

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON MARCH 24, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Eber Phelps

Shaun Musil

Lance Jones

Absent: James Meier

Henry Schwaller IV

Chairperson Phelps 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 March 10, 2016; the minutes stand approved as presented.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Finance Director, Kim Rupp, reviewed the financial summaries of the revenue and expenditure activities of the City of Hays for the month ended February 29, 2016. Month-to-date general fund sales tax collections were at \$696,134 which is a decrease of \$39,251 as compared to last year. Year-to-date general fund collections are down -5.52%.

The Finance/City Clerk's Office invested \$3,000,000 of maturing or renewing certificates with a weighted average interest rate of .59%. The portfolio of certificates of deposit on February 29, 2016 totaled \$55,900,000 with a weighted average interest rate of .42%. The total balance of the Money Market account on February 29, 2016 was \$1,000,000 with a current yield of .20%. Total investments are up \$1,150,000 when compared to this time last year.

Shaun Musil moved, Lance Jones seconded, that the Financial Statement for the month of February, 2016, be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Eber Phelps
Shaun Musil
Lance Jones

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS: There were no comments.

5. CONSENT AGENDA: A. Chairperson Phelps presented the following proposed mayoral appointments at the March 10, 2016 City Commission meeting and are now being presented for approval.

CARE Council

Holly Haynes – two-year term to expire March 1, 2018 (1st term)

Sister Cities Advisory Board

Heather Musil – unexpired term to expire January 1, 2018 (1st term)

B. The following proposed mayoral appointments will be presented for approval at the April 14, 2016 City Commission meeting:

Building Trades Board

Katherine Burnett (General Contractor) – unexpired term to expire August 27, 2019 (3rd term – non-consecutive)

Hays Area Board of Zoning Appeals

Louis Caplan (Planning Commission Representative, lives in the city limits) – three-year term to expire May 1, 2019 (6th term)

Rich Sieker (lives in the city limits) – three-year term to expire May 1, 2019 (2nd term)

Hays Area Planning Commission

Louis Caplan (lives in the city limits) – three-year term to expire April 30, 2019 (6th term)

Lawrence Gould (lives in the city limits) – unexpired term to expire April 30, 2017 (11th term – non-consecutive)

Matthew Wheeler (lives in the three-mile limit) – three-year term to expire April 30, 2019 (2nd term)

Lance Jones moved, Shaun Musil seconded, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Vote: Ayes: Eber Phelps
Shaun Musil
Lance Jones

NEW BUSINESS

6. USD 489 SALES TAX PETITION: USD 489 has decided to pursue a capital improvement program regarding its buildings repair and maintenance. They plan to attempt to finance it by use of a bond issue election on their part and asked the City Commission to put a sales tax initiative on the ballot to levy a City sales tax that would then be paid to USD 489 for defraying the cost of their improvements.

A petition, signed by 10% of the electors of the City, was properly filed with the County Clerk. Ellis County has certified that the petition by USD 489 calling for a special election to consider the question of imposing a half-cent sales tax to fund USD 489 capital projects is valid. According to State law, when presented a valid petition, the City Commission must pass a resolution calling for such election. The City Commission does have latitude on the date chosen. USD 489 has requested the election be held on June 7, 2016 to coincide with the bond issue they plan to bring to the voters at the same time.

Mike Morley, a parent volunteer on the USD 489 Bond Committee, and Lance Bickle, USD 489 School Board Member, asked the Commission to grant the special election date of June 7, 2016 and offered to answer any questions the Commissioners may have.

Commissioner Musil commented that he supports their efforts, but is concerned noting that the City sales tax collections have been declining and the City's General Fund is dependent on sales tax so he is concerned it could hurt the City in the long run. He stated ultimately the important thing is that the voters get to decide.

Lance Jones moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-002 calling for a special sales tax election for USD 489 on November 8, 2016. Eber Phelps seconded the motion. Chairperson Phelps asked for the motion to be repeated and then withdrew his second. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Shaun Musil moved, Eber Phelps seconded, to consider approving Resolution No. 2016-002 calling for a special sales tax election for USD 489 on June 7, 2016.

Commissioner Jones expressed his concern with the District's desire to call a special election so soon. He stated they could hold it at a general election or the next city election and those elections may draw a higher voter turnout.

Lance Bickle responded they felt if it was put on the November general election it may be lost in the shuffle. They want to educate the citizens and let them know exactly what they are trying to accomplish.

Vote: Ayes: Eber Phelps

Shaun Musil

No: Lance Jones

7. AIRPORT SNOW BROOM ACQUISITION: The 2016 budget included funds for the purchase of snow removal equipment at the Hays Regional Airport. A snow broom is eligible for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program funding, which covers 90% of eligible costs. FAA requires actual bids prior to awarding a grant to cover the costs. One bid was received on March 1, 2016, from M-B companies, Inc. of Chilton, Wisconsin. The total cost of the snow broom including administration and acquisition is \$173,354, with the City's share being \$17,336. The City's Airport Engineer, Burns & McDonnell, has prepared a grant application to be submitted to FAA to fund 90% of the cost of the snow broom. Staff requests authorization to apply for federal assistance in paying for the snow broom, and acceptance of the bid from M-B Companies, Inc. contingent on FAA grant funding.

Lance Jones moved, Shaun Musil seconded, to authorize staff to submit an application for federal assistance for the purchase of a snow broom for the Hays Regional Airport, and accept the low bid from M-B Companies, Inc.

contingent upon an FAA grant offer. All costs are to be funded from the New Equipment Reserve Fund.

Vote: Ayes: Eber Phelps
Shaun Musil
Lance Jones

8. REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER: City Manager, Toby Dougherty, attended a meeting in Manhattan with the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources, regarding the change application process for the R-9 Ranch. He updated the Commissioners on the change applications dealing with changing the use of the water from irrigation to municipal, changing the consumptive use, and changing the points of diversion. He stated the meeting was very productive, but it is a slow process. He explained there has never been a change this large and cumbersome and the transfer act has never been tested in its current form.

The City Manager also gave an update on the Property Tax Lid legislation that recently passed the senate and how it could affect the City.

9. COMMISSION INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS: Commissioner Jones commented that he enjoyed the opening ceremonies for the Special Olympics and that it is a great event to have in Hays. He is also praying for the people affected by the wild fires.

Chairperson Phelps commented that it is a source of pride for the City of Hays to be able to host the Special Olympics. He also stated he appreciated the update on the R-9 Ranch and the work the City Manager is doing on this project.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Brenda Kitchen – City Clerk