

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF HAYS, KANSAS
HELD ON OCTOBER 27, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON: The Governing Body of the City of Hays, Kansas met in regular session on Thursday, October 27, 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 September 22, 2022; the minutes stand approved as presented.

3. PRESENTATION OF SERVICE AWARDS TO CITY EMPLOYEES: Erin Giebler, Director of Human Resources, recognized the following employees for their years of dedicated service to the City of Hays.

5-Year Awards

Alissa Disney, Natalie Reuter, Brandon Bell, Mike Pfannenstiel, Holly Dickman, and Melissa Dixon

10-Year Awards

Jami Breit, Rick Hines, Nikki Hausler, Tim Detrixhe, and Bob Shubert

15-Year Awards

Brandon Hauptman, Lucas Everett, Tyler Brungardt, and TJ Mages

20-Year Awards

Jessi Jacobs, Jeff Ridgway, Jesse Rohr, Jake Helget, and Curtis Deines

25-Year Awards

Jeff Boyle

30-Year Awards

Kyle Leiker and Kevin Augustine

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Collin Bielser, Assistant City Manager, reviewed the financial summaries of the revenue and expenditure activities of the City of Hays for the month ended September 30, 2022.

As noted last month the sales tax distribution for August wasn't received until September 1st, so a period adjustment was made. Month-to-date (MTD) general fund sales tax collections were at \$1,013,309, which was an increase of \$216,850 or 27% as compared to last year. Year-to-date (YTD) general fund sales tax is at \$7,041,245 up \$740,407 or 11.75% from a year ago. The six-month average is at 11%, which was a drop of 3.6% when compared to a year ago. MTD county sales tax collections were at \$112,419. Up 18% as compared to last year. YTD county sales tax is at \$847,454.

The report of top ten quarter-to-date (QTD) sales tax collections by classification was up \$235,930 or 9.7%. Leading the increase on this report was online shopping, up 91% from the same period as last year. Department stores were up 11%, car dealers 12%, and supermarkets/convenience stores 11%.

The total par value of the US Treasuries is \$65,980,000 with a weighted average yield to maturity of 1.76% up 1.7% from a year ago. The total balance of the Money Market account on September 30, 2022 was \$2,500,000 with a current yield of .05%. Total investments are up \$4,991,803.

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

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

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS: Sarah Wasinger, President/COE of The Chamber in Hays, informed the Commission that the awards nominations for the annual Chamber Awards Banquet have been moved to October and she encouraged the

Commissioners to nominate a business, organization, or individual who might be worthy of the award. She also encouraged everyone to support our local businesses throughout the holiday season.

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

NEW BUSINESS

7. 2023 HEALTH INSURANCE FOR CITY OF HAYS EMPLOYEES: Erin Giebler, Director of Human Resources, stated that in 2017 the City switched to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas (BCBSKS) and offered a triple option plan. The plan options were: High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP), Premium Plan, and Base Plan. Over the last six years, the City has made minor changes to plan designs and employee premiums in order to keep costs within budget. On average, about 59% of those enrolled in the City's Health Insurance elected the HDHP, 17% elected the Premium Plan, and 24% elected the Base Plan.

The City of Hays received Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas' renewal rates for 2023. The renewal came in with a 2.3% decrease. Ms. Giebler stated that this is a great renewal, especially when you factor in the market and inflation. The only way this is possible is because of our employees making smart medical decisions including using generic prescriptions, using the doctor's office instead of the emergency room when possible, and asking questions about the need for additional tests or treatments. Staff recommends approving the 2023 health insurance renewal contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield, which includes the continuation of the 2022 plan designs with no change to employee premium costs. Due to the City's low utilization and decrease in premiums, City staff also recommends providing up to a \$2,500 employer match for employees' health savings accounts (HSA) as an incentive for more employees to switch to the high deductible plan. Both the health insurance and health savings account recommendations are within the budgeted amount for 2023.

Sandy Jacobs moved, Reese Barrick seconded, to authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas to provide employees with a triple-option health insurance plan and authorization to provide up to \$2,500 in employer match for employees' health savings accounts, not to exceed \$2,057,000 and to be funded out of the Employee Benefit Levy Fund.

Commissioner Musil thanked Ms. Giebler and the employees for their efforts in keeping health insurance costs down. He asked what type of education is provided to employees about health insurance options. Ms. Giebler stated information is given to new employees when hired and also during open enrollment each year.

Commissioner Jacobs also thanked Ms. Giebler for her efforts in educating employees, which allows us to see the decrease in rates while other similar companies are seeing rate increases.

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

8. ETJ AMENDMENT ORDINANCE: Collin Bielser, Assistant City Manager, clarified that the extraterritorial jurisdiction, or ETJ, is a buffer around Hays where the City is allowed to enforce zoning and platting regulations.

City and County staff are suggesting a minor modification to the ETJ. Ellis County recently purchased a piece of property north of 55th Street on which it plans to construct a new Public Works facility. With past modifications to the ETJ, Ellis County property was removed. City and County staff met to discuss the possible removal of the newly acquired property from the ETJ. Removing only the County property would leave an irregular-shaped piece of property still in the ETJ, so City and County staff proposed moving that tract as well. The ETJ map, still protects the City's urban growth area while allowing the County to control development outside of our immediate growth area. The modification was

approved by the Ellis County Commission at its October 11, 2022 regular meeting.

Michael Berges moved, Reese Barrick seconded, to adopt Ordinance No. 4021 defining the boundary of the City of Hays' extraterritorial jurisdiction.

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

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

10. HAYS HAPPENINGS / UPCOMING EVENTS: Collin Bielser, Assistant City Manager, presented information on events that will be going on in Hays during the month of November.

11. COMMISSION INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS: Commissioner Jacobs stated we have wonderful employees, and this is a perfect time to recognize two Police Officers, Corporal Brandon Bell and Master Police Officer Derick Nordell. Commissioner Jacobs, without revealing any names, read a letter from a person thanking the two officers for their patience, compassion, and professionalism regarding a house fire at his stepdaughter's house. The letter stated that he has worked in law enforcement around the State of Kansas for the past 13 years and that the officers on scene were among the best, most professional, and compassionate officers that he ever had the opportunity to cross paths with. He also thanked the Hays Fire Department for their quick response and efforts to save his stepdaughter's pets and belongings. Commissioner Jacobs thanked Corporal Brandon Bell and Master Police Officer Derick Nordell for their service and for the service of all of our police officers and fire fighters.

Commissioner Musil stated that he is glad we are recognizing employees for their years of service and added that you can see the passion that City employees have for their jobs.

Vice-Mayor Berges congratulated the employees on the tenure that they have achieved. He feels the City is very efficiently run and a big part of that is retaining employees that have gained knowledge and experience over their years of service.

Mayor Ruder stated that he is proud of the City of Hays employees and the work they do. He added that they are efficient and are always learning and striving to do better.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Brenda Kitchen – City Clerk