

April 17, 2023  
5:15 P.M.  
City Hall

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regular meeting on Monday, April 17, 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 after West requested a 10-minute executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel be added to the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2023, regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Nigh. All aye.

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

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

#### **Public Comments**

No comments.

#### **Hiawatha Masonic Lodge #35**

Calhoon attended a meeting with the Hiawatha Masonic Lodge on 02/07/2023. One of the first things with the Kansas Pride Program is to find a Masonic Lodge to partner with. The masons will provide help in beautifying the town with flowerpots, purchasing flags, or donating money towards a specified small project that the city requests. Members Jamie Carwell, William Bailey, and Shawn Loyd from the Hiawatha Masonic Lodge #35 were present tonight to present the city with a \$500 check as a donation as part of the PRIDE efforts to start the PRIDE Program. Calhoon said we were the first ones to ask for their sponsorship participation.

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

Mark Conard was present to inquire about obtaining the lot next to his at 125 West 9<sup>th</sup>. The Commission opted to table it until the next meeting so the city could verify any special assessments or back taxes owed. Motion by Commissioner West to table discussion until the next meeting so the city can find out particulars on the property. Seconded by Commissioner Boller. All aye.

#### **Dispatch Contract Discussion with Brown County**

Ron Segrest was present on behalf of the Brown County Sheriff's Office to speak about the 911 upgrades and potential pricing involved. Segrest said that the annual cost for a

console would be \$18,000 annually for Horton. He said that Horton dispatch is the secondary to answer calls if there was a catastrophic situation, and the purpose of the console in Horton is to provide redundancy. West voiced concerns that the city cannot withstand the extra expense in our budget. C. Boller asked Segrest if the county could assist the city with the annual cost to serve as a backup. Calhoon said that based on the number of 911 calls and PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point funds) received, he doesn't feel that it is worth the city paying \$18,000 annually. Calhoon and Chief Boller were tasked with attending a county commission meeting to negotiate sharing the cost and bring back to the Commission.

### **Public Works Updates**

Public Works Superintendent Randy Mayfield was present to provide updates to the Commission on the water, sewer, electric, and street departments. Detailed reports showing the summary of work orders created, and the status of work orders by department were provided. Mayfield explained to C. Boller that a ceramic tile pipe was the cause of the street collapse at 11<sup>th</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue West last week.

### **Police Department Updates**

Chief Boller said the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police Conference will be held in Mulvane, KS on May 1 – 4.

Motion by Commissioner West to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel to protect the privacy interests of the employee to include the Commission, Kevin Hill, Chief Boller, and John Calhoon. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye. After the executive session no action taken.

Motion by Commissioner West to go into a 5-minute executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel to protect the privacy interests of the employee to include the Commission, Kevin Hill, Chief Boller, and John Calhoon. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye. After executive session Motion was made by Commissioner West to reappoint Cristy Woods as City Treasurer. Seconded by Commissioner Nigh. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to reappoint Kevin Hill as the City Attorney. Seconded by Commissioner Boller. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner West to appoint Scott Anson as the Municipal Judge. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye.

All terms will be served through 2025.

### **ATV Revised Ordinance Discussion**

The Commission was given a draft of an ATV Ordinance for review. The Commission tabled the discussion until they have more time to examine before Kevin Hill puts it in draft form. West stated that from a safety standpoint, he will not be in favor of voting to allow ATVs on the streets. He believes they are designed to be offroad.

### **Consider Appointment of Parks & Recreation Board Member**

Calhoon asked the Commission to consider Kelsee Hirsch as a new member of the Parks & Recreation Board. Motion by Commissioner Nigh to appoint Kelsee Hirsch to the Parks & Recreation Board. Seconded by Commissioner Boller. All aye.

**Update on KDOT Project 18th & Central to End of City Limits**

Diane Rosebaugh from BG Consultants reached out to Calhoon regarding the design of our Horton CCLIP project located along US-73. At this point they have done some preliminary work for the project, and it appears that the scope of the project does not quite max out the \$300,000 funding that we have received. Rosebaugh's preliminary estimate of probable construction costs for a mill and overlay along US-73 between 18th Street and the north city limits is about \$138,000. If they budget roughly 10% for construction engineering, we are at roughly \$150,000, leaving roughly \$150,000 from KDOT on the table. Rosebaugh has discussed this with KDOT, and they would entertain a request for extending the project further to the south should the city be interested in maxing out the funding. Calhoon will speak with Rosebaugh and KDOT about the possibility of using the funds to move out West, or as Commissioner West suggested, have a contractor come in and cut the bad areas out and fix them.

**Mission Lake Dam and Little Lake Dredging Discussion**

After conversation it was decided that the Mission Lake spillway repairs will take precedence over dredging the Little Lake. Calhoon will continue to work with Christy Davis, State Director for Kansas to help locate funding opportunities for the Mission Lake Dam engineering design.

**City Administrator**

Calhoon said that all of the fence capping has been installed at the ballfields. The lights for the fields have also been ordered, and one scoreboard and the flagpole have been installed. Gravel for the parking lot is in the works.

Calhoon has been working closely with Colton Oswald about reseeding the fields and repairing the ruts.

Grimm's Gardens has graciously agreed to donate retaining wall block for landscaping purposes at the ballfields.

Clerk Knudson provided information to the Commission regarding base monthly meter charges for residential, commercial, and large commercial users.

Calhoon said that seasonal mowers have been hired for the season. He stated that the lake caretaker's wife has donated her time to help mow around the lake for the last few years, and suggested to the Commission that the city pay her \$11.00 an hour to work 25-30 hours a week this summer. Mayor Stirton voiced that he didn't have a problem with it as long as she helps the city crews mow city properties. Stirton said that the city provides Wi-Fi, water, sewer, electric, propane, free camping fees, and a salary as part of the lake caretakers contract. Calhoon said that if interested, she would punch a timeclock to keep track of her hours worked.

**Mayor Stirton**

Mayor Stirton said that the grading at Mission Lake is better, he would downgrade it from a corn cob to a pineapple. Mayor Stirton wondered if the township could come in and give the roads a passthrough.

**Commissioner Lovelady**

No report.

**Commissioner West**

No report.

**Commissioner Boller**

Commissioner Boller asked Calhoon to provide an update on the airport closure at the next meeting.

**Commissioner Nigh**

No report.

**3 Minute Executive Session to Discuss Non-Elected Personnel**

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, Kevin Hill, Chief Boller, and John Calhoon. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye. After the executive session no action taken.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Lovelady. All aye.

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Kim Knudson, City Clerk

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Bryan Stirton, Mayor