

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
THE GOVERNING BODY OF  
THE CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS  
HELD ON  
OCTOBER 23, 2003

**1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN:** The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas, met in regular session on Thursday, October 23, 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 corrections to the October 9, 2003 minutes; they were approved as written.

**3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** City Clerk Susie Berger pointed out that sales tax revenues for the first nine months of the year are \$87,344 higher than for the same time period last year.

Sunell Koerner moved, Kent Steward seconded, that the Financial Statement for the month of September 2003 be approved.

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

**4. HAYS EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:** Chairperson Hickman recognized the following employees for their years of service:

10-Year Awards: Richard Wright – Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Shawn Swift – Wastewater Treatment Plant

Doug Schulte – Fire Department

Don Scheibler – Police Department

Karen Randa - Planning-Inspection-Enforcement

Tim Huck – Water Plant

Dave Faulkner – Fire Department

25-Year Awards: Jerry Degenhardt – Fire Department

Ken Collins – Police Department

40-Year Awards: Susie Berger – City Clerk/Finance Office

**5. CITIZEN COMMENTS:** Norman Mermis, owner/operator of Top Notch Cleaners, 207 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, expressed his concern about the 8<sup>th</sup> Street reconstruction project that is to commence in 2006. If the street is widened as planned and parallel parking is done away with, valuable parking space will be lost. He is concerned about how this will affect the businesses in the area.

Commissioner Steward stated that Mr. Mermis has some valid points. He requested Public Works staff address Mr. Mermis' concerns and report back to the Commission.

Mark Bannister, vice-president of the Downtown Hays Development Corporation (DHDC), also expressed his concern about the widening of 8<sup>th</sup> Street from Fort Street west to Elm Street. He feels this is detrimental to the purposes that DHDC is working towards. 8<sup>th</sup> Street is the primary connection to Fort Hays State University and if 8<sup>th</sup> Street is widened it will harm the visual nature of that area. Most of the existing trees will need to be removed in order to create a wider, concrete street. This will also make it harder for pedestrians to cross. Property values in the area will be harmed. He urged the Commission to continue the continuity of two lanes on West 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

Melvina Cutright, owner of Quizno's, 135 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, expressed her concern about the improvements and the effect on businesses along 8<sup>th</sup> Street. She also encouraged the Commission to use our heritage as a theme in the downtown area.

Charlotte Linsner, representing the Northwest Kansas Family Shelter, thanked the Commissioners for the support the Shelter receives from the City of Hays.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA:** Henry Schwaller IV moved, Sunell Koerner seconded, that Greg Schwartz be re-appointed to the Northwest Kansas Community Corrections Board, with a term to expire on November 1, 2005.

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**7. ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR MASSEY PARK:** The Parks Department is requesting the acceptance of a proposal from Bucher, Willis and Ratliff for architectural services relating to Massey Park in accordance with the Park Master Plan. Three proposals were submitted with Bucher, Willis and Ratliff submitting the lowest bid in the amount of \$5,250.

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Sunell Koerner seconded, that the City Manager be authorized to enter into a contract with Bucher, Willis and Ratliff for architectural services for Massey Park in the amount of \$5,250.

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

**8. SIGNALIZATION – 32<sup>ND</sup> AND 33<sup>RD</sup> INTERSECTION ON VINE STREET:** In the early design stage of the Vine Street Enhancement Project, consideration was given to simple lens covers which would restrict the view of the signal lights from the untargeted driver. The type specified was not accepted by KDOT, and

therefore was not included in the plans. It is estimated to cost \$10,000 to add four optically limiting lenses at the 32<sup>nd</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup> Street intersection on Vine Street.

Police Department records indicate that there have been 14 accidents at that intersection in the last three years. Two accidents have occurred since the new signals were activated in June 2003.

Commissioner Schwaller stated this area has been a problem for 30 years. He does support installing these lenses but would like to see the cost of these lenses shared with the architects or the State if at all possible.

Henry Schwaller IV moved, Troy Hickman seconded, that the purchase of optically limiting lenses at an estimated cost of no more than \$10,000 be approved.

Commissioner Steward commented that the Commission is not qualified to be traffic engineers. He would rather wait until a traffic study is completed before addressing this issue.

Commissioner Schwaller stated that this was discussed 10 years ago with a traffic engineer and it was suggested that some kind of lens be put in place then. This is an intersection with a problem that, in his opinion, no traffic engineer can fix.

Chairperson Hickman called for the vote.

Vote: Ayes: Troy Hickman

Sunell Koerner

Wayne Billinger

Henry Schwaller IV

No: Kent Steward

**9. HAYS REGIONAL AIRPORT ACTIVITIES:** Henry Schwaller IV moved, Wayne Billinger seconded, that the following be approved:

**A.** The sale of Hangar A-6 from Farmers Credit Union to Ballard Aviation.

**B.** A lease agreement between the City of Hays and Ballard Aviation involving Hangar A-6 for \$51.56 per month.

C. A lease agreement between the City of Hays and the Kansas Highway Patrol involving Hangar C-8 for \$300 per month.

D. The sale of Hangar G-5 from Ballard Aviation to Larry Patterson.

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

**10. CITY OF HAYS TRAVEL POLICY:** The City of Hays Travel Policy has not been revised since 1998. A revised document was presented to the Commission for approval and implementation.

City Manager Randy Gustafson stated that many of the items contained in this policy are to make the rules clearer and provide appropriate limiting factors. He does not feel there have been any abuses whatsoever.

Wayne Billinger moved, Sunell Koerner seconded, that the revised Travel Policy for the City of Hays be approved.

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

**11. MAYOR APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:** In the past year, staff has been working with the City Commission on evaluating various mayor-appointed boards and committees, and particularly, their missions and/or tasks assigned. As a result of these discussions, a resolution has been prepared that will authorize the deletion of the following 11 committees:

1. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Committee
2. Community Development Finance Advisory Committee
3. Hays Community Foundation
4. Recreation Fitness Trail Committee
5. Smoky Hill Wellfield Consultant Selection Committee

6. Storm Water Advisory Committee
7. Vine Street Enhancement Steering Committee
8. Water Study RFP Committee
9. 2003 CIP Selection Committee
10. Traffic Advisory Committee
11. Park and Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee

The resolution will also instruct the formulation of future committees by resolution, implement an application process for interested citizens willing to serve on these committees, and recognize the City of Hays Handbook for Mayor-appointed Boards and Committees and the general guidelines for all boards and committees to use in their process of operations.

Discussion of the resolution was held and minor changes/corrections were made.

Sunell Koerner moved, Kent Steward seconded, that approval of the resolution be tabled until the November 13<sup>th</sup> regular Commission meeting.

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

**12. REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER:** City Manager Gustafson stated a report has been received on the operation of the Hays Aquatic Park and staff is discussing the renewal of the two agreements the City has with the Hays Recreation Commission. Information will be provided with the agenda packet for the next work session.

**13. COMMISSION INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS:** Commissioner Schwaller thanked everyone in the community who has helped promote the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the release of the motion picture "Paper Moon".

Commissioner Steward requested staff prepare a report on the flow of traffic and the operation of the signal light at 27<sup>th</sup> and Vine Street for northbound traffic.

Commissioner Steward reiterated that he would like to have a report on the concerns raised during the Citizen Comments section of the agenda regarding the 8<sup>th</sup> Street reconstruction.

City Manager Gustafson stated that report would be forthcoming before it goes to KDOT for their review. Any concerns will be addressed at that time.

**14, EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Kent Steward moved, Sunell Koerner seconded, that the Governing Body recess to executive session at 8:55 p.m. for 30 minutes to discuss negotiations involving rights of ways, water issues, and building issues. The justification for the executive session is to not compromise the City's negotiating position. The executive session is to include the Commissioners, the City Manager, the Assistant City Manager, the Public Works Director, and the City Attorney.

Chairperson Hickman noted that the Hays Daily News objects to executive sessions.

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

Chairperson Hickman called the meeting back to order at 9:25 p.m. He stated that no action was taken during executive session.

Thereupon the Governing Body adjourned

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

Clerk of the Board