

Hillsboro, Kansas
March 21, 2023

1. The City Council met in regular session via Zoom and in person on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 6:30pm with Mayor Lou Thurston and Council members Blake Beye, Brent Driggers, David Loewen and Byron McCarty participating.

Members Absent: None.

2. **Others Participating:** Andrew Kovar, City Attorney; Matt Stiles, City Administrator; Danielle Bartel, City Clerk; Mike & Shawn Vondekamp, Vondy's Liquor; Ronald Wilkins, 606 S Lincoln; Michael Younger, EBH & Associates.

3. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Lou Thurston called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES for the regular meeting dated March 2, 2023 and for the special meetings dated March 7 & 15, 2023.

VOUCHERS in the amount of \$497,922.36.

CHEMICAL PURCHASE for the water plant at a cost of \$11,898.00.

LIQUOR LICENSE for Vondy's Liquor at 500 Western Heights.

Council member Beye motioned to approve the consent agenda. Council member McCarty seconded. Motion carried.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Ronald Wilkins of 606 S Lincoln proposed an amendment to the fowl ordinance to allow domestic fowl to be housed within city limits. He recommended the following for consideration: all housing for fowl must be kept clean; all fowl must be securely housed on the owner's property; a maximum of 10 fowl may be owned within city limits, noting this number could be adjusted; and owners must obey ordinances for maintaining fowl at the risk of fines or revoked privilege to keep fowl.

Administrator Stiles noted the city is complaint-based and the complaints about fowl within the city are very minimal and are usually about roosters. Council directed Administrator Stiles to work with the City Attorney to draft an amended ordinance for review.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE 1365 – KDHE AGREEMENT: Administrator Stiles shared Ordinance 1365 is the proposed agreement with KDHE to address the City's issues with iron and manganese in the Marion Reservoir. He noted the agreement is for the 100% forgivable KDHE loan in the amount of \$1,100,000 for the pilot study.

Council member Loewen motioned to adopt Ordinance 1365 and authorized the mayor to sign. Council member Driggers seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF EBH AGREEMENT FOR DESIGN & ADMINISTRATION OF THE KDHE KPWSLF PROJECT:

Michael Younger of EBH & Associates explained the engineering services to be provided and their request to KDHE to allow for a sole-source purchase of a chlorine dioxide generator. He noted the importance of timing to ensure equipment is in place before the iron and manganese gets to the water plant. Younger stated KDHE anticipates this project to be complete in 2025.

Council member Loewen motioned to approve the agreement with EBH & Associates for engineering services as presented. Council member Beye seconded. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF 2023-2024 PROPERTY & LIABILITY INSURANCE RENEWAL BIDS: Administrator Stiles reviewed the renewal costs of property and liability insurance and highlighted optional changes. He recommended adding a crime policy with EMC and suggested the City continue with KMIT for workman's comp insurance.

Administrator Stiles noted the crime policy would add \$360 annually and that increasing property deductibles would be a way to save on the premium. Increasing the property deductible to \$10,000 would save \$10,929 on the premium in this plan year.

Council member Driggers motioned to approve the insurance renewal with the addition of the crime policy and the property deductibles increased to \$10,000. Council member Beye seconded. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF SPONSORSHIP OF THE 126 N MAIN APPLICATION TO THE HEAL GRANT: Administrator Stiles shared the building at 126 N Main, known as the Olde Towne Building, was purchased earlier this year. The

building's owner, Eric Driggers, is working with Ranson Financial to write a HEAL (Historic Economic Asset Lifeline) Grant through the Kansas Department of Commerce. The grant is for up to \$75,000 for the repair and renovation of a historic building in a downtown area. Part of the grant requires that the city sponsor the application. There is no financial obligation for the city.

Council member Beye motioned to officially sponsor the application to the HEAL Grant program with the State of Kansas for the property at 126 N Main Street. Council member McCarty seconded. Council member Driggers abstained. Motion carried.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

CONSIDERATION OF DOG CONFINEMENT CODE LANGUAGE: Administrator Stiles noted the current ordinance provides clarification regarding dog confinement when the dog is off the owner's property but is not specific about dogs on the owner's property. A revised ordinance would provide clarity about confinement including items such as underground electronic fences, signage for electronic fences, and leashes while on the owner's property.

Council discussion regarding challenges for owners, city employees and the community, as well as the number of dogs in town compared to the number of tags sold. Mayor Thurston pointed out the importance of public safety and of being good neighbors. Council directed staff to draft an ordinance and include a public hearing.

POLICY ON DISCOUNTED GOLF MEMBERSHIPS: Administrator Stiles reviewed Policy 99 for a 50% discount on golf membership fees for city employees, noting this would be for memberships only, not any other costs. Approval of this policy would increase the benefits offered to city employees and could potentially add some members to the course. Council affirmed this direction.

Council member Beye motioned to approve a 50% discount in annual golf memberships for city employees. Council member McCarty seconded. Motion carried.

8. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Stiles reported on the following:

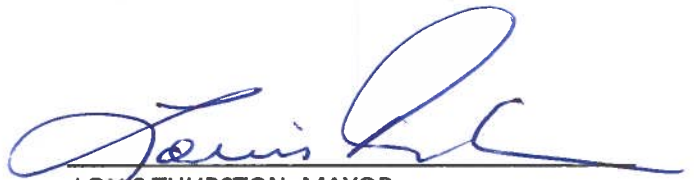
- Sump Pump Amnesty Program
- Sales Tax Revenue
- KPP Bill
- Health Insurance Savings Report
- Equipment Lease-Purchase
- New AP/Payroll Clerk

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

10. COUNCIL COMMENTS: Council member Loewen shared his excitement about the water pilot study with EBH & KDHE.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Council meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

ATTEST:


LOUIS THURSTON, MAYOR


DANIELLE BARTEL, CITY CLERK