

April 3, 2023  
5:15 P.M.  
City Hall

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regular meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023, at 5:15 p.m.

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

Motion by Commissioner Boller to adopt the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Nigh. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2023, regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3756 (Payroll) for \$37,617.05. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3757(Disbursements) for \$41,894.94. Seconded by Commissioner West. All aye.

#### **Public Comments**

No comments.

#### **Request to be Placed on Agenda**

Angie Kreider and Julie Bergman were present on behalf of Rainbow Communications to give a brief PowerPoint presentation to the Commission. Rainbow Communications announced that they will expand their current Fiber broadband network in Horton, Kansas with fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) services. In 2014 Rainbow installed FTTP (Fiber to the Premise) to business locations throughout the city of Horton. This will further expand the fiber network to all residential locations. Rainbow will fully fund the \$4.3 million dollar construction project that will bring gigabit internet speeds to 1,448 residents, and multiple gigabit capabilities to businesses. Construction is slated to begin in 2025, bringing a future-proof fiber-to-the-home network to homes throughout the city, projected to be completed by the end of 2027.

Kreider also said that compliments of Rainbow, a Wi-Fi hotspot is in the works for the ballfields.

#### **Request to be Placed on Agenda**

Don Groshong was present to say that there was a lot of traffic for the flea market at Mission Lake this time, and Saturday was one of the best turnouts. Groshong stated that this will be the last flea market that he organizes. He has been coordinating them for five years and hopes that someone else will step up to the plate and take it over. He said that a lot of the footwork is done, and the flea market brings people to the community.

### **Public Works Updates**

Public Works Superintendent Randy Mayfield was present to provide updates to the Commission on the water, sewer, and street departments. Detailed reports showing the summary of work orders created, and the status of work orders by department were provided. The city of Horton was recognized by the Kansas Rural Water Association at their conference on March 29th for having the most improved wastewater system. Since Randy Mayfield played an integral role in the new facility, Calhoon felt that the award should be presented to him. Mayor Stirton presented Mayfield with the award, which will be hung at the wastewater treatment facility.

### **Police Department Updates**

Chief Boller provided the Commission with March 2023 Dispatch Calls by Service Type and an updated Code Enforcement list.

As requested at the last Commission meeting, Boller provided the Commission with a final quote and warranty information to place a remanufactured engine in the 2016 Dodge Ram police vehicle. Boller said it would come with a 4-year, unlimited mileage warranty, and will cost \$8,594.00 to repair.

Motion by Commissioner West to approve the motor replacement in the 2016 Dodge Ram at \$8,594.00. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. Aye— Mayor Stirton, Commissioner Nigh, West, and Lovelady. Abstain—Commissioner Boller.

Once fixed, Boller said that he has no plans to get rid of the 2016 Dodge Ram police vehicle.

Boller asked the Commission for their thoughts on amending the current Ordinance that authorizes the operation of golf carts and work site utility vehicles on the streets within the corporate limits of the City of Horton to include ATV's. Boller will work will draw something up for Kevin Hill to review.

### **Discussion of Mission Village Living Center**

Marc Pisacka and other Mission Village Board of Director members were present to dispel rumors around town about Mission Village Living Center closing. Pisacka said that the board has been speaking with potential buyers of the facility and think they have found a suitable purchaser. Pisacka said the board is not releasing the name of the buyer now, but they are ready to make the sale immediately. Kevin Hill said that the Commission would have to make a motion to consent to the sale of Mission Village Living Center. When the Mission Village Board of Directors is in the position to divulge the buyers name, they will come before the Commission for consideration of consent to sell as part of closing.

### **City Administrator**

Calhoon ordered 50 new customized trash carts for around \$4,300.00. The city didn't have any more excess carts in storage to replace broken/damaged carts. Funds to replace the carts are budgeted within the contract with Hamilton Recycling.

After walking the new ballfields with Nick Dowell and Colton Oswald today, Calhoon said that it was decided that the fields are not safe to play on. Dowell will reschedule any scheduled games to be played on alternate fields. If warmer weather doesn't improve the grass coming in on the fields, Oswald committed to reseeding, if necessary, at no additional cost. The Commission said that ruts in the fields also need to be addressed.

Calhoon shared a list of items that still need to be completed at the ballfields which includes gravel for the parking lot. It was determined that the cost would come out of funds/donations that are still available through HIDC.

Calhoon is awaiting a response from the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) regarding procedures (if any) on the closure of the Horton Municipal Airport.

Calhoon spoke about requiring a contractor permit and proof of liability insurance for any contractor conducting work within the city of Horton.

Calhoon also discussed implementation of a form with a written plan for when someone acquires a piece of property, and the city waives the special assessments that were placed on the tax roll through the county for collection. This would hold the person accountable for the timeline written in their plan for the property in which special assessments were waived.

**Mayor Stirton**

Mayor Stirton said that with the first full weekend of camping at Mission Lake he hadn't heard much for issues. He suggested that the gravel that was laid around the lake be graded better. He said it was no afternoon delight to drive around the lake because it is rougher than a corn cob. If time permits, he would like the city crews to smooth it out the best they can.

**Commissioner Lovelady**

No report.

**Commissioner West**

No report.

**Commissioner Boller**

Commissioner Boller would like to get USDA into a meeting to discuss the spillway at Mission Lake. She would like them to attend a meeting and talk to the Commission because if the spillway goes, the whole lake goes. Calhoon said he has been told that the Department of Agriculture has the best opportunity/source for funding and will try to get someone here. Boller said that she wants some answers, and Mayor Stirton concurred.

**Commissioner Nigh**

No report.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye.

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Kim Knudson, City Clerk

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Bryan Stirton, Mayor