

City of Hays
City Commission
Work Session Notes
March 3, 2011

Present: Troy Hickman, Ron Mellick, Kent Steward, Greg Schwartz, Toby Dougherty

Absent: Barbara Wasinger, Henry Schwaller IV

City Acceptance of Veterans Park from Gary Haselhorst

At the September 23, 2010 Commission meeting, the Commissioners tentatively approved the acceptance of Veterans Park from the American Legion, contingent upon the City Manager and City Attorney's approval and review of the title documents. The requested paperwork was never provided to the city. The property changed hands and is now owned by Gary Haselhorst.

Mr. Haselhorst formally requested the Commissioners accept the donation of Veterans Park. Through recent platting of this parcel, the donated land's east property line has been moved west, shrinking the size of the park.

The Commissioners will be requested to formally accept the donation of Veterans Park from Gary Haselhorst at the March 10, 2011 Commission meeting.

Request for Resolution of Support for Mixed Martial Arts Events – Cross the Line, LLC

The Commissioners will be requested to approve a resolution of support for a mixed martial arts event hosted by Cross the Line, LLC to be held in 2011 in Hays.

Consideration of Taxi License for ABC Transportation, Inc.

ABC Transportation, Inc. has applied for a Taxi License to provide shuttle transportation between the Hays Regional Airport and various destinations throughout Hays. ABC may provide shuttle service in the near future for Fort Hays State University; beyond that, ABC has no intentions to function as a taxi cab business at this time.

The Commissioners will be requested to consider approval of the Taxi License at the March 10, 2011 Commission meeting.

Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development Funding Request

Todd Powell and Charles Reese, representing the Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development (ECCED), visited with the Commissioners about the job search for a new Executive Director for ECCED. Mr. Powell spoke about the goals and focus of the ECCED once a new director is on board.

The 2011 Budget set aside \$87,550 for economic development activities. ECCED requested those funds be disbursed to ECCED.

Commissioner Steward stated he does not intend to vote for approval of the funding request at this time. He is not convinced that a Coalition is needed; he would rather wait until a director is hired and a planning process is in place. Once that is done, he will have a better idea of what the Coalition exists for.

The Commissioners will be requested to formally consider the ECCED request for funding at the March 10, 2011 Commission meeting.

Airport Capital Projects

City staff, the FAA, and the City's Airport Engineer have identified the need to make significant improvements to the Airport's main runway as soon as possible. The runway's deterioration has resulted in several pavement failures over the past year, and could pose a threat to aircraft operations and safety if left unaddressed. The cost to rehabilitate or reconstruct the runway along with other identified projects over the next five years could total over \$14 million dollars with the City's share being over \$700,000. With FAA's 95% participation and

continuing the City's practice of issuing General Obligation Bonds to fund airport improvement projects at a level equivalent to \$100,000 per year, the City's funding needs will be met.

Discussion was held about an Airport Wildlife Hazard Assessment that is scheduled at the Hays Regional Airport to determine the need for a fence surrounding the Airport property due to the abundance of deer in the area.

Airport Consultant Selection

Every five years the City enters into an agreement with an engineering firm to provide professional services regarding the next five years of airport capital improvement projects. City staff followed the FAA procedures for the selection of engineering services and a selection committee has recommended entering into an agreement with Burns and McDonnell Engineers. Projects to be covered under this agreement would be Runway 16-34 rehabilitation and reconstruction, wildlife fence improvements, apron drainage improvements, acquisition of a snow blower, and apron expansion.

The Commissioners will be requested to authorize the City Manager to execute a master professional services agreement with Burns and McDonnell at the March 10, 2011 Commission meeting.

Special Assessment Proceedings

Special assessments for four special improvement districts within the City of Hays are ready to be finalized and assessed to the property owners. To begin the proceedings, a resolution must be approved setting a public hearing to hear comments regarding the proposed assessments.

At the March 10, 2011 Commission meeting, the Commissioners will be requested to approve the resolution setting April 14, 2011 as the date for the public hearing.

Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Selection

Twenty-nine (29) applications have been received for membership on the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Discussion was held about the makeup of the Committee and the process to select members. The Commissioners will review the applications and discuss this further at the March 17, 2011 work session.

Comprehensive Financial Management Policy Review

According to the Comprehensive Financial Management Policy, a report is to be given to the Commissioners annually regarding compliance with the various chapters of the Policy. Finance Director Kim Rupp presented the report.

Comprehensive Financial Management Policy (Auditing Section)

The Comprehensive Financial Management Policy requires that the City request proposals for auditing services every five years. Discussion was held about changing the Policy to request proposals only if the City felt it was not getting good service or value from the firm doing the audit.

The Commissioners will be requested to amend the policy at the March 10, 2011 Commission meeting.

The work session was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

City Clerk