

City of Hays
City Commission
Work Session Notes
September 21, 2006

Present: Wayne Billinger, Barbara Wasinger, Henry Schwaller IV, Kent Steward, John Bird, Randy Gustafson

Absent: Troy Hickman

Distribution of Cameras to Evaluate City

Diane Becker, representing the Center for Civic Leadership at Fort Hays State University, spoke to the Commission about an interactive civic project proposed by the City Commission in collaboration with Fort Hays State University. One-hundred disposable cameras will be distributed to local elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, and colleges. Approximately 400 students will take pictures of any area of the community that they are the most proud of and any area of the community in need of special attention. The program called "Get the Picture" will raise awareness of both the positive aspects of the Hays community and those areas needing improvement. This program will allow students of varying ages an opportunity to voice their opinions. Wal-Mart has agreed to participate in the project by discounting the cost of the disposable cameras and the picture development costs. It is estimated that it will cost the City approximately \$600.

The pictures will be used to make a Power Point presentation as well as a physical display. A report analyzing the results and revealing the community issues discovered will be written to conclude the project.

The Commissioners will be requested to formally approve the project at the September 28, 2006 Commission meeting.

Ball Field Equipment Purchase

In the 2006 Budget, an amount of \$14,000 is budgeted in the Vehicle Replacement Schedule for the purchase of a new utility vehicle commonly called a truckster. This unit would replace the dilapidated utility vehicle currently being used by the ball field division. The Parks Department plans to relocate the old unit to the golf course during periods of non-use of the ball fields/parks. Currently, golf course personnel use a Pro-Shop golf cart when transportation is needed. The Service Division Shop Foreman has inspected the old utility vehicle and agrees that it should be replaced with a new unit.

Five bids were received for the truckster. After careful review, staff recommended purchasing the Cushman truckster from Kansas Golf and Turf for \$13,081. This unit meets all the specifications requested and it is much more versatile for the needs of the City. Purchasing Agent Terry Urban reviewed the bids and agrees with staff's recommendation to purchase the Cushman truckster. Since the bid from Kansas Golf and Turf was not the low bid, it is necessary for the Commission to approve the bid, per the Purchasing Policy.

The Commissioners will be requested to consider approval and acceptance of the bid from Kansas Golf and Turf at the September 28, 2006 Commission meeting.

Wastewater Treatment Alternatives – Phase I Report

In February 2006, the City Commission authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Burns and McDonnell for Phase I of a study of the Wastewater Treatment Plant at a cost of \$51,900. City staff has worked with engineers from Burns and McDonnell in executing the study and preparing a report of the findings of Phase I.

John Mitchell and Bill McAllister, representing Burns and McDonnell, reported on the Wastewater Treatment (WT) evaluation study. They found that the WT facility is well operated and maintained. The WT facility

performance is excellent and treatment costs are below national and state averages. Permit compliance is good and they recommended the City continue to do compliance testing for samples that need testing immediately after collection.

The report also showed that the City will need to modify the WT plant 10-15 years down the road in order to stay in compliance with state mandates. The study identified several areas that could be improved to optimize the performance of the plant and reduce costs. The study also considered five treatment and disposal strategies that included three lagoon systems. The study concluded that the present mechanical treatment plant and surface water discharge was the recommended choice because they felt this option would be more cost effective in the future than other alternatives.

Effluent Recovery Study – Report

In December 2005, the City entered into an agreement with Bartlett and West for Phase I of a 2005 Wastewater Reuse Study (Effluent Recovery) at a cost of \$6,600. Over the last several months, City staff has worked with Lavene Brenden of Bartlett and West in executing the study and preparing a report of the findings of Phase I of the study.

City Manager Randy Gustafson stated that this study was commissioned in order to study the possibility of moving effluent discharge to a point west of Hays in order to recharge the Big Creek aquifer.

Public Works Director Brenda Herrman stated that it will cost approximately \$1.4 million to lay a 10 inch pipeline estimated to be 4 miles long and for the installation of additional pumps. Should the Commission decide to pursue Phase II of the Study, at a cost of \$35,000, it would include:

- Site selection
- Pump and pipe sizing
- Preliminary facility layout
- Additional discharge point application to KDHE
- Updated project cost estimates

- 30% design drawings

The City Manager recommended that before proceeding with Phase II the City request a step-by-step proposal from Bartlett and West that would identify activities with cost figures.

The Commissioners were in agreement with the City Manager.

Ash Street Waterline Bids

The following bids were received for the replacement of the old 4" waterline on Ash Street from 20th to 27th Street with an 8" waterline:

APAC	\$432,245
J Corp	\$381,634

The City's engineer for this project estimated the replacement cost to be \$501,677. \$466,000 was budgeted in the 2006 Budget. He reviewed both proposals and found both to be valid and recommended awarding the contract to J Corp. J Corp has indicated that the earliest date they can start the project would be November 15, 2006.

The Commissioners will be requested to consider approval of the bid from J Corp at the September 28, 2006 Commission meeting.

East 27th Street Safety, 4-Way Stop at Indian Trail

Commissioner Schwaller requested that staff study 27th Street from Hall Street to Canterbury Road, specifically the area between Fort Street and Indian Trail, to identify the most dangerous intersections and what can be done to make these intersections safer.

The City Manager stated that staff will report back to the Commission sometime after January 2007.

Water Alternatives

Timothy Kohtz, a Boy Scout from Troop 101, addressed the Commission about a plan he developed to bring water to Hays from the Gulf of Mexico.

Executive Session

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Barbara Wasinger seconded, that the Governing Body recess to executive session at 7:04 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss water issues and confer with the City Attorney. The executive session included the City Commissioners, the City Manager, the Finance Director, and the City Attorney. The justification for the executive session was that conferring with the City Attorney is covered by attorney-client privilege.

Vote: Ayes: Wayne Billinger
Barbara Wasinger
Henry Schwaller IV
Kent Steward

Chairperson Billinger called the work session back to order at 7:15 p.m. He state no action was taken during executive session.

The work session was adjourned.

Submitted by:_____