



MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012
7:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the City Commission was held at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Room. Mayor Loren J. Pepperd and Commissioners John Matta, Wynn Butler, Richard B. Jankovich, and James E. Sherow were present. Also present were the City Manager Ron R. Fehr, Assistant City Manager Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager Lauren Palmer, City Attorney Katharine Jackson, City Clerk Gary S. Fees, 7 staff, and approximately 12 interested citizens.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pepperd led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Pepperd proclaimed November 10, 2012, ***Buddy Poppies***. Marvin Ketterer, Commander, Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post #1786, was present to receive the proclamation.

Mayor Pepperd proclaimed November 1, 2012, through December 22, 2012, ***Fort Riley Operation Santa Claus Month***. Sergeant First Class Sesilio Astorga, Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge, and Sergeant First Class Randolph Spencer, Operation Santa Claus, were present to receive the proclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Pepperd opened the public comments.

Stan Hoerman, 2021 Bluehills Road, submitted a petition with signatures to the City Commission from residents of the Blue Hills neighborhood. The petition requested that the City of Manhattan make permanent repairs to or replacement of streets for Bluehills Road, Bluestem Terrace, Ivy Drive, Fairway Drive, Ivy Lane, and Keen Street.

Mayor Pepperd thanked Mr. Stan Hoerman for bringing the neighborhoods concern to their attention.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (CONTINUED)

Hearing no other comments, Mayor Pepperd closed the public comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mayor Pepperd informed the community that the City Commissioners are all wearing Kansas State University football jersey's at the Commission Meeting in support of the football program. He also displayed the t-shirt provided from Mayor Jim Manilla with the City of Morgantown, West Virginia, as part of the friendly challenge between the University of West Virginia Mountaineers and the Kansas State Wildcats football game on October 20, 2012. He thanked Mayor Jim Manilla for initiating the challenge, the Kansas State football team, Coach Bill Snyder, Amy Button Renz, and others for helping with the event and ensuring a Kansas State football win.

Commissioner Sherow expressed his concern with those affected by Hurricane Sandy and suggested that the city of Manhattan consider assisting those in The Big Apple from those in The Little Apple. He also presented information that was given to him on The Covenant House in New York City as a potential agency that could use financial assistance, which provides services to homeless children.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, stated that the City Commission discussed this item during the Discussion/Briefing Session and that City staff would post information on the City's website with appropriate links directly to the New York City Mayor's Hurricane Relief Fund, the American Red Cross, and to The Covenant House to help relief efforts to those in need.

Commissioner Sherow encouraged citizens to consider contributing to those agencies and individuals that have been overwhelmed as a result of the damage from Hurricane Sandy. He also addressed Mr. Stan Hoerman's concerns regarding the need for street repairs in the Blue Hills neighborhood.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, provided additional information on the analysis conducted annually for street repairs and the prioritization process for maintenance and repair. He stated that City staff will take a look at the roads identified. He provided additional information regarding street repairs and maintenance issues.

Commissioner Matta highlighted several of the negative letters to the editor that have recently appeared in *The Manhattan Mercury* regarding the meat industry and the consumption of beef. He stated that many of the same letters have also appeared exactly the same in other newspapers throughout the country. He stated that, "beef, it's what's for dinner" signs are all across the great state of Kansas and said to not always believe what you read in the newspaper.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (CONTINUED)

Mayor Pepperd said plagiarism is a problem all over in the country. He stated that the Veteran's Day celebration in Manhattan will be Friday, November 9, 2012, and provided an overview of events planned for the day. He encouraged citizens to contact the Flint Hills Veteran's Coalition for additional information or questions.

CONSENT AGENDA

(* denotes those items discussed)

MINUTES

The Commission approved the minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held Tuesday, October 16, 2012.

CLAIMS REGISTER NO. 2713

The Commission approved Claims Register No. 2713 authorizing and approving the payment of claims from October 10, 2012, to October 30, 2012, in the amount of \$2,846,647.37.

LICENSE

The Commission approved Tree Maintenance Licenses for calendar year 2013 for Don's Stump Removal & Tree Service, 3761 South 33rd Street; Eager Beavers Landscaping, Inc., 7020 Cedar Creek Road; and Growing Concerns, Inc., PO Box 1354; a Cereal Malt Beverages On-Premises License for Fast Eddy's, 1315 Laramie Street; and Cereal Malt Beverages Off-Premises Licenses for Hop-N-Skip Convenience Store, 2233 Tuttle Creek Boulevard; and Kwik Shop #733, 1337 Anderson Avenue.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS – ENGINEERING SERVICES – US 24/EAST POYNTZ AVENUE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT (ST1107)

The Commission authorized City staff to advertise a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Construction Engineering Services for the US 24 Highway and East Poyntz Avenue Intersection Improvement Project (ST1107).

* AGREEMENT – DESIGN SERVICES – 300 BLOCK ALLEYS NORTH AND SOUTH OF POYNTZ AND 400 BLOCK ALLEY SOUTH OF POYNTZ (SM1207)

The Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement in the amount of \$24,040.00 with SMH Consultants, of Manhattan, Kansas, for design services related to the 300 block alleys north and south of Poyntz Avenue and the 400 block alley south of Poyntz Avenue (SM1207).

CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

* **AGREEMENT – ENGINEERING SERVICES – CASEMENT ROAD BRIDGE OVER MARLATT AVENUE DITCH (SM1203)**

The Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement in the amount of \$225,949.00 with Olsson Associates, of Manhattan, Kansas, for engineering services related to the design of the Casement Road Bridge over Marlatt Avenue Ditch project (SM1203).

* **AWARD CONTRACT – EUREKA VALLEY/K-18 WATERMAIN RELOCATION (WA1210)**

The Commission accepted the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost in the amount of \$98,600.00; awarded a construction contract in the amount of \$78,600.00 to Larson Construction, of Manhattan, Kansas; and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract with Larson Construction for the Eureka Valley Tributary/K-18 Watermain Relocation (WA1210).

PURCHASE – SUNSET ZOO COMMISSARY WALK-IN FREEZER (CIP #SZ003E)

The Commission authorized the purchase and installation of a new walk-in freezer in the amount of \$27,254.00 and construction of an insulated concrete slab (add alternate) in the amount of \$3,413.00 from Thermal Comfort Air, of Manhattan, Kansas, to be paid from the Special Parks and Recreation Fund.

PURCHASE – ROAD WEATHER INFORMATION SYSTEM (SP1211)

The Commission authorized the purchase of the necessary equipment in the amount of \$28,850.00 for one (1) Mini Road Weather Information System Station from Gades Sales Corporation, Inc., of Wichita, Kansas, to be paid from the Special Street and Highway Fund.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The Commission approved appointments by Mayor Pepperd to various boards and committees of the City.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Re-appointment of Catherine Lavis, 721 Canyon Drive, to a three-year term. Ms. Lavis' term will begin January 1, 2013, and will expire December 31, 2015.

Cemetery Board

Re-appointment of Patrick Gormely, 434 Wickham Road, to a three-year term. Mr. Gormely's term will begin January 1, 2013, and will expire December 31, 2015.

CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

BOARD APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)

City/University Special Projects Fund Committee (CONTINUED)

Appointment of Ben Champion, 2349 Bellehaven Road, to a one-year faculty term. Mr. Champion's term begins immediately, and will expire June 30, 2013.

Appointment of Jeff Brownlee, 1015 Sunset Avenue, to a one-year student term. Mr. Brownlee's term begins immediately, and will expire June 30, 2013.

Appointment of Jake Unruh, 1632 McCain Lane, to a one-year student term. Mr. Unruh's term begins immediately, and will expire June 30, 2013.

After discussion and comments from the Commission, Commissioner Sherow moved to approve the consent agenda, as read. Commissioner Jankovich seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

GENERAL AGENDA

FIRST READING - INCREASE RATES - WATER AND SANITARY SEWER SERVICES

Robert Pugh, Assistant Director of Public Works – Utilities, presented the item. He then responded to questions from the Commission regarding the proposed wastewater rates and debt repayment necessary to pay off the infrastructure improvements.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, provided additional information on the historic and proposed wastewater rates.

Dale Houdeshell, Director of Public Works, responded to questions from the Commission and provided clarification on the rate structure. He then responded to additional questions from the Commission regarding the proposed unit costs for water, the proposed sanitary sewer rates, and the projected percentage increases and associated timelines.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, provided additional information on the proposed percentage increases in water rates and user groups.

After discussion and comments from the Commission, Commissioner Sherow moved to approve first readings of ordinances amending applicable sections of Chapter 32 of the Code of Ordinances to increase water and wastewater rates as recommended, effective January 1, 2013. Commissioner Jankovich seconded the motion.

GENERAL AGENDA (CONTINUED)

FIRST READING - INCREASE RATES - WATER AND SANITARY SEWER SERVICES (CONTINUED)

Ron Fehr, City Manager, responded to additional questions from the Commission. He provided clarification on the proposed rate increases, infrastructure expenses, and required federal mandates.

After additional discussion and comments from the Commission, on a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:50 p.m., the Commission adjourned.



Gary S. Fees, MMC, City Clerk