

December 5, 2022
5:15 P.M.
City Hall

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regular meeting on Monday, December 5, 2022.

Mayor Stirton called the meeting to order, and the opening prayer was led by Pastor Bud Elliott from Zion Lutheran 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. Kevin Hill left the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to adopt the agenda after moving Review Tribal Emergency Water Agreement and Discuss Residential Solid Waste Collection & Disposal Service Agreement to after Zach Brown on the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2022, regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3740 (Payroll) for \$69,928.08. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3741(Disbursements) for \$88,387.51. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Public Comments

No comments.

Public Hearing for 2022 Budget Amendments

Mayor Stirton opened the 2022 public hearing which is for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed amended use of funds. There were no public comments, so the hearing was closed by Mayor Stirton. The sewer and solid waste funds were amended.

Request to be Placed on Agenda

Zach Brown was present via Zoom to ask if the city would consider seeking a different metric for sewer charges than a winter month average. Brown said that winter water usage is much higher than summer. Calhoon asked Clerk Knudson to send Brown a copy of the water usage at the car wash prior to him taking ownership. He feels that Brown will have a better understanding of the water/sewer usage and see that there isn't much difference. Calhoon asked to table the discussion and Brown can ask to be added back on the agenda in the future if need be.

Review Tribal Emergency Water Agreement

Kevin Hill presented the Commission with a draft of the Kickapoo Tribal Emergency Water Agreement and asked them to chime in on suggested changes. West provided a few revisions to Hill, and he amended the agreement as West spoke. Calhoon will send the draft to the Kickapoo Tribe for review but will note that the agreement isn't finalized. West made it clear that he doesn't want to get into a negotiation with the tribe. He said the city should be able to set our own terms under our own contract and its either feasible for the tribe or it isn't.

Discuss Residential Solid Waste Collection & Disposal Service Agreement

Calhoon spoke with Robert Hamilton from Hamilton Recycling and Disposal about renewing their contract with the city. Calhoon said that Hamilton has done a good job with few complaints from the residents regarding residential trash pickup. Hamilton and Calhoon discussed changing the terms of the agreement to three years which would begin on January 1st of the calendar year. Hamilton asked for a .50 increase per residential customer per month with the contract stating that monthly rates in section 2 may be adjusted with consideration given to changes in the Consumer Price Index and the cost of fuel and landfill expense. The .50 increase per residential customer per month would take effect after the current contract expires on February 28th, 2023. Motion by Commissioner Nigh to accept the Residential Solid Waste Collection & Disposal Service Agreement and move forward effective January 1, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Public Works Updates

Public Works Superintendent Randy Mayfield was present to provide updates to the Commission on the water, sewer, electric, and street departments. Mayfield handed out detailed reports showing the summary of work orders created, and the status of work orders by department. Mayfield said KDHE and Wichita State University joined forces and came out to the wastewater treatment facility last Friday to bring some lab equipment for the city to use to get samples and get an idea of how our sewer plant is operating. They want to try to reduce the phosphorus biologically instead of chemically to meet the requirements coming in 2024. They feel that biologically is way cheaper than chemically.

Police Department Updates

Chief Boller has been in talks with the Brown County Sheriffs Office as well as the Brown County Emergency Coordinator about getting our dispatch center up to the level of the Brown County dispatch in the event of a natural disaster so the dispatch centers can cover each other if one went down. Currently Horton does not have the capacity to answer cell phone 911 calls, or anything other than a 486 number. All 486 numbers come directly to our dispatch center and the rest do not. Boller has discussed requesting ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds from the county and is determining what equipment is needed and the estimated cost for installation and maintenance. Don Pounds presented this at the County Commission meeting today and they requested more information. Boller said final quotes should be received by the end of January 2023.

The two unoccupied Explorers that have been sitting in City Halls parking lot will be on the Purple Wave auction on Tuesday, December 20th.

The new 2022 fully equipped Dodge Durango from Superior Emergency Response Vehicles in Andover, KS will have radios transferred and installed and will be completed this month.

West also asked Boller for the status on the exterior repairs on the 2016 Dodge Ram.

Ballfield Update/Royals Charities Grant

Calhoon said that he received word last week that the city will receive \$5,000 from the Royals Charities Grant he applied for, and the funds will be used to purchase fence guards for both fields.

Amberwell Health has already contributed \$5,000 to the ballfield project and will also furnish 1000 t-shirts for the city to sell with 100% of the proceeds going to the ballfield account. Calhoon said that the t-shirts will sell for \$15 - \$20 each and the logo will change after 250 shirts. Calhoon said that he knows that Tim Lentz has raised a lot of funds, but he wanted to say that the city of Horton has also been contributing and getting some funds raised.

Last week Calhoon found some used fence guards, eight benches, a small set of bleachers, 2 foul poles, etc. on Marketplace and they offered to sell everything for \$1,100. Calhoon said if the

requirements from the Royals Charities Grant doesn't list stipulations saying we have to spend \$5,000 to purchase fence guards he plans to purchase these items. The items will need to be loaded and hauled by the city which could take the better part of a day since the location is by Worlds of Fun.

Calhoon said that it was the consensus of the County Commission to allocate \$50,000 for the Horton ballfield improvement project pending it is an allowable expenditure for the ARPA funding before a vote is taken.

Consider Approval of CMB Licenses

Commissioner West suggested that a background check be conducted by KBI (Kansas Bureau of Investigation) on any application that changed the name of the manager or agent. Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve the following 2023 CMB license requests upon successful completion of background check for those who have a name change on the application. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

- Lentz Express & Catering, LLC
- Dollar General
- Horton Pool Hall
- Super Store
- El Cazador Mexican Grill & Cantina
- Horton Thriftway

Consider Approval of 2023 City Calendar

Motion by Commissioner West to accept the 2023 calendar as presented by the front office staff. Seconded by Commissioner Boller. All aye. The calendar provides city paid holidays, payroll, Commission meetings, and court dates for 2023.

Consider Accepting Donation of Power Plant Substation from Evergy

C. Boller, Calhoon, and West have had several meetings recently with Evergy and KMEA but are still waiting on an assessment to be done on the transformer and possibly at some point will recommend that we accept the substation at no charge. The assessment on the transformer is in the works with Evergy.

City Administrator

Calhoon said that AHRS Construction is requesting a final payout for the wastewater treatment facility project. Calhoon said he is reluctant to give the full amount until a few issues are resolved.

Calhoon continues to work with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and Friends of Reservoirs to get a timeline in place to dredge the Little Lake.

As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Grid Deployment Office (GDO) is administering a \$10.5 billion Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership Program (GRIP) to enhance grid flexibility and improve the resilience of the nation's power grid against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change. These programs will accelerate the deployment of transformative projects across the nation to help ensure the reliability of the power sector's infrastructure, ensuring all American communities have access to affordable, reliable, clean electricity anytime, anywhere.

Mayor Stirton

Mayor Stirton discussed security concerns at the Armory that were brought to him by one of the EMT's. The concern is kids and staff having access to the ambulance area. Calhoon said there are very few ambulance runs and the last we heard they were looking for another alternative to house the ambulance(s). Calhoon said that NEK-CAP is a big proprietor of the building, and they should have some say so. The Commission said EMT concerns should be addressed with Duke Koerperich.

Commissioner Lovelady

No report.

Commissioner West

No report.

Commissioner Boller

No report.

Commissioner Nigh

Commissioner Nigh told Randy Mayfield that the city did a nice job hanging the Christmas lights and they look nice. West said that some of the lights on the poles are closer together and some are further apart. Mayfield said that some of the strings of lights are different since they were purchased at different times.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to adjourn at 6:28 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye.

Kim Knudson, City Clerk

Bryan Stirton, Mayor