

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE
GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON AUGUST 9, 2007

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, August 9, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger
Ron Mellick
Christopher Channell
Allan Lytton

Chairperson Hickman declared that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

2. MINUTES: There were no corrections to the minutes of the regular session held on July 26, 2007; the minutes stand approved as written.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS: There were no comments.

4. CONSENT AGENDA: At the July 26, 2007 City Commission meeting, Mayor Hickman recommended the following mayoral appointments:

Hays Recreation Commission

Nancy Jeter – 4-year term to expire August 1, 2011

Public Wholesale Water Supply District #15 Board

Henry Schwaller IV – unexpired term to expire March 1, 2009

Barbara Wasinger moved, Troy Hickman seconded, that the mayoral appointments be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger

No: Ron Mellick
Christopher Channell
Allan Lytton

Ron Mellick moved, Allan Lytton seconded, that Nancy Jeter be appointed to the Hays Recreation Commission for a 4-year term to expire August 1, 2011.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger
Ron Mellick
Christopher Channell
Allan Lytton

Barbara Wasinger moved, Troy Hickman seconded, that Henry Schwaller IV be appointed to the Public Wholesale Water Supply District #15 Board for an unexpired term to expire March 1, 2009.

Commissioner Wasinger stated that Mr. Schwaller has extensive knowledge of our water supply and she urged the Commissioners to put aside any private/personal disagreements with him.

Chairperson Hickman stated he made this recommendation because Mr. Schwaller has historical knowledge of the water situation.

Commissioner Channell agreed that Mr. Schwaller has more knowledge about the water situation than anyone on the current Commission. He felt that it is important to have a good relationship with the PWWSD#15 Board so that topics can be discussed freely. He was concerned about whether the Board and the Commission would be able to have effective communication with Mr. Schwaller on the Board.

Commissioner Mellick agreed with Commissioner Channell. It bothered him that when Mr. Schwaller was a City Commissioner he did not attend the last work session or the last Commission meeting because he was upset.

Chairperson Hickman stated the recommendations from PWWSD#15 are made by the entire makeup of the Board, which includes members from Russell.

Anything the Board recommends must be approved by both the Hays City Commission and the Russell City Commission.

Commissioner Wasinger stated that City staff has more direct contact with the Board than the Commissioners do. She does not feel that there will be a problem by appointing Mr. Schwaller to the Board. He is a communicator and an educator; she feels he will put aside any differences in order to serve the citizens of Hays and Russell.

City Manager Dougherty stated the handbook for mayoral boards and committees allows the mayor to remove a person from a board or committee for low attendance, conflict of interest, or if the City's ethics policy is violated.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman

Barbara Wasinger

Christopher Channell

No: Ron Mellick

Allan Lytton

Chairperson Hickman proposed the following appointments for approval at the August 23, 2007 Commission meeting:

Building Trades Board

Katherine Burnett – Jay Connelly – Roger Mettlen – Jerry Sonntag

NEW BUSINESS

5. 2008 BUDGET PRESENTATION, PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL OF

BUDGET: City Manager Dougherty presented a brief overview of the budget process, a re-cap of the proposed 2008 Budget and some budget highlights. The proposed mill for 2008 is 24.993.

Chairperson Hickman opened the public hearing to hear comments regarding the 2008 Budget. There were no comments.

Barbara Wasinger moved, Allan Lytton seconded, that the public hearing be closed.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger
Ron Mellick
Christopher Channell
Allan Lytton

Christopher Channell moved, Ron Mellick seconded, that the 2008 Budget be approved as presented.

Commissioner Wasinger commented that she would have preferred that the budget mill levy be no higher than 24 mills; for that reason she will be voting no. She also stated that the budget is well-done; it is just a matter of principal.

Chairperson Hickman stated the budget is well planned and he echoed Commissioner Wasinger's comments.

Commissioner Mellick stated he would rather be on the conservative side and do projects only if the money is available. He feels the Commission can be frugal and hopefully buy down the levy in the next few years.

Commissioner Lytton and Channell agreed with Commissioner Mellick.

Vote: Ayes: Ron Mellick
Christopher Channell
Allan Lytton
No: Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger

6. ORDINANCE – INCREASE IN MILL LEVY: State statutes require the adoption of an ordinance authorizing the increase in the mill levy in any year it will exceed the previous year's levy. The projected mill levy for the 2008 Budget will increase to 24.993 mills, or approximately two mills over the 2007 levy. The City has not had an increase in the mill levy since 2003.

Christopher Channell moved, Ron Mellick seconded, that Ordinance No. 3731, being an ordinance attesting to an increase in tax revenues for budget year 2008 for the City of Hays be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Ron Mellick
Christopher Channell
Allan Lytton
No: Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger

7. ADDENDUM TO AGREEMENT – HAYS FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 2119: An agreement reached between the City of Hays and I.A.F.F. allows for the implementation of a pay for performance pay plan in 2008 and 2009 based on an employee receiving a merit pay increase equal to the numerical rating he receives on his performance evaluation. This rate can be anywhere from 0 – 5%. Additionally, firefighters will receive a 1% pay adjustment at the beginning of the 2008 and 2009 payroll years. The City agreed to continue to provide family health insurance coverage and administration of the spousal carve-out program in 2008.

Barbara Wasinger moved, Allan Lytton seconded, that the Addendum to the Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Hays and the Hays Firefighters Local 2119, be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger
Ron Mellick
Christopher Channell
Allan Lytton

8. REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER: City Manager Toby Dougherty publicly thanked the Commission for placing their trust and confidence in him by offering him the position of City Manager. He also thanked all of the staff who assisted in helping with the 2008 Budget.

9. COMMISSION INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS: Commissioner Wasinger commented that she is grateful that the scholarship award winners take the time to write a thank-you note. She also mentioned her disappointment that Hays will be losing one airline to service the Hays Regional Airport. She is hopeful that competitive rates can be maintained.

Chairperson Hickman officially welcomed Toby Dougherty to the City Manager's position. He is confident that Mr. Dougherty will be able to perform the duties required of the City Manager position satisfactorily. He thanked the members of our community who have been deployed to active service in Iraq this week. He thanked their families for supporting their loved ones and the community.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Allan Lytton moved, Barbara Wasinger seconded, that the Governing Body recess to executive session at 8:40 p.m. for five minutes to discuss union negotiations. The executive session included the Commissioners, the City Manager, and the City Attorney. The justification for the executive session is that it is in the public's best interest to not reveal the City's position during negotiations.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Barbara Wasinger
Ron Mellick
Christopher Channell
Allan Lytton

Chairperson Hickman called the meeting back to order at 8:45 p.m. He stated no action was taken during executive session.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: _____

City Clerk