



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
June 16, 2020
9:00 a.m.

1. The Governing Body of the City of Hutchinson, Kansas met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 in the City Council Chambers with Mayor Piros de Carvalho presiding. Councilmembers Daveline, Soldner, Garza and Bagwell were present.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

3. The prayer was given by Pastor Darryl Peterson of Grace Christian Church.

4. Proclamations

a. A Proclamation for Smallville, Kansas – The Home of Clark Kent and Many Real Superheroes, was accepted by Amy Conkling with the Hutchinson Recreation Commission. Ms. Conkling said the festival will look a lot different this year, but that June's Third Thursday event will still continue on a smaller scale.

Christopher Wietrick said he came before the council seven years ago with ideas he had about Smallville. He said this will be the eighth proclamation for Smallville; and remembers when then Mayor Bob Bush said, "who are these people and are they serious?" Mr. Wietrick said Smallville does a lot for tourism, but sadly this year it's another event that has been cancelled. He said when he was on the Convention and Visitors Board in 2015 the festival brought in roughly \$750,000.00 that week; and said this event is an important part of our community. Mr. Wietrick encouraged everyone to thank all of our superheroes. Councilmember Garza asked if anyone else has this kind of a celebration. Mr. Wietrick said part of his inspiration was Metropolis, Illinois which is a small town of 4,000 people. He said they have a large Superman celebration; and the town has a Superman museum, statute, etc.

Ethan Kaplan, who appeared as Clark Kent, also spoke. He thanked the council and citizens for embracing the celebration, saying this is more about celebrating the idea of Smallville and the values installed in a young boy. He said it is celebrated as a place of good over evil, right over wrong, and equality over inequality. Mr. Kaplan said while we are not able to have all of the Smallville events, we can still use the week to celebrate and recognize heroes.

5. Petitions, Remonstrances and Communications
 - a. Oral communications from the audience. (Please limit your remarks to five (5) minutes and to items NOT on the agenda.)

Datjaeda Moore, Human Relations Officer, said the last few weeks have been very busy; and she has been working a lot of hours trying to unite the community and bring people to the table to talk about improving the community, etc. She said as she evaluates her role, she believes the Human Relations Officer position needs to be re-evaluated as a full-time opportunity. She spoke further about this saying she knows the budget considerations are significant, but hopes they will take a look at the position.

Secondly, Ms. Moore said the Supreme Court ruling was a victory for the LGBTQ+ community saying they have been anticipating this decision. She said the commission will be looking for language to help shift our local ordinance to include this language; and to find any other disparities.

Ms. Moore also talked about the Juneteenth event which will be held on Friday, June 19, 2020 at Chester I. Lewis Plaza. She said the Human Relations Commission felt it was important to sponsor young voices from the black and brown communities; and encouraged everyone to come out. Ms. Moore said she hopes this event will continue on for many years; and thanked the council for all they do. The Mayor thanked her for her comments; and said she agrees the position should be full-time. The Mayor also asked about job protections for the LGBTQ+ community; and asked how we bring those into alignment as Chapter 3 of City Code excludes the LGBTQ+ community. Ms. Moore said the Human Relations Commission will be reviewing the language that was passed; and hopes language can be inserted in the protected classes space. Additional discussion ensued.

Ms. Moore said the official opening of the Chester I. Lewis Plaza will be held on July 30th, but the Juneteenth event will be the first event in the plaza. She said the event will take place from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will include food trucks, snow cones, cotton candy, kids activities, music, etc. Ms. Moore said they will also be bringing back the cake walk; and said they will be accepting cake donations. Discussion ensued regarding activities, social distancing, etc.

Steven Petermann of Salt City Brewing Company said he is wanting to put on a community event but needs a Resolution. Paul Brown, City Attorney, said they only need to decide at this time if the item should be added to the agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Daveline, to add the request for a Special Event to the agenda as Item 7b. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes of June 2, 2020 City Council meeting.
- b. Approval of the appointment of David Abel Sotelo Holguin, 2900 Acres Road, Apt. 101, Hutchinson, KS to the Hutchinson Human Relations Commission to fill the unexpired term of Kalene Nisly for the term beginning 9/11/2018 to 9/11/2021.
- c. Approval of contract with Friends of the Zoo for reimbursement of seasonal rehabilitation assistant expenses.
- d. Approval of Addendum to contract with Reno County for the Reno County Area Transit.
- e. Approval of May, 2020 City Council financial reports.
- f. Approval of appropriation ordinance in the amount of \$1,317,502.29.

Motion by Councilmember Bagwell, second by Councilmember Garza, to approve the Consent Agenda; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

7. New Business

- a. Consider 2019 Audit. Angela Richard, Director of Finance, introduced Randy Hofmeier with Lindburg Vogel saying he will talk about the audit; and then she will walk council through the document.

Randy Hofmeier with Lindburg, Vogel, said he would just focus on the highlights. He said the report was issued on April 14, 2020; and there were no difficulties with the audit. He said this has probably been the smoothest year on working with the audit saying it has to do with staff, software, etc. Discussion ensued regarding fund accounting and each fund being its own entity, reserves, etc.

Ms. Richard reviewed the financial statements; and gave an overview of how to read those statements. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Bagwell, to approve the 2019 audit performed by Lindburg, Vogel, Pierce and Faris Chartered. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Consider Special Event for Salt City Brew Fest. Paul Brown, City Attorney, spoke about the request. Discussion ensued regarding other businesses in the area, fencing, barricades, etc. Mr. Peterman said this will be a free event for the community with the focus being on younger kids and family during the day; and then around 8:00 p.m. having live music, a street dance, etc. He said they typically do something like this on their own premises, but would like to expand the area. Additional discussion ensued.

Mayor Piros de Carvalho asked about his security plan with 360 Security. Mr. Petermann said Sean Harper operates 360 Security and has provided security for other events he has sponsored. He said there will four security personnel on the premises to take care of any problems that might arise. Mr. Petermann said members of the police

department will also be present, but he may have to look for sponsors if he will be required to pay for their service. He said regardless of what is decided, he will still have the 4th of July event on the premises. Discussion ensued.

Chief Hooper, with the Hutchinson Police Department, said Mr. Petermann has been a great advocate of our community; and said he is not opposed to this event, but is concerned about safety and the City's financial situation. Chief Hooper said there are a lot of events going on that day including the Patriots Parade which will require in excess of 20 officers on overtime, the fireworks display that evening, etc. He said he worries about the entire block being cordoned off because of emergency vehicle access. Chief Hooper said he is not opposed to a private security firm, but said he is still looking at two officers on overtime for the event. Discussion ensued regarding overtime expenses, the crime rate, staffing levels in the Police Department, etc. The Mayor said she respects the Chief's comments but said any of these events could be dangerous, anything can happen at any time; and she doesn't want to send the message that this council wants to kill the community's spirit.

Jeff Cantrell, City Manager, said the last event for Salt City Brewing was held on June 14, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. He said a complete closure of the roadway is problematic for emergency responders; and is especially problematic for July 4. The Mayor asked if Mr. Petermann could alter the area of the road closure. After some discussion, it was decided the far lane on the west side of Main Street could remain open for emergency vehicles. Mr. Brown said the parade may not be over by noon, and asked that the starting time be changed to 2:00 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Bagwell, second by Councilmember Garza to approve a Resolution authorizing a Special Event pursuant to City Code Section 18-801 et seq for Salt City Brewing Company, with the hours of the event being from 2:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.; and the far west lane of Main Street to remain open for emergency access. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Report of City Officials

a. Council

- Councilmember Soldner had no comments.
- Councilmember Daveline had no comments.
- Councilmember Garza thanked Mr. Petermann for bringing this event request forward. He said he has been to some of the Black Lives Matter events; and said Chief Hooper did a great job. Councilmember Garza said people need to talk; and this is the first step.
- Councilmember Bagwell said she hopes we can bridge the communication gap, saying there are a lot of people butting heads when they could actually come together. She said people should focus on what they agree with rather than on what they disagree about.

- Mayor Piros de Carvalho said we've talked a lot about community events the past few weeks. She encouraged people to remain cautious as we start to gather so that we don't have to close down the economy again. The Mayor asked people to take public health safety protocols seriously by wearing a mask, washing your hands, social distancing, etc.

The Mayor also reminded everyone that today is the deadline for applying for CDBG-CV funds, saying the City received \$132,000.00 in small business funds and the County received that same amount. She also said she has had a discussion with the City Manager about inspection/violations letters going out, saying we want to be mindful of people's limitations to pay at this time. The City Manager said the process has been extended for compliance; and further said the majority of cases don't involve significant dollars. Mr. Cantrell said most complaints are due to trash and tall grass. The Mayor said they also discussed revising the letter as it sets up friction between the City and the resident; and said she would like to see the letter have a friendlier tone.

Mayor Piros de Carvalho also said the City is working on securing sponsorships for the fireworks display. She said RCB Bank has stepped up to cover part of the cost, but the City is still looking for others. The Mayor also thanked RCB for their support.

b. City Manager

Mr. Cantrell said the notification that residents receive is bound by statutory guidelines, but we may be able to make it a "courtesy notice" and less threatening to the residents. He said the letter has to be valid for prosecution; and said all cities suffer from this, but we will work on the wording in the letter.

The City Manager said he and the Mayor went to a meeting to discuss the Kansas State Fair, saying there were a magnitude of issues that were discussed. He said the consensus was that this will be a State decision; and a communication will come from the Governor. Mr. Cantrell said there will also be a communication that goes out on City letterhead about the Fair.

Mr. Cantrell said he's received several calls about the mowing of draining ditches. He said he's not happy about it either, but with the curtailment of services and cost savings measures being taken, the frequency of mowing had to be changed. He said the ditches will be mowed, but not as frequently as in the past.

Mr. Cantrell talked about the SPARK Grant, saying this is for the allocation and distribution of funds going to cities based on how much suffering

they've encountered during the COVID crisis. said the rules are very cumbersome, but in the near future a Resolution will come from the County; and staff will then bring a Resolution to the City Council.

The City Manager asked for a special meeting to be set to review the CDBG-CV grant applications. Discussion ensued, with the date being set for Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers. Discussion ensued.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Bagwell, second by Councilmember Soldner, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Meetings

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| June 23, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. | City Council special meeting |
| July 7, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. | City Council meeting |
| July 21, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. | City Council meeting |