

## Minutes

Friday, 21 January 2020

8:15 a.m.

City Commission Room, City Hall, 1101 Poyntz Avenue

### 1. MEETING OPENING

1.1. Sevin called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

1.2. Roll Call

Present: Seth Scobee, Joseph Edmunds, Carol Sevin, Brian Hardeman, David Colburn, Kevin Fateley, Nancy Baker, Ed Kalas, Annie Cook, Chris Spooner

Absent: none

Staff: Brian Johnson, City Engineer; Alfonso Leyva, Parks Planner; John Adam, Senior Planner; Tyler Tripp, Bike/Ped Coordinator; Ben Chmiel, Planner III

Public: 1

1.3. **Minutes of 1/17/2020 and 1/24/2020 meetings.** Colburn moved to approve the minutes; Edmunds seconded. Motion passed 6–0–4.

1.4. **Public Comments:** Chad Moreau expressed interest on behalf of Bike Walk MHK to look into methods for updating and involving the public in the implementation of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Systems Plan (BPSP). The members of BPAC agreed that methods for this type of action should be implemented in order to ensure that projects from the plan are completed and that the public is notified. Sevin recommended that an annual update of some sort be used to update the public on the progress of the BPSP.

### 2. REPORTS & UPDATES

2.1. **Public Works:** Over the summer Kimball Avenue will be under construction at the intersections with Seth Child Road, College Avenue, and Browning Avenue. During the construction Kimball will remain open to vehicular traffic. There will be detours for cyclists and pedestrians. This process will likely continue through the summer and into the fall. Tremblay asked whether there would be crossings at Kimball Avenue and College Avenue for pedestrians. ATA and the Flint Hills MPO are working to reroute the bus service that goes to the Gramercy Apartments which could be affected by this project. Johnson responded that there would be crossings going from east to west at this intersection, but not north to south. This project will involve the addition of a ten-foot trail on the north side

of Kimball.

North Manhattan Avenue will be under construction in the summer from McCain Lane to Claflin Road. There will be new signals, ramps, etc. associated with this project.

KDOT is currently bidding the bridge improvements on K-18 which will add a trail on the north side of the bridge. The construction process will likely slow traffic considerably on K-18. Johnson advised using Anderson during the construction process.

The Claflin sidewalk project is being started again. This project will add sidewalk from North Manhattan Avenue to McCain Lane. Some CDBG funds will be used for this project.

- 2.2. **Parks & Recreation:** Plans for the Clarenburg Trail expansion were received from the consulting firm. The Parks and Recreation Department will have comments back to them at the beginning of March.

The PRD is moving forward with placing lighting on the Old Blue River Trail. Lighting should be on this trail within the next couple of months.

- 2.3. **Community Development:** The City Commission has passed the first reading of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Systems Plan. The second reading will take place on March 3rd. The BPSP will be incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Plan.

The Unified Development Ordinance is still being edited with plans for adoption in the late summer.

The first Bike Month meeting was very successful and there will likely be more events during Bike Month than have occurred in the past. The next Bike Month meeting will be today (2/21) at 5:30 p.m. in the auditorium at the Manhattan Public Library.

A response from KDOT for the City's Transportation Alternative Grant requests will likely occur next week.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

- 3.1. **Presentation about funding:** A [glossary of funding sources](#) was created and presented for further understanding of means to fund bike/ped projects. Additionally, the Geometric Improvements Grant was also mentioned by Johnson as a potential funding source. These improvements have to be on a state highway. Generally, this is used to reduce vehicular congestion but bike/ped improvements can be part of those projects. City-University Funds were also mentioned. Sales tax generated on campus goes into this fund which is allocated by a board of both city and university officials. These projects should benefit both the City and Kansas State University. The [2020 Budget Book](#) is also available as a resource.

### 4. OLD BUSINESS

- 4.1. **BPAC goal setting for 2020:** BPAC continued the process of setting goals for the 2020 year. There was a desire to increase education initiatives. Currently there is mandatory bike safety education in elementary schools in Manhattan, and Bike Walk MHK has partnered with the Manhattan Parks and Recreation Department to create an adult bicycle education program.

Interest in using the League of American Bicyclists' report card for Manhattan as a starting point for looking at areas for improvement was expressed. The renewal application for Manhattan to be a Bicycle Friendly Community was recently submitted. After the review of this process, Manhattan should receive a new report card. It was decided that when that report comes out, it should be presented to BPAC.

It was recommended that the city create a bike/walk friendly business designation. Tripp responded that this had been attempted in the past and was stopped due to the difficulty of getting businesses to respond. He also stated that he would be willing to begin this project again if that is something that BPAC wanted to pursue.

Better education for drivers was also desired, specifically relating to how drivers should handle cyclists on the road. The idea to potentially do a short educational piece on the "Monday in Manhattan" Facebook/YouTube series received general consensus and the logistics of that action will be explored further.

There was a desire to bring in liaisons and/or leadership from organizations that are affected by or can affect bike/ped issues, such as Kansas State University, RCPD, the Flint Hills Wellness Coalition, etc. This would serve the primary purpose of bringing bike/ped issues to the forefront of their minds and to potentially be able to access different resources.

Some questions were raised about how RCPD once had a greater number of officers on bikes, and whether that type of activity could be brought back.

A general list of the theme of the discussion can be found [here](#).

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

- 5.1. Updates and comments from members
- 5.2. Meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.