

City of Hays  
City Commission  
Work Session Notes  
Thursday, July 7, 2016 – 6:30 p.m.

Present: Eber Phelps, Shaun Musil, James Meier, Henry Schwaller IV, Lance Jones, John Bird, Toby Dougherty and Kim Rupp

**June 16, 2016 Work Session Notes**

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the work session held on June 16, 2016; the minutes stand approved as presented.

**Downtown Pavilion Project**

On May 5, 2016, the City Commission heard a presentation by the Downtown Hays Development Corporation (DHDC) in conjunction with a group of Fort Hays State University students led by Kris Munsch regarding a potential pavilion in Downtown Hays.

The Commissioners discussed the possibility of pursuing a lease with Union Pacific Railroad to allow DHDC to construct a pavilion and restrooms in downtown Hays.

Sara Bloom, DHDC Executive Director, thanked the Commission for considering this project. DHDC provided a list of items they would like the City of Hays to either provide financially or through in-kind labor if this project were approved.

Commissioner Musil asked what options are available to finance this project.

City Manager Toby Dougherty provided several options, but recommended using Convention and Visitor Bureau Transient Guest Tax dollars which can be used to promote the community and provide amenities for visitors while they are in town.

It was the consensus of the Commission that this item be moved forward to the July 14, 2016 Commission meeting for possible action.

## **Pavement Condition Assessment – Award of Contract**

In 2011, an automated pavement condition assessment was conducted by Infrastructure Management Services (IMS). That assessment has been the basis for street maintenance activities over the last five years.

The Commissioners discussed the merits of such a study, which involves automated data collection using high-resolution digital cameras, GPS receivers and computers on board a company van that would travel the city's streets. The technology evaluates 39 different pavement stresses, such as cracking and potholes.

John Braun, Assistant Director of Public Works, stated proposals for automated data collection services regarding the pavement condition of streets throughout the City, and the development of a five year repair and maintenance program were received from two firms:

- MDS Technologies, Inc. (Park Ridge, IL) \$25,950
- Infrastructure Management Services (Tempe, AZ) \$35,500

City Manager Toby Dougherty stated automated data collection provides a scientific report of the city's road conditions and can help the city identify areas where preventative maintenance can save significant funds in the future.

Commissioner Jones stated he is skeptical of spending \$26,000 on something you may be able to tell by driving down the road. He asked for the report from the 2011 assessment to review.

Commissioner Schwaller stated he initially was critical of the study, but now sees its value.

At the July 14, 2016 Commission meeting, Commissioners will be asked to consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with MDS Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$25,950 to be funded out of Special Highway.

## **Other Items for Discussion**

City Manager Toby Dougherty stated that the City's budget for 2017 will be presented to the Commission at the July 28, 2016 Commission meeting. The

proposed budget is a balanced budget with the mill levy remaining at 25 mills. It includes no additional employees and continues to fund reserves.

Commissioner Schwaller requested a report on incidents that occurred during the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend.

Chairperson Phelps welcomed back Assistant City Manager, Jacob Wood, from military training and thanked him for his service.

The work session was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Brenda Kitchen – City Clerk