

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON APRIL 24, 2003

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, April 24, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Troy Hickman
Sunell Koerner
Kent Steward
Wayne Billinger
Henry Schwaller IV

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

2. MINUTES: There were no objections to the April 10, 2003 minutes and the minutes were approved as written.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT: City Clerk Susie Berger stated that revenue received in April for sales tax collection exceeded last year's collection by \$1,346. However, for the year, sales tax collection is down by \$34,610 compared to 2002.

Wayne Billinger moved, Sunell Koerner seconded, that the Financial Statement for March 2003 be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Sunell Koerner
Kent Steward
Wayne Billinger
Henry Schwaller IV

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS: There were no comments.

5. CONSENT AGENDA: Henry Schwaller IV moved, Kent Steward seconded, that (A.) Park Leases be approved for the use of Municipal Park by Midwest Energy on May 31, 2003, and A-1 Plank & Scaffold Mfg., Inc. on August 16,

2003; and that **(B.)** Resolution No. 427, being a resolution authorizing the City of Hays or its designated agent to abate nuisances located on the property at 1714 Eisenhower, be approved.

Commissioner Koerner suggested that repeat nuisance abatement offenders be assessed an additional fine and that this issue be reviewed further.

City Manager Randy Gustafson stated staff is preparing a report on repeat offenders of nuisance abatements, which will be available in the near future.

The Chairperson called for the vote.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Sunell Koerner
Kent Steward
Wayne Billinger
Henry Schwaller IV

NEW BUSINESS

6. PARKS DEPARTMENT DRINKING FOUNTAIN PURCHASE: City Manager Randy Gustafson recommended the purchase of four drinking fountains from Watkins Products for \$5,585 for use in various City parks. The 2003 Budget set aside \$7,600 for this purpose. The fountains are made of industrial plastic and it is felt that these types of fountains would provide more longevity than the concrete and powder coated steel ones the City currently has in place. The bids received varied in price from a low of \$3,000 to a high of \$8,580.

Commissioner Schwaller stated industrial plastics do have a tendency to deteriorate. He feels they will be prone to stress cracks. If the useful life of a water fountain is 10 years, regardless if it is concrete, steel, or plastic, he would be more comfortable selecting one that will last the longest and is the cheapest.

Parks Director Jeff Boyle stated the City has had more luck with the metal powder coated steel fountains than with concrete fountains. The industrial plastic fountains are used in Topeka, Denver, and several cities in Nebraska. None of those cities have experienced problems with the industrial plastic fountains. If the

industrial plastic fountains aren't chosen, his preference would be to select the powder coated steel fountains.

Wayne Billinger moved, Kent Steward seconded, that the bid from Watkins Products in the amount of \$5,885 for the purchase of four water fountains be accepted.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Sunell Koerner
Kent Steward
Wayne Billinger
Henry Schwaller IV

7. DOERFLER'S HARLEY DAVIDSON SANITARY SEWER CONNECTION:

Brian Doerfler, owner of the new Harley Davidson building on 43rd Street, requested to be connected to an existing sewer line. This particular sewer line was part of a Special Assessment District established in 1996. Mr. Doerfler has agreed to pay his fair share (\$7,219.85) to connect to this line.

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Sunell Koerner seconded, that the request by Brian Doerfler for connection to the sanitary sewer line per K.S.A. 12-6a19, be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman
Sunell Koerner
Kent Steward
Wayne Billinger
Henry Schwaller IV

8. REPORT OF CITY MANAGER: City Manager Gustafson stated the City has received notification that the Corridor Grants have been approved by KDOT and the City will be able to proceed with the reverse access roads as planned.

City Manager Gustafson handed out a memorandum explaining the cost of various projects occurring north of I-70. The projects include the reverse access roads between 45th and 55th Streets on the east and west sides of US 183, along with a portion of 48th Street on the east side, the System Enhancement Project along US 183 and 43rd Street construction. The estimated

cost is \$12,800,000, with the City share being \$2,260,000. These costs do not include storm sewers. The City is working with KDOT to encourage them to include storm sewers in the grant. The City may have to install storm sewers without any grant funding.

Commissioner Schwaller commented on the recent Hays Daily News article regarding affordable housing. He wanted to clarify that there is enough affordable housing in Hays, however, the federal government and the state have not released enough Section 8 vouchers for affordable housing.

Commissioner Schwaller commented on economic development in downtown Hays. It took over a year to put together a revitalization district that entailed a lot of work and discussion. The City also paid for a consultant to look at the feasibility of that project. He is bewildered by a recent editorial that criticized the Commission for trying to do due diligence with tax payers money before the City invests any additional funds for retail development north of I-70.

Commissioner Billinger added that this City Commission is in favor of new development and progress. A lot of money has been spent on developing the infrastructure north of I-70. This Commission just wants to be fair to every retail business in Hays.

Commissioner Steward agreed with Commissioners Schwaller and Billinger. He commented that the public is excited about the possibility of new retail business in Hays, however, he is concerned about the type of incentives the City gives to new retailers. He is willing to work to find a solution that is in the best interests of the community.

Commissioner Koerner stated the City shouldn't rush into making any quick decisions. It is important to take time to study all of our available resources, options, and opportunities and make decisions that are fair to all taxpayers.

Thereupon the Governing Body adjourned.

Submitted by: _____

Clerk of the Board

