

February 20, 2024
5:15 P.M.
City Hall

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 5:15 p.m.

Mayor Stirton called the meeting to order, and the opening prayer was led by Dan Burns. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Present: Mayor Stirton, Commissioner Josh White, Avery Thornton, Carmela Boller, and Tina Nigh. City Attorney Kevin Hill was 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 February 5, 2024, regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Nigh. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2024, special meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Thornton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3796 (Payroll) for \$40,452.78. Seconded by Commissioner Thornton. All aye.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to approve Appropriation Ordinance #3797 (Disbursements) for \$141,716.46. Seconded by Commissioner Thornton. All aye.

Public Comments

No comments.

Request to be Placed on Agenda Regarding City Owned Property

Larry Mills was present to say that the school was awarded a \$2,000 grant, and they would like to use the funds for a 9-hole disc golf course. The course will be placed around the pool, playground, soccer field area. Mills said that the course will provide outside family fun and promote outside activity! Mills will provide the Commission with a diagram of the course at the next meeting to be considered for approval.

Request to be Placed on Agenda Regarding City Owned Property

Sunny Boado was present to get clarity on the city zoning regulations regarding a property she purchased at 320 East 7th Street. She would like to build an 18 x 24 greenhouse and outdoor cooking station, and has been working with Chief Entrikin to get her building permit approved. The zoning regulations currently state the Boado would have to have a residential structure on the vacant lot in order to be approved for an accessory building. Boado wondered that since when she asked to purchase the vacant lot, she indicated that she intended to use the property as a garden, and if she would be able to be approved for the building permit on the relation to that. Because the intended purpose was a garden, would the additional structures be considered main use of the premises. Chief Entrikin will discuss with Kevin Hill prior to the next Commission meeting so an answer can be provided to Boado on how to proceed.

10-Minute Executive Session to Discuss Non-Elected Personnel

Motion by Commissioner Boller 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, Kim Knudson, Andrew Jones, and Kevin Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Nigh. All aye. After executive session no action was taken. Information only.

Public Works Updates

Public Works Superintendent Randy Mayfield was present to provide updates to the Commission on the water, sewer, electric, and street departments, and field any questions from the Commission. Mayfield said that Aller's LLC began work on the red shale at the ballfields, and work will begin soon on the volunteer portion at the fields. Boller stated that there are a lot of potholes in need of attention by the high school on the one-way street at the bottom of the hill.

Police Department/Dispatch Updates

No report.

Review MOU for Recreation Coordinator Position

The Commission was presented with a draft MOU for the Recreation Coordinator Position prepared by Kevin Hill. Motion by Commissioner Nigh to proceed with the MOU by sending it to the candidate for him to review, and finish up at the next Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Boller. All aye.

Consider Spring Cleanup Dates

Motion by Commissioner Nigh to proceed with the Spring Cleanup dates of March 29th – April 8th as presented by Clerk Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Thornton. All aye. The Citywide Spring Cleanup is sponsored by the City of Horton for its residents.

Consider Approval of Employee Performance Evaluation and Job Description for Police Department/Dispatch

Motion by Commissioner Nigh to approve the Employee Performance Evaluation and Job Description for Police Department/Dispatch as presented by Chief Entrikin. Seconded by Commissioner Thornton. All aye.

20-Minute Executive Session to Discuss Non-Elected Personnel

Motion by Commissioner Thornton to go into a 20-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, Randy Mayfield, and Kevin Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Nigh. All aye. After executive session no action was taken. Information only.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to go into a 20-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, Randy Mayfield, and Kevin Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Thornton. All aye. After executive session no action was taken. Information only.

Mayor Stirton

Mayor Stirton said that the ballfields should be done by the end of the week as far as the infields go. Once the bathrooms are installed the city staff will install the plumbing.

Commissioner White

Commissioner White asked if a camper at Mission Lake can trade with another camper. Knudson said that it is allowed on a case by case basis only if both parties currently have spots established in their name at the lake.

Commissioner Thornton

Motion by Commissioner Thornton to install five parallel parking spots in front of the library. Seconded by Commissioner Nigh. All aye. Thornton said that we will lose 2 spots if we go parallel, but the parallel spots will ease the tight squeeze in the area for vehicles passing at the same time.

Commissioner Boller

No report.

Commissioner Nigh

Commissioner Nigh asked for clarification on the electric rates for the season campers. Knudson said that the Service Charge is \$13.00 for the campers, which is up from the \$8.00 Service Charge that campers paid last season. Nigh also had someone address that if there was overcrowding in spots at Mission Lake that the city would make the same consideration as they did when the spot was eliminated in B's Cove due to overcrowding.

Nigh said that the stray cats in town are out of control and that the city does have an Ordinance for animals at large. She said there has to be a humane way to control the cat population.

Motion by Commissioner White for the city to donate \$1,000 to the July fireworks display at Mission Lake. Seconded by Commissioner Nigh. Aye— Mayor Stirton, Commissioner White, Thornton, and Nigh. Nay—Commissioner Boller. Motion passed. Boller asked if there was a conflict of interest with Nigh voting since she is soliciting donations for fireworks. Kevin Hill said not if Nigh doesn't benefit financially from the donations.

Boller said she was opposed to the donation of the fireworks because the city budget is looking pretty scarce right now and doesn't think we should be spending taxpayer money on them when we are going to have a hard time meeting the budget without doing cuts.

Motion by Commissioner Boller to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Thornton. All aye.