UNDERDRAIN SYSTEM

REPLACEMENT: The filter system in the Water Plant was installed in 1975. The average life of the filter media is about eight years. The original media is no longer performing as efficiently as it should and needs to be replaced along with the underdrain system of each filter. City staff solicited bids from several construction contractors, but received only one valid bid. Staff recommended awarding the contract to Waters-Morgan Construction Company of Manhattan, Kansas in the amount of \$232,700.

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Troy Hickman seconded, that the bid from Waters-Morgan Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$232,700, for the replacement of the filter media and underdrain system at the Water Plant, be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Kent Steward
Wayne Billinger
Troy Hickman

Barbara Wasinger

Henry Schwaller IV

9. MUNICIPAL INVESTMENTS POOL: In order for the City of Hays to be able to participate in the Municipal Investment Pool it is necessary that a resolution be passed approving the establishment of an account. The Municipal Investment Pool is designed for municipalities to invest in if favorable rates are not available locally. It is the intention of the City to get the best possible investment rate for idle funds.

Troy Hickman moved, Wayne Billinger seconded, that Resolution No. 2006-002, being a resolution approving the establishment of an account in the name of the City of Hays, Kansas, in the Municipal Investments Pool for the purpose of transmitting funds for investments, be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Kent Steward

Wayne Billinger

Troy Hickman

Barbara Wasinger

Henry Schwaller IV

10. USE OF BUDGET STABILIZATION RESERVE FOR WILSON POOL:

The expenditures for repairs to Wilson Pool came before the Commission previously and authorization was given to proceed. Since that time, the funds previously in the Pool Construction budget have been transferred into the Budget Stabilization Reserve. According to the City's Comprehensive Financial Policy, it is necessary for the Commission to give its formal approval in order to expend money out of a reserve fund.

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Wayne Billinger seconded, that authorization be given to spend funds, not to exceed \$90,000, out of the Budget Stabilization Reserve for repairs to Wilson Pool.

Vote: Ayes: Kent Steward

Wayne Billinger

Troy Hickman

Henry Schwaller IV

No: Barbara Wasinger

11. REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER: The City Manager had no additional items to report on.

12. COMMISSION INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS: Commissioner Schwaller requested that the Commissioners discuss the Martin Luther King celebration at a future work session.

Chairperson Steward stated that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment has scheduled a public hearing to hear comments regarding renewal of a permit for Kansas State University Agricultural Research Center to operate a feedlot south of Hays. The hearing will take place at Hays High School in the Lecture Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 22, 2006. The City Commission took formal action to oppose renewal of the permit at the January 12, 2006 meeting.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Wayne Billinger moved, Troy Hickman seconded, that the Governing Body recess to executive session at 8:17 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss personnel issues. The Commissioners were the only members in attendance at the executive session.

Vote: Ayes: Kent Steward

Wayne Billinger

Troy Hickman

Barbara Wasinger

Henry Schwaller IV

Chairperson Steward called the work session back to order at 8:28 p.m. He stated no action was taken during executive session.

Thereupon the Governing Body adjourned.

Submitted by: _____

City Clerk

