

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON JULY 22, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Sandy Jacobs
Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Ron Mellick
Shaun Musil

Mayor Jacobs 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 July 8, 2021; the minutes stand approved as presented.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Finance Director, Kim Rupp, reviewed the financial summaries of the revenue and expenditure activities of the City of Hays for the month ended June 30, 2021.

Month-to-date (MTD) general fund sales tax collections were at \$717,287, which was an increase of \$145,120 or 25% as compared to last year. Year-to-date (YTD), general fund sales tax collections are at \$4,056,187, up \$362,840 or 9.8%. The six month average is at 9.8% which was an increase of 7% when compared to a year ago. MTD county sales tax collections were at \$87,555 with the YTD total at \$491,679.

The report of top ten quarter-to-date (QTD) sales tax collections by classification was up \$269,853 or 14%. The largest percentage increases were in accommodation at 72%, clothing at 66%, and new/used car dealers at 40%.

The portfolio of certificates of deposit on June 30, 2021 totaled \$27,500,000 with a weighted average interest rate of .04% down -1.27% from a year ago. The total par value of the US Treasury Notes is \$5,025,000 with a

weighted average yield to maturity of .06%. The total balance of the Money Market account on June 30, 2021 was \$30,750,000 with a current yield of .05%. Total investments are up \$5,248,000.

Shaun Musil moved, Ron Mellick seconded, to approve the Financial Report for the month of June, 2021 as presented.

Vote: Ayes: Sandy Jacobs
Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Ron Mellick
Shaun Musil

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS: Zach Woolf, Citizen of Hays, spoke to the Commission about the lack of child care/day care in Hays. He said his family has struggled to find daycare in Hays and that they are blessed to have family and friends in town. He added that if it is this difficult to find daycare for someone that lives here imagine how difficult it would be for someone moving here and not knowing anyone.

Mr. Woolf stated he checked with an agency called ChildCare Aware of Kansas who can help families find child care providers in their area. He was told that there are currently no options for infants; which include children under 18 months old. They also told him that 14 in-home daycares have closed in the last two years.

Commissioner Musil noted that he heard on the national news that many people can't go back to work because they can't find childcare. He added that this is a major issue if we want young people to live here.

The Commissioners agreed this is an issue that needs to be addressed, but noted there is no easy solution. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Woolf for taking the initiative to bring it forward for discussion.

5. CONSENT AGENDA: There were no items on the Consent Agenda for consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

6. VEHICLE ABATEMENT AT 607 ELM STREET: Jesse Rohr, Director of Public Works, stated that the abandoned vehicle located in the rear yard at 607 Elm Street has no current legal tag and is not road worthy; factors that deem the vehicle inoperable. Proper notification has been given to the owner of the property, James Davis, and to date no action has been taken. If the vehicle is removed by the City, all costs of abatement will be charged to the owner of the property. Staff has had 20 nuisance or inoperable vehicle cases on this property since 2013.

Ron Mellick moved, Mason Ruder seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2021-010 to abate the vehicle located on the property at 607 Elm Street, 10 days after the approval date.

Vote: Ayes: Sandy Jacobs
Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Ron Mellick
Shaun Musil

7. NUISANCE ABATEMENT AT 3312 LINCOLN DRIVE: Jesse Rohr, Director of Public Works, reported that the property owner of 3312 Lincoln Drive has general nuisance items in violation of City ordinance. All proper notifications have been given to the owner of the property. Since 2012 staff has notified the owner of this property, Arden Kobler, of 10 nuisance and/or inoperable vehicle violations at three of his properties. This is the third nuisance case on this property in the last year. If all nuisance items are removed by the City, all costs of abatement will be charged to the owner of the property.

Mr. Rohr stated as of today the property has been cleaned up by about 85%. He recommended proceeding with the abatement process and if the remaining items are removed before the 10 days is up no action will be taken, but if not the Resolution will authorize them to remove the remaining items.

Mason Ruder moved, Michael Berges seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2021-011 to abate the nuisance items located on the property at 3312 Lincoln Drive, 10 days after the approval date.

Vote: Ayes: Sandy Jacobs
Mason Ruder
Michael Berges
Ron Mellick
Shaun Musil

8. UTILITY TYPE VEHICLES: Collin Bielser, Assistant City Manager, stated that at the April 1, 2021, Work Session, the City Commission first discussed the possibility of allowing Utility Type Vehicles on City of Hays streets. When discussing the matter, the Commission seemed interested in allowing only two types of vehicles: work-site utility vehicles/utility task vehicles and micro utility trucks. The Commission favored a registration system for these types of vehicles, and after some discussion of specific requirements/restrictions, asked staff to provide more information for consideration.

At the June 17, 2021, Work Session City Staff presented a draft Ordinance for consideration. The draft Ordinance included the requested information provided by the Commission at the April 1, 2021, Work Session, but also contained provisions where staff sought further direction. Those areas included a fine structure for proof of insurance violation, suggested registration fee, a registration and license violation structure, location restrictions, time restrictions, and trailer towing capabilities. From that discussion, Commissioners agreed with Staff's proposed fine and fee structure and determined that UTV usage would not be limited to location, time, or trailer towing restrictions. UTV's also cannot operate on State highways other than to cross.

The draft ordinance includes a registration fee of \$100, which must be renewed annually. Proof of insurance violation fees include, a \$300 fine plus \$100 court costs. A three-tiered registration and license violation structure, with fines established at \$150, \$300, and \$500 for violating the license and registration provisions.

Mr. Bielser reviewed the registration process, noting that the applicant must make an appointment online with the Hays Police Department and provide:

- Driver's License
- Proof of Insurance
- Proof of Sales Tax or Exemption
- Payment of \$100.00

Mason Ruder moved, Shaun Musil seconded, to approve Ordinance No. 4000 allowing the use of work-site utility vehicles/utility task vehicles and micro-utility trucks on City of Hays streets.

Vote: Ayes: Sandy Jacobs

Mason Ruder

Michael Berges

Ron Mellick

Shaun Musil

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

10. 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 August.

11. HAYS REGIONAL AIRPORT UPDATE: Jamie Salter, Director of Hays Regional Airport, provided an update on commercial air service and passenger traffic at the airport.

Ms. Salter stated the City's Airline Consultant, ArkStar, provides a monthly review of commercial service for Hays. She noted passenger boardings have rebounded more quickly than originally anticipated following the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic. She stated the Hays Regional Airport is on pace for 1,300 enplanements in July. In July 2020, there were only 218 boardings. She stated we are not quite at the record-setting level of 2019 with 1,450 passengers, but the rapid increase in travel interest is very promising. In 2019 we also had the Chicago flight which accounted for 205 of the 1,450 passengers flown in July.

Hays Regional Airport continues to be affordable when compared to competitors and many times, beats the price. When you take into account the fuel and parking costs to travel to Wichita or Kansas City, many times even a hotel stay, there is no better option than to Fly Hays. She noted that for the first Quarter of 2021 Hays fares were lower than competition at Wichita and Manhattan.

Commissioner Mellick stated that a big advantage to flying out of Hays is that going through security is much faster and easier than when flying out of larger airports.

12. COMMISSION INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS: Commissioner Mellick encouraged everyone to attend a Larks Baseball game.

Commissioner Berges stated a public event called Tardeada Community Late Fest will be held on Saturday, July 31, 2021 from 2:00 pm. to 10:00 p.m. at the Downtown Pavilion. This is a unique experience filled with music, dance, and learning about the Hispanic culture.

Vice-Mayor Ruder stated he is looking forward to Fort Hays State University football beginning soon.

Mayor Jacobs mentioned how good it is to see people out and enjoying local events and activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Brenda Kitchen – City Clerk