

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON MAY 9, 2002

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, May 9, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.

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

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

2. MINUTES: Sunell Koerner moved, Dick Bedard seconded, that the minutes of the regular session held on April 25, 2002 be approved.

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

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS: Ed Dies, representing the Hays Lions Club, presented a check for \$1,000 to the City of Hays Park Department for the planting of 15 trees at the Dan Rupp Memorial Northridge Park which is sponsored by the Lions Club.

Harlan Murphy, chairman of the Hays Housing Authority, presented the 2001 annual report for that organization. HHA manages the 30 low-income units known as Sunrise Apartments.

Sue Rouse, executive director of United Way of Ellis County, and Christie Brungardt, vice-president of the board of directors and chairperson of the CARE Council, invited the community to a Community Mobilization Conference to be

held June 7, 2002. The goal of the conference is to create partnerships for a stronger community.

Terry Mannell, Ellis County Extension Horticulture Agent, expressed his concern about the landscape watering that will be done at the Aibel-Bickle Park. The Park & Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee has recommended that fescue grass be planted on all fourteen acres in the park. It will take between 5.7 million to 7.0 million gallons of water to maintain that type of grass. He urged the Commission to plant bermuda grass in the areas that will not be used for soccer fields. Bermuda grass does not require as much water or fertilizer as fescue, consequently, it will be less costly and more in line with the City's water conservation efforts.

Commissioner Koerner and Mayor Schwaller agreed with Mr. Mannell.

Commissioner Schmidt stated soccer fields would take up the south nine acres and the north part will be for pick-up games and practice. Over 20,000 citizens will enjoy this park; there is very little green area in Hays. Most of the other City parks will be planted in buffalo or bermuda. The Park and Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee has investigated other options, however, at this time, fescue is the correct type of grass to be planted in this park.

Discussion was held about various types of grass.

Mayor Schwaller stated the Commission would consider Mr. Mannell's concerns.

4. CONSENT ITEMS: Troy Hickman moved, Dick Bedard seconded, that the following mayoral appointments be approved:

Airport Advisory Board

Mary Sprenkel – 3-year term expiring April 30, 2005

Errol Wuertz – 3-year term expiring April 30, 2005

ADA Committee

Michael Flesher – 3-year term expiring May 1, 2005

Library Board

Beth Bowerman – 4-year term expiring April 30, 2006

Lynn Haggard – 4-year term expiring April 30, 2006

Wellhead Protection

John Heinrichs – 3-year term expiring May 1, 2005

Vote: Ayes: Henry Schwaller IV

Troy Hickman

Sunell Koerner

Dick Bedard

Larry Schmidt

NEW BUSINESS

5. PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT – 41ST STREET PLAZA

4TH ADDITION: Proposed improvements to the 41st Street Plaza 4th Addition include street paving, water main installation, sanitary sewer installation and storm sewer installation. The developer will provide for 30% of the actual cost of the improvements and the remaining 70% will be assessed equally, over the next 15 years, between the 29 lots within the proposed benefit district.

Troy Hickman moved, Sunell Koerner seconded, that Resolution No. 404, being a resolution determining the advisability of the making of certain internal improvements in the City of Hays, Kansas, making certain findings with respect thereto; and authorizing and providing for the making of the improvements in accordance with such findings (water, sewer, storm sewer and street improvements/41st Plaza 4th Addition), be approved.

Vote: Ayes: Henry Schwaller IV

Troy Hickman

Sunell Koerner

Dick Bedard

Larry Schmidt

6. 41st STREET PLAZA FOURTH ADDITION CONTRACT FOR

IMPROVEMENTS: Western Plains Service Corporation, the developer of 41st Street Plaza Fourth Addition, has chosen Bucher, Willis and Ratliff to provide engineering services at a cost not to exceed \$49,900.

Dick Bedard moved, Sunell Koerner seconded, that the City enter into a contract with Western Plains Service Corporation and Bucher, Willis and Ratliff to complete improvements to and within the 41st Street Plaza Fourth Addition at a cost not to exceed \$49,900.

Vote: Ayes: Henry Schwaller IV

Troy Hickman

Sunell Koerner

Dick Bedard

Larry Schmidt

7. PUBLIC WHOLESALE WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT (PWWSD #15):

Lavern Squier, president of Public Wholesale Water Supply District #15, stated PWWSD #15 members have approved changing the plans for the South Russell Project and doing the Project in two phases. Phase I would include a downsized water line, removal of the reverse osmosis treatment plant, and removal of an injection well that accompanied the treatment plant. These changes would save \$6-8 million. Phase II would extend the line to Kanapolis Lake.

Jim Aubel, secretary of PWWSD #15, reviewed the recent study that was conducted by Bob Vincent from Ground Water Associates, Inc. Mr. Vincent's report concluded that wells drilled further east would provide fresher water and would not need to be treated by a reverse osmosis treatment plant.

John Ratzlaff, member of PWWSD #15, spoke of the water quality of Kanapolis Lake. The quality of the raw water looks good; however, the District will be conducting further studies.

Alan States, treasurer of PWWSD #15, reviewed the U. S. Drought Monitor from February 2002 to May 2002 and the minimum desirable stream flows at Ellsworth. Mr. States reviewed the project costs associated with the two

phases. Phase I, which would yield 1500 + acre-feet, would cost \$16.4 million. Phase II, which would yield 4,500 acre-feet by extending the line to Kanapolis, would cost an additional \$23.6 million.

City Manager Randy Gustafson noted that the Schoenchen Well Field would still be the primary source of water for the City of Hays. This project is part of a larger plan for supplying water for the next 20-50 years.

Commissioner Schmidt stated he felt the option of taking water from Wilson Lake would be the best option for the least cost.

Mr. States responded that a reverse osmosis treatment plant would need to be built to treat the salinity of the Wilson water, the operation and maintenance costs would be higher, and it is not clear the state wants to sell the water.

Mr. Aubel suggested a third party perform a quick review of the project, look at the option chosen by PWWSD #15, see if there is anything that looks wrong, and make any changes if necessary. The District has time to analyze all options. It shouldn't take more than a month or two for an engineering firm to analyze the options.

Commissioner Hickman stated he thinks the Commission should endorse the project concept and allow the District to carry on with their duties.

Commissioner Schmidt stated that spending \$17 million and going to Wilson would provide drought protection in two years time. Spending \$16 million on the South Russell Project does not provide drought protection. He agreed with Mr. Aubel about bringing in a third party to study the Project.

Commissioner Bedard stated he is satisfied with the Phase I and Phase II options presented this evening. He supports the recommendation of the District.

Commissioner Hickman stated he felt the District should discuss whether to have a third party review and bring a recommendation back to this Commission.

The consensus of the Commission was to follow Commissioner Hickman's suggestion.

8. COMMISSION INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: There were no comments.

9. ADD-ON ITEMS: Commissioner Hickman requested that the crosswalk located at 32nd Street and Vine that was removed during the Vine Street renovation be reinstalled.

Mayor Schwaller stated he received a letter from the Kansas Department of Transportation about a meeting to discuss severing the Mopar Drive and 41st Street entrances leading onto Highway 183 north of I-70. The meeting will be held on May 20th. He encouraged the Commissioners and staff to attend this meeting. He requested the property owners in that area be contacted about the meeting.

Thereupon the Governing Body adjourned.

Submitted by: _____

Clerk of the Board