

December 15, 2014
5:15 P.M.
City Hall Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regular meeting on Monday, December 15, 2014 at 5:15 p.m. in the City Hall Commission Room.

Mayor Lentz called the meeting to order and the prayer was given by Father Dan Gardner.

Present: Mayor Lentz, and Commissioners Krug, Stirton, Edwards, and Barton. City Attorney Kevin Hill and City Clerk/ Administrator Kim Clausen were also present.

Motion by Commissioner Barton to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Stirton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Stirton to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2014 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Barton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Stirton to approve appropriation ordinance #3329 (Payroll) for the amount of \$38,333.58. Seconded by Commissioner Barton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Stirton to approve appropriation ordinance #3330 (Payroll) for the amount of \$8,293.39. Seconded by Commissioner Barton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Stirton to approve appropriation ordinance #3331 (Disbursements) for the amount of \$125,470.95. Seconded by Commissioner Barton. All aye.

Public Comments

None.

Hospital Administrator

Hospital Administrator, James Noble was present to say that the sign on the north side of town about building a new hospital has been temporarily removed. He felt that is caused a lot of aggravation for the city. This does not negate the desire for a new hospital, and they will announce when they are under construction again.

Public Hearing on 2014 Budget Amendment

Mayor Lentz opened the public hearing for the budget amendment at 5:21 pm. There were no public comments or questions. The public hearing was closed at 5:24 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Barton to adopt the amendment to the 2014 budget. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

Use of the Armory for Walking

The Commissioners would like the possibility of the walkers being in charge of a key if they would like to use the Armory to walk. The key could be picked up and dropped off at the dispatch window at City Hall. The City Clerk is going to visit with other people that use the building and see what times they are there.

Cereal Malt Beverage License Approvals

Motion by Commissioner Stirton to approve renewal of cereal malt beverage licenses for the Super Store and the Horton Pool Hall. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

Chief of Police

Chief Calhoon spoke more about Nixle, which is a privately held U.S. corporation that offers free and paid notification services for local police departments, county emergency management offices, municipal governments and their agencies. The Commission would like Chief Calhoon to move forward with implementing it.

Chief Calhoon asked for use of the Blue Building on February 19th (tentatively) to put on a Domestic Violence Class. Motion by Commissioner Barton to allow the use of the Blue Building at no charge. Seconded by Commissioner Stirton. All aye.
He will need new tires for two of the police vehicles soon.

Staff Report

Rex West and team are working on cleaning leaves out of gutters and curbs. They changed out a fire hydrant on 8th and Central on Sunday, and continue to assist with the Downtown Improvement Project. Rex ordered more rock for around the lake. Jim Martin and Rex are working with Sam Johnson from BG Consultants on preparations for running the sewer line for the shower house at the lake. The lake caretakers' house was demolished this week.

City Clerk's/Administrator's Agenda

Kim gave a shout out to Bonnie Long for her hard work she has done at the Blue Building to get it looking like a new building again. Kim invited the Commissioners to stop down and look at it when they get a chance.

Kim reminded the Commissioners that anyone who wants to run for Mayor needs to file by noon on January 27th, 2015.

The city recently received reimbursement checks for two properties that we filed for tax exemption on earlier in the year.

There was a follow-up discussion on which vendor the city should go with for the new billing software. After a lot of research with other cities, and viewing the demonstrations, the City Clerk recommended that we go with Data Technologies Inc. (Summit). Motion by Commissioner Edwards to go with Data Technologies as recommended by the City Clerk. Motion died for lack of second. Commissioner Barton recommended that a Special Meeting be held once we have a definite price quote for the installation of the new software.

Commissioner's Agenda

Commissioner Krug

No Comment.

Commissioner Stirton

Commissioner Stirton asked when Phase II of the sewer project would begin. Mayor Lentz said at least late January.

Commissioner Edwards

Commissioner Edwards asked for clarification on the self-evaluation that was provided back to USDA regarding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, stating that all federally-financed projects must be accessible to and usable by qualified persons with disabilities, regardless of the age or type of facility.

Commissioner Edwards also spoke to the Administrator at The Manor to make her aware of the reports she should be providing to the city.

Commissioner Barton

Commissioner Barton stated that the Park Board would like to raise the season camping fee from \$135 to \$155, and raise the daily camping fee from \$6.00 to \$7.00 for 2015. Motion by Commissioner Barton to approve the increase of camping fees. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

The Park Board would also like to add that no one under the age of 12 may operate a motorized vessel, including a PWC, without direct and audible supervision regardless of boater education certification to the Mission Lake handbook. Motion by Commissioner Edwards to approve the addition to the handbook. Seconded by Commissioner Stirton. All aye.

There was more discussion on whether or not to hire a full-time lake caretaker, rather than have a contract position. Some of the Commissioners had concerns with hiring on another full-time city employee with benefits, while others thought that another part-time seasonal position could assist. Commissioner Barton would like to advertise for the position whether it is contract or not.

Mayor Lentz

Mayor Lentz asked for use of the Blue Building on March 25th, 2015 for a group that works with kids with disabilities. Motion by Commissioner Barton to allow the use of the Blue Building at no charge. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Mayor Lentz is working on designing plates for the new light poles that were donated downtown.

Mayor Lentz would like to have a workshop with the Commissioner at the beginning of the New Year to brainstorm ideas on what can attract people to come to our city.

Motion by Commissioner Barton to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Stirton. All aye.

Kim Clausen, City Clerk

Tim Lentz, Mayor