

April 1, 2019
5:15 P.M.
Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regular meeting on Monday, April 1, 2019 at 5:15 p.m. in the City Hall Commission Room.

Mayor Stirton called the meeting to order and the prayer was led by Pastor Young. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Present: Mayor Bryan Stirton, Commissioners Wade Edwards, Rex West, Bobby Bacon, and Ken Krug. City Attorney Kevin Hill and Administrator/Police Chief John Calhoon were also present.

Motion by Commissioner West to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2019 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3552 (Payroll) for the amount of \$36,140.92. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3553 (Disbursements) for the amount of \$249,234.62. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

Public Comments

Members of the NEK Center for Health and Wellness Board were present on behalf of Mission Village Living Center to announce that due to financial struggles, and other hardships with the facility, the consensus of the board is to consider closure. It was a 7 to 0 vote to initiate the closure process. Board members stated that the census has dropped and the center currently is averaging 22 residents.

City Attorney Kevin Hill asked several questions of the board regarding the Mission Village Living Center Lease with the city.

Commissioner Krug voiced his concern that the Commissioners have not been made aware of the closure until now.

The board said that it would be 60-90 days before the doors close. The management group for Mission Village Living Center is Action Pact.

Hiawatha Hospital Updates

John Broberg stated that the original Resolution regarding the proposed sales tax increase changed to read that the City of Horton will receive 20% of the proceeds that come in, and Hiawatha Hospital will receive 80%. Voters will decide May 21st whether to approve a 10 year ½ cent countywide retailer's sales tax.

There will be 29 Community Town Hall meetings throughout the county regarding the ½ cent Sales Tax Election. Dates, times, and locations are available at City Hall.

Broberg also assured the Commission that there is always a representative on the Hiawatha Hospital Board from South Brown County.

Broberg will continue to update the Horton Commissioners periodically.

Request to be placed on Agenda

Mark Conard was not present. The Commission requested Mr. Conard's presence before they would discuss the sale of vacant city lots further.

NEK-CAP Contract

Calhoon requested that the Commission review the current contract between NEK-CAP and the City of Horton and advise him of any revisions so it can be considered for approval at the next meeting on April 15th.

Consider Approval of Resolution No. 2019-002, KMEA SWPA Project Agreement

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to approve Resolution No. 2019-002 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HORTON, KANSAS AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE SWPA PROJECT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE KANSAS MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY; AND AUTHORIZING ANY OTHER ACTIONS OF THE CITY RELATED THERETO. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Discussion on Annual Community Cleanup Day

Carol Stirton reached out to John Blessing from Waste Management regarding the spring and fall cleanup days, and what they would charge for roll offs. After discussion the Commission decided that in lieu of Spring/Fall cleanup days, the city would provide a dumpster at City Hall for two weeks in May, and two weeks in September.

10 Minute Executive Session to Discuss Attorney-Client Privilege

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to go into a 10 minute executive session to discuss attorney client privilege to include Mayor Stirton, Commissioners Edwards, West, and Bacon, John Calhoon, Kim Knudson, and Kevin Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.
No action taken after executive session, information only.

City Administrator/Chief of Police Calhoon

After the inspection of the collapsed building that was performed by BG Consultants Engineers at 103 & 105 East 8th, it is the opinion that the building should be condemned. Melissa Razo, who is current owner of the building, was present at the meeting. She stated that she has had an engineer look at it before. The Commission requested to see a copy of her engineering report.

The Commission is concerned because Melissa Razo has not followed through with promises made to the city in the past. Motion by Commissioner Edwards to authorize Kevin Hill to draw up legal documents necessary to move this process forward, and that the city encourage Officer Stuart to perform his duties. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye. A resolution will be presented at the next Commission meeting for approval so the city can take action if Melissa Razo isn't able to.

Jenny Collins, a Spanish teacher at the school requested use of the ballfields for a benefit fundraiser for World Language Club on April 20th, with May 4th as the rain day.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to waive the utility fee for the benefit. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Officer James Stuart submitted his resignation with the city effective April 14th. Calhoon discussed leaving James on part-time and negotiate a wage with him on his knowledge of specialty items. Officer Stuart has been with the City of Horton for 25 years.

Calhoon was notified that the city was granted funds for the 2019 Waste Tire Grant that was applied for. This grant supports the purchase of products made from recycled tires including playground cover, picnic tables, and benches. A letter should be received this week stating the funds received.

Installation of exterior lights at the pool will begin soon!

Early Bird Family Season Passes will be available to be purchased at City Hall from April 15 – May 15 for \$110.00. After May 15th the price will return to normal charge of \$125.00. Pool party prices have increased to \$75.00 per hour for up to 40 people, with \$2.00 for each additional person.

Robert Wright will come back as a seasonal mower again this year. Calhoon would like to increase his hourly wage to \$9.00. Calhoon would also like to hire two additional seasonal employees for the 2019 season.

The city crew will assist REA removing poles at the track, so that new lights can be put up. The city will help with wiring and prepping poles.

Mayor Stirton

Mayor Stirton stated that the north dugout at the ballfields is in need of repair. Stirton also asked if the city is preparing for Better Beef Days this weekend, and asked if the city could repair potholes on the Clinic and Manor road.

Commissioner Bacon

Curtis Ross contacted Bacon about the north end of the Little Lake and it not being fishable due to the excess of lily pads. Curtis Ross asked if they could also utilize Mission Lake for the fishing derby on the 4th of July if needed. Motion by Commissioner West for the city to close from Hickory Point to the 2nd shelter house for during the fishing derby. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

Commissioner West

West asked Calhoon if the speed limit signs around the lake and the ballfield/pools signs have been ordered.

Commissioner Edwards

Edwards attended the Kansas Rural Water Association Conference last week and shared information that he received from classes he attended including How to Set Rates for your Utility Company, funding programs of USDA, and CDBG Grants.

Commissioner Krug

No report.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

Kim Knudson, City Clerk

Bryan Stirton, Mayor