

City of Hays
City Commission
Work Session Notes
February 16, 2006

Joint Meeting with Ellis County Commissioners to Discuss Space Needs for Dispatch

City Commissioners Present: Wayne Billinger, Troy Hickman, Barbara Wasinger, Henry Schwaller IV, John Bird, Randy Gustafson

Absent: Kent Steward

County Commissioners Present: Chris Channel, Dennis Pfannenstiel, Vernon Berens

The City Commission met with the Ellis County Commission at the Law Enforcement Center to discuss space needs for dispatch. Kerry McCue, Ellis County Emergency Management Director, gave a Power Point presentation regarding the relocation of the dispatch offices in the Law Enforcement Center from their present location to the Emergency Operation Center in the basement. This would result in the need to remodel several different areas of the building at an estimated cost of \$120,000.

After the joint session was adjourned, the City Commission reconvened at City Hall to discuss the remaining items on the work session agenda.

Award of Bid for Golden Belt Estates, 2nd Addition Construction

Western Plains Service Corporation petitioned the City for improvements to the Golden Belt Estates, 2nd Addition, a resolution authorizing those improvements was executed, and the City entered into a contract with Ruder Engineering for design. The proposed construction includes the improvements associated with the construction of 45th Street from 41st Street Plaza 5th Addition east to Hall Street, Larned Circle, Newton Circle,

and Vista Drive. 45th Street is classified as a collector and will be 45 feet in width. The remaining streets are residential and the developer has requested that they be constructed 31 feet wide as allowed for in the infrastructure Guidelines for New Development Policy. A 12" City water main will be extended along Hall Street from 41st Street to 45th Street. Water and sanitary sewer lines will be installed to service all lots including oversized (12") water lines along 45th Street and oversized (12") sanitary sewer lines along Newton Circle, a portion of 45th Street, and Larned Circle to service future development beyond the current addition.

APAC submitted the only bid for the project. The Commissioners will be requested to formally approve the base bid submitted by APAC in the amount of \$1,089,702.78, and Alternate #1 in the amount of \$293,347.49, at the February 23, 2006 Commission meeting.

Wilson Pool Pump/Motor Purchase

Five bids were received for a pump/motor assembly for Wilson Pool. Staff recommended that the low bid not be accepted because it does not meet the specifications. The second lowest bid from G. Farney and Associates, in the amount of \$8,950, met the specifications. Staff recommended acceptance of their bid.

The Commissioners will take formal action to approve the bid at the February 23, 2006 Commission meeting.

"Welcome to Hays" Signage

The Hays Beautification Committee (HBC) is interested in creating a plan for future budgets relating to "Welcome to Hays" signage. HBC would like to place signage at several locations and is requesting input from the City Commission before moving forward.

City Manager Gustafson stated funds are allocated in the 2006 Budget to hire a firm to look at signage throughout the city. He expects that the HBC would be involved and make recommendations.

13th & Hall Greenspace

The Hays Beautification Committee (HBC) received proposals for artwork for the greenspace at 13th & Hall Street. At the December 8, 2005 Commission meeting, the Commissioners voted to reject all art proposals submitted. The City Commission then requested the HBC to propose new ideas for the area. The HBC informed City staff that they are not interested in taking on this project and suggested that the Parks Department provide a plan for landscaping the area. Staff estimates that it will cost less than \$500 to install low maintenance trees, shrubs, and other plantings.

Discussion was held about installing flag poles in the area and flying our Sister Cities' flags. Staff will report back on this issue at a later work session.

Tree Rebate Program

Beginning with the 2005 Budget, the City Commission voted to change the total City reimbursement amount for tree rebates from \$7,000 to \$10,000. In 2005, four rebates were denied and one rebate was partially granted due to lack of funds.

City Manager Gustafson requested input from the Commissioners as to whether the City should pay the five rebates in full and to also consider raising the amount to be budgeted in 2007 for tree rebates.

Commissioner Schwaller stated he felt the City should honor the rebate requests from 2005 and the amount should be increased in 2007.

The Commissioners agreed with Commissioner Schwaller's statement.

Community Access Television of Salina, Inc. – Kansas State Senate Bill

449

The City Manager requested Commission approval to express the City's opposition/disapproval of Kansas State Senate Bill 449. This bill would allow new video service providers to operate without a local cable franchise,

and would allow existing video providers to operate without a local franchise upon the expiration of the current franchise term. SB 449 would also release video providers from any federal provisions for public, education, and government access television channels. Additionally, SB 449 changes the way fees paid by video providers to cities are calculated, eliminating revenue from advertising and home shopping from the calculation

The City Manager stated that essentially this would take away the City's rights of franchise. The primary purpose of franchise is not money; it is to allow companies to use the City's right-of-way. This bill would allow companies to use the right-of-way in any city in the state.

The Commissioners agreed with the City Manager's request to send a letter in opposition of Senate Bill 449.

Other Items for Discussion

Commissioner Schwaller left the Commission Chambers at the start of the following discussion.

Commissioner Wasinger requested that the Fox Theatre auction issue be placed on the February 23, 2006 Commission meeting agenda. It has been brought to her attention that bids were not solicited from local auctioneers. She feels the Commission has been negligent in not opening this up for bids.

The City Manager stated this has been publicly discussed for three months. He recommended that the auction be sole-sourced to Kisner Auction based on Mr. Kisner's state-wide contacts; he felt Mr. Kisner could do the best job. He advised the Commission on three different occasions that this was a sole-source proposal.

City Attorney John Bird stated that nothing was done that is unlawful or wrong. The project was publicly sole-sourced.

The City Manager stated that the proposal has been made public. Any other person who may want to participate would have the opportunity to see

the competitor's bid. He noted that all multi-list realtors will be able to participate in the auction of the Fox Theatre.

Commissioner Hickman and Billinger both agreed that for future endeavors, it should be opened up for bids. They do not feel that the City should back off on this project and should proceed as planned.

The Fox Theatre auction will be placed on the February 23, 2006 Commission agenda for further discussion.

The work session was adjourned.

Submitted by: _____

City Clerk