

City of Hays
City Commission
Work Session Notes
March 17, 2011

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

Bickle-Schmidt Sports Complex Communications Services RFP

Communication services for the Bickle-Schmidt Sports Complex were considered during design and construction. Conduit is currently in place for these services. Identified communication necessities include internet and telephone services. The Project Development Advisory Committee and City staff have developed a Request for Proposals (RFP) for these services to be provided at no cost.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the RFP.

Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Selection:

City Manager Toby Dougherty suggested the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee be comprised of 11 to 12 members. It was decided to have 12 members comprised of people representing various sectors of the community. The City Manager, Commission Schwaller and Paul Phillips, representing the Planning Commission, have been selected to represent the government sector. The following nine individuals were selected to bring the membership up to 12:

Errol Wuertz	Tyler Thompson	Harry Watts
Mark Bannister	Sandy Jacobs	Jeannine Ross
Rick Kuehl	Tammy Wellbrock	Kurt David

The Commissioners will be requested to formally approve the membership appointments at the March 24, 2011 Commission meeting.

Vine Street Reconstruction (22nd to 27th) Soil/Concrete Testing – Award of Bid

The City has received KDOT Connecting Link funding to assist in funding the cost of the Vine Street Reconstruction Project (22nd to 27th Street). A project of this type is required to follow KDOT specifications for soil and concrete testing throughout the project. City inspectors will be performing limited daily construction observation and inspection; however, KDOT requires some specific testing that the City does not have the capability to perform in-house.

At the March 24, 2011 Commission meeting, the Commissioners will be requested to approve the low bid submitted by Penco Engineering, in the amount of \$24,480, for the testing requirements portion of the reconstruction of Vine Street from 22nd to 27th Street.

KDOT Federal Funds Disbursement

The means by which KDOT disperses federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds to cities in Kansas has changed. What had previously been known as KDOT 5-year plan is no more. Rather than being placed in competition with peer cities for federal funds, the funds will be allotted to each city proportionally based on population. The City's estimated allotment is \$244,569.20. In addition, cities now have the option of programming a federal project to use their allotment, or they may request KDOT to exchange the city's federal funds for state funds at a 90% exchange rate. The City's \$244K in federal funds could be exchanged for \$220K in state dollars. The exchanged funds may be used much more freely than the federal funds. The federal STP funding is tailored toward large construction or reconstruction projects and can only be used for construction and inspection. The KDOT exchange dollars can be used for construction and inspection and reimbursement of various project costs such as design, right-of-way acquisition, and general street maintenance.

Since the City of Hays was proactive and actively pursued projects, the City received more STP than some of our peer communities. Over the last 10 years, the City has received over \$10 million in STP funds. Since other cities were not as aggressive as Hays, or did not utilize the program as much, the new distribution of funds will result in the City seeing less federal funding than it has in the past.

KDOT has asked that cities wanting to exchange fiscal year 2011 dollars request to do so by April 1, 2011. Since the 41st Street Reconstruction Project already has federal funds allocated toward it, asking for an exchange of federal funds would essentially end the federal funding of project.

Staff recommended that no action be taken at this time and continue allowing the City's annual allotment of federal funds to accumulate for future use either on 41st Street or some other future project. The Commissioners agreed with staff's recommendation; the project has already been approved and the consensus was to continue as originally planned.

2012 Budget Workshop

Discussion was held with members of the Downtown Hays Development Corporation Board of Directors about their level of City funding for 2012. A final decision will not be made until their funding request has been submitted and discussed by the Commissioners in June.

Chairperson Wasinger left the work session.

The 2010 year end procedures have been completed and City staff has begun work on the 2012 Budget. The Commissioners were updated on staff's budget goals for 2012 as well as the Capital Improvement Plan. Discussion was held on Commission goals and objectives for 2012. This information will be utilized in preparing the formal 2012 Budget that will be presented to the Commissioners in June of this year.

Executive Session

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Ron Mellick seconded, that the Governing Body recess to executive session at 8:20 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss attorney-client privileged information and personnel. The executive session included the Commissioners, the City Manager, the Assistant City Manager, and the City Attorney. K.S. A. 75-4319 authorizes the use of executive session to discuss the topics stated in the motion.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Henry Schwaller IV
Ron Mellick
Kent Steward

Vice-chairperson Hickman called the work session back to order at 8:35 p.m. He stated no action was taken during executive session.

The work session was adjourned.

Submitted by: _____