

City of Hays
City Commission
Work Session Notes
November 20, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.

Present: Henry Schwaller IV, Eber Phelps, Shaun Musil, Ron Mellick, Kent Steward, John Bird, Toby Dougherty

November 6, 2014 Work Session Notes

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the work session held on November 6, 2014; the minutes stand approved as presented.

Stacie Minson and FHSU Leadership 310 Class – Water Conservation Project Update

Jay Kindler and Eric Nelson with the Fort Hays State University Leadership 310 class gave the Commission a brief update on their water conservation project. Their group is also hosting a water conservation event in association with the November 29, 2014 Fort Hays State University basketball game. The event will include games, text-to-win trivia, prizes, and t-shirts.

City of Hays Employee Health Insurance for 2015

Erin Giebler, Director of Human Resources reported on the 2015 Health Insurance rates. City staff requested bids, and the lowest responsible bid was from the City's current provider, Coventry Health Care, which results in an increase of 19.5% over current rates. The increased premiums are the result of higher utilization over the last three years. This puts us collectively \$78,000 over the cap imposed by the City Commission; however, there was some contingency money carried forward from 2014 which allows the City to absorb this \$78,000 and still provide health insurance to the City employees of Hays at no cost to them.

Staff recommends renewing the City's health insurance with Coventry Health Care, keeping the same plan currently being offered.

Commissioner Steward expressed his concern that employees do not contribute to the cost of health insurance premiums. In the future he would like the commission to consider a plan whereby City employees contribute to health care costs.

At the November 25, 2014 Commission meeting, Commissioners will be requested to authorize the City Manager to sign the 2015 Coventry Health Care Plan application in the estimated premium amount of \$1,797,641 to provide health insurance to our employees paid out of the Employee Benefit Levy Fund.

Bike Hays – Authority to Award KDOT Contracts and Commitment of Funds

In February 2013, staff submitted an application to Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) for Transportation Enhancement funding to finance the construction of the Bike Hays improvements which include an on-street system and multi-purpose path along the levee.

In September 2013 engineering was contracted to meet KDOT requirements for two separate projects:

- On street routes consisting of approximately seven miles of bike lanes and eleven miles of shared routes.
- A 10' wide concrete trail on the levee mostly through FHSU campus from W 8th Street to Main Street spanning 2.25 miles.

Construction bids for both projects were opened at KDOT in Topeka on October 22nd. The low bidder for the on-street routes is APAC of Hays, and the low bidder for the levee trail is Bryant & Bryant Construction of Halstead, Kansas. The KDOT contract states that the contractors cannot start before March 1, 2015, and must start by July 1, 2015. The on-street routes have 55 working days to complete and the levee trail project must be completed in 50 working days. Therefore, construction would occur sometime after March 1st and be completed by the fall of 2015. The construction contracts would be awarded and administered by KDOT.

KDOT is requesting the City to authorize the award of contracts for the construction of pedestrian & bicycle paths. The two projects consist of on-street routes covering approximately 18 miles of street and levee trail covering approximately 2.5 miles with the City share of costs being \$393,121. Both projects are part of a Transportation Enhancement Grant covering 60% of eligible costs. The City Commission previously allocated \$491,000 in Special Parks and Stormwater funds to cover the cost of these projects.

At the November 26, 2014 Commission meeting, Commissioners will be requested to approve the following Resolutions:

- Resolution authorizing KDOT to award a contract to APAC Kansas, Inc. Shears Division in the amount of \$346,114.50 for the construction of pedestrian & bicycle paths (on-street routes) and committing City funds in the amount of \$167,025 to be paid to KDOT on or before December 11, 2014.
- Resolution authorizing KDOT to award a contract to Bryant & Bryant Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$495,932.57 for the construction of pedestrian & bicycle paths (levee trail) and committing City funds in the amount of \$226,096 to be paid to KDOT on or before December 11, 2014.

Recycling Truck – Award of Bid

The existing recycling truck is reaching the end of its service life and needs to be replaced. Bids were solicited from various truck and packer body manufacturers, and the low bid was from Lang Diesel of Hays for a single axle, two compartment, 16 cubic yard recycling truck in the amount of \$172,849, which is less than the \$193,250 identified on the Fleet Replacement in the 2014 budget for the purchase of a new recycling truck.

At the November 26, 2014 Commission meeting, Commissioners will be requested to accept the bid from Lang Diesel for a single axle, two compartment recycling truck in the amount of \$172,849 to be funded out of the Solid Waste Reserve.

S & W Alley Pavement – Resolution to Establish Benefit District

Property owners have petitioned the City for the paving of the alley west of Allen Street between 7th and 8th Street in the H.P. Wilson Addition to the City of Hays. The engineer's estimate for total construction cost is \$60,000 to be financed 100% by special assessment over 10 years. There is no City share of cost for over sizing or otherwise.

At the November 26, 2014 Commission meeting, Commissioners will be requested to approve the Resolution authorizing the creation of a special benefit district for alley pavement improvements in Block 4 of the HP Wilson Addition in the estimated amount of \$60,000.

S & W Alley Pavement – Engineering Services Agreement

Property owners have petitioned the City for the paving of the alley west of Allen Street between 7th and 8th Street in the HP Wilson Addition to the City of Hays. Ruder Engineering and Surveying, LLC has prepared a contract for engineering services to include engineering design, contractor solicitation, construction engineering, and warranty inspection for concrete pavement of approximately 450 feet of alley in Block 4 of the HP Wilson addition to the City of Hays. The contract is for a not-to-exceed amount of \$4,900.

At the November 26, 2014 Commission meeting, Commissioners will be requested to authorize the Mayor to sign the Engineering Services Agreement with Ruder Engineering & Surveying, LLC for professional services related to alley pavement improvements in Block 4 of the HP Wilson Addition in an amount not to exceed \$4,900.

Update FHWA Urban Area Boundary and Functional Classification

KDOT has requested the City to consider updating the Urban Area Boundary and Functional Classification Map for the City of Hays. The proposed change to the Urban Area Boundary (UAB) is due to the change in the 2010 Census Urban Cluster for Hays. The only significant change is adding the Hays Regional Airport Property to the UAB. The change to the Functional

Classification Map is to relieve the City from requirements of the current Federal Transportation Program imposed on primary arterial roadways. Both the Hays Area Planning Commission and Ellis County staff support the proposed changes. The proposed changes have no impact on the eligibility of State or Federal transportation project funding.

At the December 11, 2014 City Commission meeting, Commissioners will be requested to approve the following resolutions pending Ellis County Commissioner concurrence:

- Resolution approving the update of the Urban Area Boundary for the City of Hays.
- Resolution approving the update of the Functional Classification System for the City of Hays.

2015 Street Maintenance Program

Each year staff evaluates the condition of city streets and develops a maintenance program that is brought forward for Commission consideration. Staff utilizes the most recent street condition data, traffic counts, and available dollars in developing the program. The 2015 Special Highway Budget includes \$658,082 in the Budgeted Projects line item for maintenance and repair projects. Setting aside \$20,000 for the sidewalk rebate program leaves about \$638,000 available for street maintenance. The plan includes chip seal, polypatch, curb and brick repair, two major rehabilitation projects, as well as some funding for in-house asphalt and concrete patching and crack sealing. Upon direction, staff will solicit bids for work to be contracted out, and bring bids back to the City Commission for final approval after the first of the year.

Chairperson Schwaller stated that when he came on the Commission there had been no work done in quite some time and does not want to leave this for someone else to deal with. He would like a long-term strategy going forward in order to vote for this.

City Manager Toby Dougherty stated this is the money we have available for maintenance and will present a long term strategy after the first of the year for street replacement.

Other Items for Discussion

Chairperson Schwaller requested the Community Improvement District policy be brought back for review at a future work session. He would like to discuss changing the policy to require a financial commitment from the developer that is applying for a Community Improvement District.

Executive Session

Ron Mellick moved, Eber Phelps seconded, that the Governing Body recess to executive session at 7:30 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss possible property acquisition and pending litigation. The executive session included the City Commission, the City Manager, the Assistant City Manager, and the City Attorney. K.S.A. 75-4319 authorizes the use of executive session to discuss the topics stated in the motion.

Vote: Ayes: Henry Schwaller IV
Eber Phelps
Shaun Musil
Ron Mellick
Kent Steward

No action was taken during the executive session.

The work session was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Brenda Kitchen – City Clerk