

City of Hays  
City Commission  
Work Session Notes  
December 4, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.

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

**November 20, 2014 Work Session Notes**

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the work session held on November 20, 2014; the minutes stand approved as presented.

**Joint Meeting – City of Hays/Hays Recreation Commission**

The City of Hays contracts with the Hays Recreation Commission (HRC) to manage area pools and for all scheduling needs of the various recreational areas in Hays; such as ball fields, soccer fields and the new Bickle-Schmidt Sports Complex. Each year the HRC and the City of Hays conduct a joint meeting to discuss general operations and/or any other facility needs or expectations that may need to be addressed.

Roger Bixenman, HRC Superintendent, reported that the attendance at the Hays Aquatic Park increased in 2014 with 48,528 patrons visiting the pool when compared to 46,270 in 2013. Likewise, the attendance at Wilson Pool increased from 3,740 patrons in 2013 to 3,836 in 2014.

The HRC is requesting a 50% reimbursement, as outlined in the Pool Services Agreement, for the operational losses at Wilson Pool and the Hays Aquatic Park totaling \$15,920.28. The total reimbursement request from the City of Hays is one-half of this amount or \$7,960.14. The 2013 request for half of the pool loss was \$20,451. The reduction in the 2014 request is due to increased attendance, new daily fee for those 18 and older as well as optimal operations.

Jeff Boyle, Director of Parks, stated the Bickle-Schmidt Sports Complex report from the HRC shows a total profit of \$15,940.84. The City's year-to-date

expenditures (November 13, 2014) from the Bickle-Schmidt Sports Complex total \$163,832. The current contract states that the HRC and the Hays City Commission agree to conduct a joint meeting to discuss the financial profit/loss of the facility for the year including disbursement of funds as needed or as agreed upon by both parties. The contract expires in 2018 and does not specify what happens with any surplus or shortfall. City staff does not have a recommendation at this time and would like to see one more year of operational data.

### **Addendum to the IAFF Local 2119 Union Contract**

The City of Hays and the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local 2119 have an agreement for fiscal year 2015 wages, and administration of the pay plan. The agreement states the City will provide members of the IAFF bargaining unit with a one-time 2% bonus, paid bi-weekly beginning with the first payroll in 2015 and ending with the last payroll in 2015. The City will continue the current pay ranges.

At the December 11, 2014 Commission meeting, Commissioners will be requested to authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and Fire Chief to sign the 2015 Addendum to the 2013 thru 2015 IAFF Local 2119 Union Contract.

### **2015 Job Classification and Pay Plan**

Each year city ordinance requires the adoption of a pay plan and job classification by resolution. The 2015 budget contains these salary changes. Erin Giebler, Director of Human Resources, stated City staff recommends adoption of the 2015 pay plan and job classification which includes a one-time 2% bonus for payroll year 2015, while keeping the City's current pay ranges. Employees will be paid this bonus as they accrue it.

At the December 11, 2014 Commission meeting, Commissioners will be requested to adopt the 2015 job classification and pay plan resolution that includes a one-time 2% bonus for payroll year 2015, while keeping the City's current pay ranges.

### **Passenger Facilitation Charge**

Under the guidance and authorization of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Passenger Facilitation Charge (PFC) Program allows the collection of PFC fees up to \$4.50 for every boarded passenger at commercial airports controlled by public agencies. Airports use these fees to fund FAA approved projects that enhance safety, security, or capacity; reduce noise; or increase air carrier competition.

ID Creech, Director of Public Works, reported in August of 2014 the Commission authorized staff to begin the application process to implement the PFC. This process involved notification to the public and carrier as well as a public hearing on the matter. These steps are complete and staff is requesting authorization to make a formal application to the FAA to begin implementation. If approved, the fee could be in place by February 1, 2015 and could generate approximately \$58,000 annually.

At the December 11, 2014 Commission meeting, Commissioners will be requested to authorize the City Manager to make a formal application to the FAA to begin implementation of the PFC per ticketed passenger flying SkyWest Airlines out of the Hays Regional Airport for the Terminal Improvement Project and the 4-22 Runway Rehabilitation/ Maintenance Project.

### **Request to Lift Water Watch Restrictions**

Bernie Kitten, Utilities Director, introduced Johnny O'Connor, the new Assistant Director of Utilities.

The drought response section of the City's Water Conservation Plan details the triggers for moving into, and out of the various phases of the plan: Watch, Warning, and Emergency. In September 2012 the City of Hays enacted the water watch phase as conditions in the Smoky Hill River well field warranted such a move. Since 2012 the City has moved in and out of the warning phase of the drought response plan as conditions warranted.

The City of Hays is currently in the first stage of its drought response plan: water watch. Current conditions, projections, and plan triggers in the Smoky Hill and Big Creek well fields do not warrant remaining in this status. City staff suggests removing the water watch.

Bernie Kitten, Utilities Director, stated while the area is still abnormally dry, based upon water levels in the Smoky Hill River wells and the Big Creek wells, usage, and moisture predictions; it is safe to lift the water watch restrictions. He also stated with worst case conditions, we won't hit water watch triggers until September, 2015.

Commissioners will be requested to approve the resolution removing the water watch restrictions at the December 11, 2014 Commission meeting.

#### **Other Items for Discussion**

City Manager, Toby Dougherty, presented information on a non-profit group called Strong Town Organization. He stated this is a proactive response to infrastructure growth to keep the City strong. He shared a short video with the Commissioners and stated City staff will study this program as a group project.

Commissioner Steward commented there is an issue that is going before the Board of Zoning Appeals regarding a salvage operation to be located adjacent to 13<sup>th</sup> Street. He stated this is out of the Commissioners hands and this is for the Board of Zoning Appeals to decide. He requested that City staff report back to the Commissioners on these extreme zoning areas so they can look at it and consider making changes so they can be ahead of the game instead of behind it.

The work session was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

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

Brenda Kitchen – City Clerk