

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON FEBRUARY 24, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Shaun Musil
Sandy Jacobs
Reese Barrick

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

2. MINUTES: There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 10, 2022; the minutes stand approved as presented.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Kim Rupp, Director of Finance, reviewed the financial summaries of the revenue and expenditure activities of the City of Hays for the month ended January 31, 2022.

Month-to-date (MTD) general fund sales tax collections were at \$734,531, which was another nice increase of \$95,798 or 15% as compared to last year. The six month average is at 15.2%, which was an increase of 12.7% when compared to a year ago. MTD county sales tax collections were at \$88,957 up \$14,320 or 19% from a year ago.

The report of top ten quarter-to-date (QTD) sales tax collections by classification was up \$310,390 or 15%. The largest percentage increases were in electronic shopping at 105%, accomodation at 77%, and merchant wholesalers at 43%. These top ten represent 73% of the total sales tax collections for the running quarter.

The portfolio of certificates of deposit on January 31, 2022 totaled \$10,000,000 with a weighted average interest rate of .05% down .40% from a year ago. The total par value of the US Treasuries is \$38,454,000 with a weighted average yield to maturity of .24%. The total balance of the Money Market account on January 31, 2022 was \$17,750,000 with a current yield of .05%. Total investments are up \$12,330,536.

Shaun Musil moved, Michael Berges seconded, to approve the Financial Report for the month of January, 2022 as presented.

Commissioner Jacobs asked what impact it would have on City sales tax if the sales tax on groceries is eliminated. Mr. Rupp stated the current legislation they are looking at is just the state, so the local sales tax would stay in place on groceries. He added that if the legislation would change to include local sales tax, it would be about a million dollar hit to the City. City Manager, Toby Dougherty, added that it would equate to roughly four mills in property tax in order to offset that.

Vote: Ayes: Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Shaun Musil
Sandy Jacobs
Reese Barrick

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS: There were no comments.

5. CONSENT AGENDA: Approve the Cereal Malt Beverage License for Dollar General Store #23319.

Sandy Jacobs moved, Shaun Musil seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Vote: Ayes: Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Shaun Musil
Sandy Jacobs
Reese Barrick

NEW BUSINESS

6. FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY (FHSU) UPDATE: Dr. Tisa Mason, FHSU President, provided an update in regard to Fort Hays State University. She thanked the Commissioners for the annual \$100,000 City of Hays scholarship investment in the university, which keeps students coming to FHSU and living in the community. She talked about ways the university is working to bring and keep young people living in the area.

Ms. Mason stated FHSU has a longstanding Gateway Program with NCK Technical College which allows those students to live on campus and participate in FHSU student activities and services. The program has expanded recently to include students at the Hays Academy of Hair Design.

Ms. Mason added that beginning with the fall semester FHSU will be offering regional tuition, which is equivalent to in-state tuition to 13 states. This is available only to on campus students. They hope to get students to come to Kansas, to fall in love with Hays, to do their internships and apprenticeships here, and to want to stay and be employed here.

Ms. Mason stated they commissioned the FHSU Docking Institute of Public Affairs to conduct a student survey about employment on and off campus, seeking baseline data and predicting trends. The survey showed that 93% of FHSU students are working and 60% of them are also receiving scholarships and grant assistance. She added that 51% of those students are working on campus and 49% are working off campus.

7. WATER CONSERVATION UPDATES AND 2022 PROGRAMS: Holly Dickman, Water Conservation Specialist, provided an update to the Commission on the Water Conservation Programs and results from 2021.

Ms. Dickman stated that in 2021 rebates were down. High efficiency toilet rebates remained the most popular program of 2021 with 241 toilets replaced. In 2021, \$45,000.00 was budgeted for toilet rebates and \$24,067.90 was paid out. The potential water saved from this program is 1,873,303 gallons or 5.7 acre

feet. She also reviewed the results of the washing machine and turf conversion rebate programs and the showerhead replacement program.

Ms. Dickman reviewed the various educational outreach forms that are in place. In 2021 TV, radio, and digital ads were a big part of the educational outreach/awareness efforts. Social Media continued to be a “go to” platform in 2021, with Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram being used. Followers continue to grow as staff shares information regarding water conservation, water leaks, and upcoming events. Multiple school presentations were given in 2021 to promote water conservation, water quality, the water poster contest, and water smart landscaping.

Ms. Dickman stated she is very excited about the 4H Water Ambassadors Program that began in 2021. This program is a leadership opportunity for teens 13 and older, focusing on the importance of water quality, water conservation, and water careers.

Ms. Dickman added that 2022 may be a different year once again; as the seasonal drought outlook is showing the drought is predicted to persist. She plans to continue to focus more on outdoor water usage as that is where a great deal of waste occurs.

8. ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON EAST 9TH STREET FOR HEART OF AMERICA ADDITION: Jesse Rohr, Director of Public Works, reported that The Heart of America Development Corporation has submitted a signed consent to annex property into the city limits of Hays. The property is located on East 9th Street just east of Commerce Parkway. The property has recently been replatted to expand two lots planned for development. Approval of the annexation will allow the property owner to receive full benefits of city services, including utilities and fire/police protection.

Sandy Jacobs moved, Reese Barrick seconded, to approve Ordinance No. 4008 annexing the property on East 9th Street as legally described within the adopting ordinance.

Vote: Ayes: Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Shaun Musil
Sandy Jacobs
Reese Barrick

9. BICKLE-SCHMIDT SPORTS COMPLEX SPONSORSHIP: Jeff Boyle, Director of Parks, stated City Staff has been working on sponsorship opportunities at the Bickle-Schmidt Sports Complex. Staff has identified multiple locations for sponsorship signs on structures at each field, as well as a premium sponsorship package for each quad that is recommended for public advertisement. The intent of adding sponsorship opportunities is to help pay for future needs at the complex.

Mr. Boyle reviewed what is included in the standard package, the premium package, and the costs. If all packages are sold, the expected annual revenue, including the cost of the logos, would be \$39,400 per year. These funds could be used for future purchases like turf and scoreboards as these are items that will eventually need to be replaced.

The Commissioners spoke in favor of moving forward with this project.

10. HAYS AQUATIC PARK DIVING BOARDS AND STANDS – AWARD OF BID: Jeff Boyle, Director of Parks, stated the Hays Aquatic Park diving boards and stands are in need of replacement. The current diving boards are 11 years old and have been resurfaced once already. The manufacturer of the boards advised staff that the boards cannot be resurfaced a second time. The diving board stands are the original stands that were installed in 1999 and have worn beyond repair. Staff recommends accepting the low bid from Commercial Aquatic Services, Inc., for an amount of \$31,321.46, with funding from the Pool Sales Tax Reserve within the Budget Stabilization Fund. If approved, a balance of \$105,236.78 will remain in the Pool Sales Tax Reserve.

Shaun Musil moved, Michael Berges seconded, to approve the purchase of the Hays Aquatic Park diving boards and stands from Commercial Aquatic

Services, Inc., for an amount of \$31,321.46, with funding from the Pool Sales Tax Reserve within the Budget Stabilization Fund.

Vote: Ayes: Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Shaun Musil
Sandy Jacobs
Reese Barrick

11. HAYS AQUATIC PARK DECK REPLACEMENT – AWARD OF BID: Jeff Boyle, Director of Parks, stated the Hays Aquatic Park south deck is in need of replacement. The deck was originally installed in 1999 when the Hays Aquatic Park was built, and the base platform is rotting away. City staff recommends pouring a colored concrete deck with a broomed, non-slip surface, in lieu of a wooden deck to provide a long-term, maintenance free, deck. One bid was received for this project from JCorp, for an amount of \$9,200.00. Staff recommends accepting the bid with funding from the Pool Sales Tax Reserve within the Budget Stabilization Fund. If approved, the balance of the Pool Sales Tax Reserve will be \$96,036.78.

Michael Berges moved, Sandy Jacobs seconded, to approve the low bid from JCorp, for an amount of \$9,200.00, for the installation of a new concrete deck at the Hays Aquatic Park with funding from the Pool Sales Tax Reserve within the Budget Stabilization Fund.

Vote: Ayes: Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Shaun Musil
Sandy Jacobs
Reese Barrick

12. CITY MANAGER'S EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT – 14TH ADDENDUM: The City Commission, upon the completion of a performance evaluation of the City Manager, has requested that the attached Fourteenth Addendum be attached to the City Manager's existing Employment Agreement.

Sandy Jacobs moved, Shaun Musil seconded, to approve the Fourteenth Addendum to City Manager, Toby Dougherty's Employment Agreement dated June 28, 2007, as presented.

Vote: Ayes: Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Shaun Musil
Sandy Jacobs
Reese Barrick

13. PROGRESS REPORT: Collin Bielser, Assistant City Manager, presented a monthly report of city-related activities, services, and programs.

14. HAYS HAPPENINGS / UPCOMING EVENTS: Melissa Dixon, Director of the Convention and Visitors Bureau, presented information on events that will be going on in Hays during the month of March.

15. COMMISSION INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS: Commissioner Barrick stated he appreciates the work done by all of the City Departments. He thanked FHSU for their forward thinking and innovation and feels it will help the University and the City of Hays to grow.

Commissioner Jacobs reminded everyone about the 3-2-1A Wrestling Tournament in Hays this weekend and thanked Melisa Dixon and the CVB team for everything they do to help with this event. She thanked the Heartland Community Foundation and the Dane G. Hansen Foundation for their fund raising efforts by matching funds to support community grants and foundation operations.

Vice-Mayor Berges congratulated the eight local girls that participated in the girls state wrestling tournament and noted how this sport has grown.

Mayor Ruder stated he looks forward to the many events going on in Hays this weekend. He also reminded everyone to make sure they are registered and ready to vote in the upcoming election.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Brenda Kitchen – City Clerk