

January 23, 2019
5:15 P.M.
Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 23, 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 John Calhoon. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Present: Mayor Bryan Stirton, Commissioner Wade Edwards, Rex West, Bobby Bacon, and Ken Krug. City Attorney Kevin Hill and Interim 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 January 7, 2019 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3542(Payroll) for the amount of \$34,254.21. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3543 (Disbursements) for the amount of \$108,087.72. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. All aye.

Public Comments

Nancy Oswald, owner of North End Liquor, stated that she contacted ABC (Alcoholic Beverage Control) and they told her that until it goes on a ballot and a vote for Brown County, that the city has no say on whether or not there are Sunday alcohol sales in Horton.

HIDC- New Business Update

Tim Lentz was present on behalf of HIDC. Josh Haverkamp and Brent Shaffer, potential owners of Horton Meat Processing, LLC were also present.

The Commission discussed whether or not to move forward on the proposed meat locker facility (Horton Meat Processing, LLC) to go up on the west end of town. The facility would be built on ground that was, and will be deeded to the city by Raymond Foster.

Kevin Hill discussed options to the Commission pertaining to an agreement between the city and Horton Meat Processing, LLC before conveying the land to them.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to authorize Mayor Stirton to sign a deed conveying the property to Horton Meat Processing, LLC subject to Raymond Foster conveying the property to the city of Horton. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

As soon as Kevin receives the signed documents from Raymond Foster he will proceed with the deed.

Request to be placed on Agenda

Donald Bryant was not present.

Alcohol Ordinance Revisions

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to approve Ordinance No. 1178 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 3-304 OF THE HORTON MUNICIPAL CODE BY SETTING FORTH THE HOURS AND DAYS THAT ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR MAY BE SOLD IN THE CITY OF HORTON, KANSAS. Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

This ordinance shall take effect 61 days after final publication in the official City newspaper, unless a sufficient petition for a referendum is filed, requiring a referendum to be held on the ordinance as provided in K.S.A. 41-2911, in which case this ordinance shall become effective upon approval by a majority of the electors voting thereon.

Appoint KMEA Director #1 & Alternate

Motion by Commissioner West to reappoint Wade Edwards as Director #1 to serve on the Board of Directors of the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. Aye – Mayor Stirton, Commissioners Bacon, West, and Krug. Abstain – Commissioner Edwards.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to appoint Rex West as an alternate to serve on the Board of Directors of the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. Aye – Mayor Stirton, Commissioners Edwards, Bacon, and Krug. Abstain – Commissioner West.

Boy Scout Proclamation

Motion by Commissioner West to approve the Mayor to sign the Boy Scouts of America Proclamation. Seconded by Commissioner Edwards. All aye. The mayor proclaims February 3rd – 9th, 2019 as Boy Scout Anniversary Week.

Crop Bids

After reviewing the current Contractual Lease Agreement Krug requested that “If the tenant desires, he may also bail hay ground or waterways”, and “The tenant agrees to mow the pasture or grass areas at least once a year if there are weeds” be removed from contract. Krug would also like whoever mows at the airport also mow behind the lake dam. Motion by Commissioner Krug to strike the two suggested items out of the contract. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye. The city will be advertising for bids for crop ground at the airport within the next week.

Employee Raise Discussion

After discussion on employee wage increases, the Commission agreed that rather than a COLA (cost of living adjustment) this year, raises would be based on a pay scale revision that was presented to them by John Calhoon.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to allow Interim City Administrator, John Calhoon to activate the pay adjustment program as he proposed to the Commission, with the exception of the people who signed agreements to waive an increase this year, except for those people who changed job responsibilities. Seconded by Commissioner West. Aye – Commissioners Edwards, Bacon, West, and Krug. Abstain – Mayor Stirton.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to add an Executive Session to Discuss Non-Elected Personnel to the next agenda. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye. The session will be to discuss the City Administrator and City Clerk positions as far as salaries are concerned.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to retro the employee pay increases back to January 1, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner Bacon. Aye – Commissioners Edwards, Bacon, West, and Krug. Abstain – Mayor Stirton.

Chief Calhoon/Interim City Administrator

Calhoon will attend the meeting with the Hiawatha Community Hospital officials on 01/28 at noon in the main courtroom on the 3rd floor of the Brown County Courthouse. The meeting will discuss the hospitals current financial crisis and possible financial assistance.

Calhoon will present the lease agreement for the skid steer from KanEquip to the Commission at the next meeting. It will show the hourly usage fee that the city will pay over 250 hours annually.

Camping spots at Mission Lake are shaping up. The city crews have been spreading gravel in the new 14 day spots.

Mayor Stirton

Stirton commented that if funds for the 4th of July fireworks were raised prior to February 1st that they would receive a 15% discount on fireworks. If purchased by March 1st there would be a 10% discount. Stirton isn't going to head it up this year like he did last year, but he does have some money raised, and there is some money left over from last year. John Boller III has talked about trying to get funds raised for this year.

Commissioner Bacon

Bacon said that on 01/08/19 there was supposed to be a Parks & Recreation Board meeting and they weren't able to have the meeting because only two members showed up and there was no quorum. Bobby stated that the majority of the conversation of the board when they do meet revolves around Mission Lake, and he wants them to realize that there are other parks as well. In Bacon's opinion if the board members don't want to show up for the meetings, then there isn't any sense in having a Parks & Recreation Board. Bacon said that he thinks John Calhoon is doing a good job at the lake and he knows if something needs to be done, and Bacon said that he gets out there as much as he can. John points out what needs to be done at the lake and Bobby points out what needs to be done at the parks. Bacon feels that the city could get by without a board and that the Parks & Recreation Board needs to disband.

Krug said that this has been an ongoing issue with the board. Through the years there have been some very good resourceful people on the board. If there was a group who wanted to get together in the future and present things to the Commission, he would be in favor of that. He is appreciative of the people who came and did the work.

Motion by Commissioner Bacon to authorize Kevin Hill to draft an Ordinance to repeal Chapter 12, Article 2 of the city code since it was established by the city code, to disband the Parks & Recreation Board . Seconded by Commissioner Krug. All aye.

Bacon presented the Commission with 35 pieces of playground equipment to be installed in the various parks in town totaling \$12,477.98.

West is concerned that some of the equipment in question will not hold up over time because it is not commercial quality. West suggested that Bacon come up with a plan on what equipment that he wants to put where and come back to the Commission.

Krug voiced that the city has already put a lot of money into the swimming pool area and he is not in favor of putting anymore equipment in that area at this time. He is curious to see how much the new playground equipment gets utilized once it gets warmer outside.

Commissioner West

No comment.

Commissioner Edwards

No comment.

Commissioner Krug

Krug addressed the 4th of July fireworks and said this is something to be thinking about and he wishes an organization would pick it up. He said it would be nice to have other 4th of July activities as well.

Motion by Commissioner Edwards to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Kim Knudson, City Clerk

Bryan Stirton, Mayor