

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON AUGUST 8, 2002

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, August 8, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Henry Schwaller IV
Troy Hickman
Sunell Koerner
Dick Bedard
Larry Schmidt

Mayor Schwaller stated that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

2. MINUTES: Sunell Koerner moved, Troy Hickman seconded, that the minutes of the regular session held on July 25, 2002, be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Henry Schwaller IV
Troy Hickman
Sunell Koerner
Dick Bedard
Larry Schmidt

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS: Congressman Jerry Moran requested the Commissioners and City of Hays officials sign a banner that will be presented to our soldiers fighting the war on terrorism. The banner will be presented to our American soldiers serving in Afghanistan and aboard the USS George Washington.

Art Moran, pastor and branch president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, introduced Boy Scout Troop #189 who were in attendance to earn a communication merit badge.

4. CONSENT ITEMS: There were none.

NEW BUSINESS

5. DOCKING INSTITUTE: Brett Zollinger, representing the Fort Hays State University Docking Institute of Public Affairs, presented the 2002 Hays City Services Survey.

Citizens were asked to rate the overall city government performance and services provided by the City. They were also asked to rate fire protection, future flood prevention, business development and recruitment, and shopping choices.

The survey found that overall, satisfaction with city services tends to be high and similar to satisfactions levels observed in previous survey years, 1996 and 1999. The areas most consistently showing improved ratings are trash collection, parks and fire protection. The areas showing least satisfaction are road maintenance, intersection traffic, shelter and picnic facilities, playground equipment, tennis courts and basketball courts.

6. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – SALES TAX INITIATIVE:

The one-half cent sales tax will expire April 1, 2003. A continuation of the sales tax will require voter approval at the November election. The Community Development Finance Advisory Committee studied and evaluated a wide variety of projects to be funded by a future city sales tax. Lloyd Riedel and James Dress, representing the Community Development Finance Advisory Committee, presented the recommendations of the Committee.

The CDFAC recommended that voters be allowed to consider a 10-year extension of the existing one-half cent sales tax. Currently, the sales tax generates approximately \$2 million each year. Over a ten-year period, this would generate over \$20 million. The Committee recommended that \$2 million be allocated to public safety facilities, \$9 million to streets and storm water maintenance, \$5 million to economic development and \$5 million to parks and recreation. The Committee recommends a pay-as-we-go plan with no increase in City debt.

City Manager Randy Gustafson stated the CDFAC has been asked to attend the next work session to further discuss the recommendations and the possibility of a city-county sales tax initiative.

7. 2001 AUDIT REPORT (ADAMS, BROWN, BERAN & BALL): Ken Beran, representing Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, reviewed the 2001 Audit with the Commission.

8. 2003 BUDGET HEARING:

9. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATES: The Comprehensive Plan assists in planning for future growth and development by addressing existing and future land use and traffic circulation. The Plan, which was adopted in 1994 by the City of Hays and Ellis County is reviewed periodically and if appropriate, changes are made to reflect any changes in development trends.