



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
May 21, 2019
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, May 21, 2019 in the City Council Chambers with Mayor Inskeep presiding. Councilmembers Dechant, Daveline, Soldner and Piros de Carvalho 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. 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.)

Justin Combs, Director of Parks and Facilities, said the Hutchinson Zoo is closed due to flooding. He said the pond is out of its banks; and some exhibits are under water. Mr. Combs said they will continue to update the public.

Rebecca Starkey Keasling, Director of Public Information and Community Engagement, gave an update on the survey regarding the renaming of Avenue A Park. She said the survey was posted on May 15; and there have been nearly 700 responses to date. She said the survey will be posted until June 10; and she will then compile the results. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said a lot of people are commenting on the link but not actually completing the survey. She said those comments will not be included in the tabulation.

John Deardoff, City Manager, introduced Ryan Hvitlok, the City's new Planning Director, who came from Fergus Falls, MN. Mr. Hvitlok said he is looking forward to working with a great staff; and moving forward.

5. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes of May 7, 2019 City Council meeting.

b. Approval of appointments to the Public Art Design Council of the following:
Kathleen Broker, 1200 East 11th Avenue #E7, for appointment to a first three-year term from 7/01/2019 to 7/01/2022.

Jim Heck, 316 East 13th Avenue, for reappointment to a second three-year term from 7/01/2019 to 7/01/2022.

Lovella Kelley, 4301 Winesap, for reappointment to a second three-year term from 7/01/2019 to 7/01/2022.

Kari Mailloux, 10 Whitmore Road, for reappointment to a second three-year term from 7/01/2019 to 7/01/2022.

- c. Approval of April 2019 financial reports.
- d. Approval of appropriation ordinance in the amount of \$1,110,800.53.

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

6. Ordinances and Resolutions

There were no Ordinances or Resolutions.

7. New Business

a. Consider Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Justin Combs, Director of Parks and Facilities, said this is the final presentation of the Master Plan. He said there was quite a bit of public input; and the plan captures what the community wants. He said it also gives the City a roadmap of how to proceed. Mr. Combs said the Plan celebrates what we have; and also pinpoints neighborhood parks that have sometimes been ignored. He said the study shows we need to do a better job of taking care of what we have. Mr. Combs thanked everyone involved with the study; and recognized the funding for the grant that made this possible.

Pat O'Toole with GreenPlay, spoke about the process used; and gave an overview of the recommendations. He said implementation is the final piece of the Plan; and spoke about their recommendations which included improving active transportation and physical activity opportunities, improving nutrition through partnered educational campaigns, etc. Mr. O'Toole also reviewed the goals and objectives of the Plan. Discussion ensued regarding staffing needs, alternative funding sources, use of Memorial Hall, etc.

Councilmember Daveline asked about the Adventure Park; and what some of the concepts would be for the park. Mr. O'Toole said they looked at it as a potential BMX bike track, having zip lines, etc. He said some of these facilities are being privately built, with the City receiving a percentage of the revenues. Discussion ensued.

Mr. O'Toole also spoke about 17th Avenue dividing the City, saying the north side is mostly baby boomers, with the south side being made up of more millennials. He said those living in the north side are taking part in activities offered in the south side, which led to discussion about the Salt City Splash, etc. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Daveline said he would like to hear from Justin Combs and Tony Finlay as to how we manage this document. Justin Combs said with regard to the Park side, it's pretty simple. He said they have a scorecard for each park; and can start making progress toward maintenance/improvements. He said they have visited about half of the

parks; and talked about how much improvements to each will cost. Mr. Combs said some of the bigger items have already been put into the five year plan; and he will begin talking about those at upcoming meetings. Discussion ensued.

Tony Finlay, Director of the Hutchinson Recreation Commission, said it's not quite as easy to explain on their side. He talked about the Neighborhood Development Program; and said they will continue to develop that program. He also said there will be more publicity regarding the HRC Foundation which offers scholarships, etc. Mr. Finlay said there are other challenges, as the facilities are full; and an influx of more children will cause an even greater shortage of ball fields. Additional discussion ensued regarding the Elmdale Community Center, HRC's mill levy, etc.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, to accept the joint Parks and Recreation Master Plan as presented by Green Play - Research, Education and Development. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Consider Build Grant Contract with WSP USA, Inc. Jeff Peterson, Director of Engineering, spoke. He said the Woodie Seat project aligns with what the Build Grant goes toward; and said the Build Grant is a \$900 million national program, with no state receiving more than 10% of the funds. Discussion ensued regarding the bridges in the Woodie Seat corridor, soliciting letters of support, project costs, etc.

Councilmember Dechant said this project would have a direct impact on a neighborhood; and said it would have been good to talk to residents about the project. Mr. Deardoff said he attended a neighborhood meeting in SW Bricktown; and did talk a little about this project. He said generally he has heard good comments, but not everyone will be happy. Mr. Deardoff said the grant process doesn't commit us to anything; and there will be conversations with the whole community, not just the SW Bricktown neighborhood. Additional discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Dechant, second by Councilmember Soldner, to approve the proposed contract with WSP USA, Inc. with regard to the Woodie Seat Freeway project in an amount not to exceed \$42,686.20; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Consider Code of Conduct and Civil Rights/Fair Housing Policy required by CDBG Grant. Angela Richard, Director of Finance, spoke about the policies SCKEDD is requiring. Discussion ensued. Paul Brown, City Attorney, said there isn't anything in these documents that is not already covered by our Human Relations ordinance and State law; and said this is being done simply to accommodate them.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Daveline, to approve the policies as required by the grantee handbook; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed by a vote of four to one, with Councilmember Dechant voting no.

8. Report of City Officials

a. Council

- Councilmember Piros de Carvalho spoke about flooding; and said she wants to inform the public why certain enhancements that are being made aren't improving the situation. Mr. Deardoff said within a reasonable time, the water goes away. He said you can make some of the pipes bigger, but when they are running into smaller pipes, you won't see any relief. Discussion ensued regarding improvements to Cow Creek, communicating with the public, etc. Mr. Deardoff said with our levees, diversion canal and Cow Creek, the City is not flooding. He said if we didn't have those, Hutchinson would be under water; and we are well positioned with our flood control system. Councilmember Daveline said it's a frustrating problem; and said communication is the underlying issue. He asked about an open letter being sent to the public in their utility bills. Additional discussion ensued.

Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she was contacted before the meeting by a person who was thankful for the brochures regarding replacement of outdoor spigots. She said there is no deadline, but people are being taken to court for this issue. She also said she was asked by a landlord last month to visit Municipal Court when housing violations were being discussed. She said she did that; and felt the City Inspector and the Municipal Court Judge were very respectful and accommodating. She said she is concerned, however, as she did not know how much the courts were being bogged down by violation cases. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she wants to better understand the process; and how cases end up in court. She said she didn't expect a lot of low income people who are struggling get taken to court; and end up paying additional costs. Discussion ensued. Mr. Deardoff said court is a last resort, but some people simply refuse to do anything. Additional discussion ensued.

- Councilmember Dechant had no comments.
- Councilmember Daveline had no comments.
- Councilmember Soldner had no comments.
- Mayor Inskeep also welcomed Ryan Hvitlok.

b. City Manager

Mr. Deardoff said he received responses from council with regard to the CIP study session; and said that will be held on Thursday, June 6 at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Deardoff said he received a request to reduce the amount of the letter of credit with regard to the Quail Ridge subdivision. Discussion ensued. Councilmembers indicated they would be willing to discuss the matter when 25% of the subdivision was built.

Mr. Deardoff indicated he would like to add an Executive Session. Motion by Mayor Inskip, second by Councilmember Dechant, to recess into executive session pursuant to confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)4, in order to discuss confidential data relating to financial affairs of a business enterprise; the open meeting to resume in the City Council Chambers at 11:45 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Dechant, second by Councilmember Daveline, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.