

October 3, 2022  
5:15 P.M.  
City Hall

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regular meeting on Monday, October 3, 2022,

Mayor Stirton called the meeting to order, and the opening prayer was led by Father Dan Gardner from St. Leo's Catholic Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Present: Mayor Stirton, Commissioner Carmela Boller, Rex West, Richard Lovelady, and Tina Nigh. City Administrator John Calhoon and City Attorney Kevin Hill were also present.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to adopt the agenda after West requested a 15-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel before the city administrator's agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2022, regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3731 (Payroll) for \$36,494.33. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3732 (Disbursements) for \$372,855.64. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

### **Public Comments**

Karen Linck was present to address the property that she owns at 333 West 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Chief Boller said that the house has been vacant for some time and is currently on the demolition list for overall deteriorated condition of the structure, structural damage, broken windows, holes in roof, and accessibility to wildlife and vermin. Linck stated that she has had issues obtaining a carpenter to do repairs on the home. Per the Resolution that was delivered via certified mail to Linck, it said following the hearing on November 7, 2022, after the passage of 30 days from the date of last publication, the Governing Body of the City of Horton, Kansas shall be authorized to abate the conditions described above and repair, demolish or remove the condition or structure, or make said conditions safe, as determined by the City of Horton, Kansas, in the event that the nuisance has not been abated by the date fixed by the governing body. Alternatively, the City of Horton may cause the structure or structures on said property to be taken down prior to said hearing date should the opinion of the city enforcing officer be that said structure or structures constitute an immediate hazard requiring immediate action to protect the public. Linck submitted a request to be placed on the agenda at the next meeting on 10/17 to provide updates.

### **Ballfield Updates**

There is a monitoring visit scheduled for Wednesday, October 5, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall. The purpose of the visit is to monitor our CDBG project to determine the status of activities, and to review the grant management system. This will allow the city to proceed with fencing, bleachers, lighting, restrooms, parking lot, etc. with no protocols related to CDBG. Tim Lentz said that \$54,000 is needed to install fencing on field #2 and TS Fence Company can begin installation this week.

At the Commission meeting on August 1, 2022, Motion was made by Commissioner West to approve the city to make up the difference to install fencing at the ball fields not to exceed \$54,000 after all the donations, grants, and fundraisers have been tallied. Seconded by Commissioner Boller. All aye. The Commission discussed and decided that the fencing needed to be paid for in a timely manner if the work was completed. Motion by Commissioner Nigh to approve the payment of \$54,000 for

fencing field #2 and revisit any other money or donations later. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye. Monies will be taken from the American Rescue Plan Act fund. There is still opportunity for the project to receive funding from the county, the Royal Charities Grant, and from other potential donors and fundraising efforts. The city also discussed applying for additional funding from CDBG. Lentz said that the scoreboard was ordered today with logos on it, dugouts are in the process of being built by the high school kids, and Oswald Lawn Services will begin seeding next week.

### **Curb Cost Share Updates**

Calhoon said that J & B Contractors is up to date on installing curbing for residents who participated in the curb cost share program this year. Calhoon said that when J & B Contractors did concrete work at 16th & Wilson Drive as approved by the Commission at the last meeting, they didn't install the curb back far enough when they replaced it and said that trailers are still going to jump the curb and destroy it over time. Calhoon said that he had a verbal conversation with J & B Contractors regarding the project and nothing was put in writing. Calhoon asked the Commission how they would like to proceed with payment to J & B Contractors in the amount of \$1,980.00. Nigh said that J & B Contractors have always done a great job and worried who the city would hire for curb work in the future, while C. Boller and West agreed that they didn't finish the project at 16th & Wilson Drive (Honey Hole Campgrounds) the way it was presented, therefore should not be paid. The Commission tasked Calhoon with asking J & B Contractors to eat a portion of the cost or come back and redo it next year. Attorney Kevin Hill recommended that the city implement a written agreement for the curb projects to save this dispute from happening in the future.

### **Public Works Updates**

Public Works Superintendent Randy Mayfield was present to provide updates to the Commission on the water, sewer, and street departments. Mayfield handed out a detailed report showing past and present projects broken down by department. Mayfield said that Rob Gaskell completed the framework for the rock sign at the civic center that was damaged.

### **Police Department Updates**

Chief Boller presented the Commission with September 2022 Dispatch Call by Service Type including code enforcement.

Motion by Commissioner West to go into a 15-minute executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel to protect the privacy interests of the employee to include the Commission, John Boller, John Calhoon, and Kevin Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye. After executive session no action taken.

Motion by Commissioner Nigh to take a 15-minute recess at 6:28 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to go into a 3-minute executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel to protect the privacy interests of the employee to include the Commission, Kim Knudson, John Calhoon, John Boller, and Kevin Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye. After executive session no action taken.

### **City Administrator**

Calhoon announced new hire Troy Myers. Myers will work in the power plant and has a CDL license and is experienced in running heavy equipment.

Calhoon shared with the Commission that there would be a design kick-off meeting to discuss the Kickapoo Water System Emergency Connection at City Hall on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m.

KMEA provided a quote for electric pole changeouts for the city in the amount of \$10,500.00. Depending on factors including utility locates, weather, and wire size, the cost may be higher or lower. The estimated date for work to be performed is 10/24/2022.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal has approved a grant of \$15,000 through the Kansas Firefighter Recruitment and Safety Grant (KFRSG) program, which is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of what the city applied for. In addition, our department has been awarded the extractor/washer machine. They received requests from 97 departments, totaling close to \$2.4 million.

**Mayor Stirton**

Mayor Stirton said that Connie Werner inquired about the city donating three of the old light poles to the Veterans Memorial Park downtown. Motion by Commissioner Boller to donate three light poles to Reinvent Horton. Seconded by Commissioner Nigh. All aye. The Commission would like the city crews to get scrap metal value on the existing light poles.

**Commissioner Lovelady**

No report.

**Commissioner West**

No report.

**Commissioner Boller**

Motion by Commissioner Boller to go into a 15-minute executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel to protect the privacy interests of the employee to include the Commission, John Calhoun, Josh Haverkamp, and Kevin Hill. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye. After executive session no action taken.

**Commissioner Nigh**

No report.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to adjourn at 7:17 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye.

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Kim Knudson, City Clerk

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Bryan Stirton, Mayor