

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON MAY 12, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Eber Phelps
Shaun Musil
James Meier
Henry Schwaller IV
Lance Jones

Chairperson Phelps declared 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 April 28, 2016; the minutes stand approved as presented.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS: There were no comments.

4. CONSENT AGENDA: A. Approve the Cereal Malt Beverage License for Downtown Hays Development Corporation for Fire on the Frontier.
B. The following proposed mayoral appointment was presented at the April 28, 2016 City Commission meeting and is now being presented for approval.

Hays Convention and Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee

Julie Rider (at-large position) – unexpired term to expire December 1, 2017 (1st term)

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Shaun Musil seconded, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Vote: Ayes: Eber Phelps
Shaun Musil
James Meier
Henry Schwaller IV
Lance Jones

NEW BUSINESS

5. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY REVISIONS: The Commission has had several discussions about the City's Economic Development Policy over the last few months. Suggestions that have been discussed have been incorporated into an updated policy and vetted through the Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development Board, which is in support of the changes.

City Manager, Toby Dougherty, reviewed the proposed changes with the Commission. He stated language has been added that emphasizes the importance of sales tax to our economy. With the general fund being funded by sales tax, from an economic development standpoint, sales tax generating endeavors are very important to the City.

A new section was also added to the policy; Statement of Process, that will govern the process and interaction among an applicant, the City of Hays, and the Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development. The Statement of Process clearly spells out the process to be followed for any applicant wishing to apply for incentives under the Economic Development Policy. The new process also brings bond council into the mix early on to ensure the policy and state laws are being followed.

The requirements for retail development of 50,000 square feet, \$10,000,000/year in retail sales, and twenty-five or more employees, have been removed.

The Job Bounty Program was removed from the policy, as it has not been used since 2011.

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Lance Jones seconded, to approve the revisions to the City of Hays' Economic Development Policy.

Commissioner Schwaller commented that the changes make sense, they give more power to the Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development to assist us, which is the reason the coalition was created.

Commissioner Musil stated it makes us seem more business friendly to developers and hopefully makes it easier to come to Hays.

Vote: Ayes: Eber Phelps

Shaun Musil

James Meier

Henry Schwaller IV

Lance Jones

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

7. COMMISSION INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS: Commissioner Schwaller commented that we are in a recession, but are lucky to have a regional medical center, regional center for education and we are a regional trade and retail center. He stated that even in these down times Fort Hays State University (FHSU) is growing and doing well. He congratulated everyone that is graduating from FHSU this weekend.

Commissioner Musil also congratulated all of the high school and college graduates.

Chairperson Phelps stated prior to the meeting he presented a proclamation declaring May 15, 2016 through May 21, 2016 as National Public Works Week in the City of Hays. He commended all of our Public Works employees for the great job they do in maintaining and building our infrastructure and keeping our city going. He also offered a special thanks to Mark Darnall, Utilities Supervisor, who is retiring after 35 years. He thanked him for his extra efforts in performing his job so well.

Chairperson Phelps also mentioned that our Sister City, Santa Maria, Paraguay, had named a street Hays Kansas and suggested that a discussion be held at a future work session to identify a street to name in their honor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Brenda Kitchen – City Clerk