

December 16, 2019
5:15 P.M.
City Hall

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regular meeting on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 5:15 p.m. at City Hall.

Mayor Stirton called the meeting to order and the opening prayer was led by John Calhoon. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

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

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

Motion by Commissioner West to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2019 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3587 (Payroll) for the amount of \$34,437.30. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3588 (Disbursements) for the amount of \$115,290.06. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

Public Comments

Julie Bacon stated that she would like to have her street plowed.

Budget Amendment Hearing

Mayor Stirton opened the public hearing for the budget amendment. There were no public comments or questions. Motion by Commissioner Edwards to adopt the amendment to the 2019 sewer budget. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

The adopted budget for 2019 was \$423,844 The proposed amended amount is \$441,844.

City Website Update Discussion

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to table the website discussion until the next Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye. Brianna Dowell is the current administrator of the city's website and will share information on website design demonstrations that she has attended.

Follow-up Discussion on Electrical Upgrades

The Commission discussed the bids received for fault indicators and pole replacement. Calhoon stated that he wasn't prepared to give the Commission fully what they are looking for, however there were updated quotes included in their packets.

Motion by Commissioner West to table the fault indicator discussion until a future meeting when they have a little more information. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to table the pole replacement program until the 2nd meeting in January, pending the receipt of additional bids. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Consider Approval of Write-Off Report

Kim presented the Commission with the write-off report, which is a report that shows inactive accounts that haven't had an attempt of payment in two years. For auditing purposes, these accounts need to be changed to bad debt status even though the back balances will still be attempted to be

collected. Motion by Commissioner Edwards to approve the write-off report as recommended by administration. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye. Calhoon is looking into hiring Atchison Account Management to collect outstanding utility bills owed to the city. Kevin Hill recommended seeing a proposal first.

City Administrator/Chief of Police Calhoon

Calhoon publicly thanked all of the first responders who answered to the multiple home fires last week. Other than the Horton Fire Department, there were multiple other agencies who responded and assisted, and all were appreciated. Madget Construction lifted the roofs off of the burning homes at no charge so the firefighters could get to the fire better.

Calhoon put some rumors to rest regarding the fire. It took 45 seconds for the local police department to respond and the Horton Fire Department was not far behind. It did not take 40 minutes for the fire department to respond.

The City of Horton did request that Hiawatha Fire Department respond. Calhoon listed all of the responding agencies.

Calhoon had the owners of the home sign a waiver for the city to push the remainder of the walls down to save costs to the owners and to the city should they have to tear them down.

The community support was overwhelming in assisting those affected by the fires.

Randy Mayfield now holds his Class II water and wastewater operator licenses. Calhoon said that he is proud of him because a lot of times it takes several attempts to pass the test.

Motion by Commissioner West to waive the rental fee of the Blue Building for a high school fundraiser that was held on 12/14. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All Aye.

Calhoon recommended that the city consider honoring Trey Dishon in his successful career at K State as a four-year starter by naming a roadway near the football field in his honor.

Motion by Commissioner West to proceed with the plan to name a roadway in Trey Dishon's honor. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

As of today, Calhoon said that it appears that there are at least three qualified bidders for the Horton Hospital auction that will be held on December 19th. Calhoon is optimistic that they involve bringing some type of medical services back to the Horton community to a pretty adequate level.

Motion by Commissioner Krug for John Calhoon to attend the auction in Charlotte, NC using his own judgement in purchasing with a spending limit of up to \$125,000. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye. Edwards commented that this is assuming that Calhoon doesn't bid against someone who is going to put healthcare services back into the community.

Mayor Stirton

There will be a library board meeting held on Wednesday the 18th @ 5:15 p.m. at the library.

Mayor Stirton congratulated Bobby Bacon for his time spent on the Commission and for his volunteering of his personal time. Stirton wished him well in his future endeavors. Bacons term will be up at the end of 2019.

Commissioner Bacon

Commissioner Bacon stated that this is his last public meeting and wanted to thank the Commission and the city staff for everything. Bacon listed all of his accomplishments while he was in office that pertained to parks and recreation.

Commissioner West

No updates.

Commissioner Edwards

No updates.

Commissioner Krug

No updates.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to adjourn at 6:41 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Kim Knudson, City Clerk

Bryan Stirton, Mayor