



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
February 19, 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, February 19, 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 Kim Biery of Trinity United Methodist 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.)

There were no communications from the audience.

5. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes of January 29, 2019 City Council special meeting.
 - b. Approval of Minutes of February 5, 2019 City Council meeting.
 - c. Approval of appointments to the Visit Hutch Advisory Board of the following:
 - Appointment of Tammy Stephens with the Atrium Hotel & Conference Center, who will replace Gregg Wahlers, for an unlimited term.
 - Reappointment of Laura Barb, Hutchinson Mall, for a second two-year term (even year) at-large position from 1/01/2019 to 12/31/2020.
 - Reappointment of Jason Williams, Holiday Inn Express, for a first full two-year term (even year) at-large position from 1/01/2019 to 12/31/2020.
 - d. Approval of appropriation ordinance in the amount of \$1,735,978.70.

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

6. New Business

a. Consider update on structures determined to be unsafe and dangerous. Trent Maxwell, Building Official, spoke about each of the properties. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Daveline, to approve removal of 763 East Avenue F, 715 West 1st and 1210 N. Forrest from the condemnation list. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Maxwell also gave an update on the Sugar Mill property located at 600 East 1st which is structurally unsound and collapsing. Mr. Maxwell said the property owner did contact an engineer immediately when the building started to collapse; and repairs were estimated to be at least \$250,000.00. He said the Landmarks Commission has indicated the building does not meet standards for demolition; and this matter will probably come before the council in the near future. Discussion ensued regarding securing the property, what can be done to prevent this type of deterioration on other buildings, etc.

Jim Seitnater, Interim Planning Director, said the building is over one hundred years old and has many masonry problems. He said if these buildings are not taken care of, they basically end up on the ground as a stack of stones. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Dechant said there are several buildings that come to mind that are in disrepair, including the Hoke building and the Landmark Hotel. He said he believes they are worth preserving; and asked about bringing public pressure to the owners to make needed repairs. Additional discussion ensued.

b. Consider market study for a Hotel/Convention Center. John Deardoff, City Manager, said the task force met on February 8; and made the determination it would be best to begin with a market study prior to entering into an exclusive development agreement with Leisure Hotels. Mr. Deardoff spoke about the proposals received, the costs associated with the study, funding, etc. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Dechant, second by Councilmember Daveline to approve joint funding of the Market Study proposal from Hospitality Real Estate Counselors (HREC). The motion passed unanimously.

c. Consider Hutchinson Police Department uniform change. Jeff Hooper, Police Chief, spoke about the uniform; and Det. Dan Styles modeled the proposed uniform. Chief Hooper said the current uniform is not traditional, as most law enforcement uniforms are now blue. He talked about the various classes of uniforms, functionality, safety, costs, etc. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, second by Councilmember Soldner, to approve changing the Hutchinson Police Department uniforms. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Report of City Officials

a. Council

- Councilmember Piros de Carvalho asked where the City is in the process of hiring a human relations officer. Mr. Deardoff said we have received seven or eight applications; and it will be discussed at the Human Relations Commission meeting on February 20. He said there are only a few that are qualified; and we should be ready to move forwarding with bringing in two or three for interviews. Discussion ensued.

She also said several weeks ago she asked about the City reaching out to the owner of the east side of the old Eaton building. She said the building is an eyesore; and is not an accurate representation of the positive qualities of the City. Mr. Deardoff said the building is for sale, but not for an amount that is reasonable. He said the owner has not paid their stormwater utility fees, etc.; and something will need to be done about that at some point. Mr. Deardoff said he will continue to work on this matter, that the building is not usable, but the property is valuable for future projects.

- Councilmember Dechant had no comments.
- Mayor Inskip spoke about featured neighborhoods including work on the mural project in SW Bricktown, crosswalk projects in the College Grove neighborhood; and speeding concerns in the Farmington neighborhood.

He also talked about the potholes on Katie Drive. John Deardoff, City Manager, said this is a private drive, not a City street. He said he talked with management last week; and they have someone under contract to complete work on the drive as soon as the weather clears.

- Councilmember Daveline said the weatherman is forecasting 3-6 inches of snow; and asked the City Manager to go over the snow removal policy. Brian Clennan, Director of Public Works, said the policy is to treat all arterial and collector streets, as well as those around schools. He said they will have six plows out; and they are currently doing pre-treatment to roadways. Discussion ensued.
- Councilmember Soldner had no comments.

b. City Manager

Mr. Deardoff said the Park Master Plan meeting will be at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 in the City Council Chambers Conference Room.

Mr. Deardoff said there have been numerous conversations over the years about truck parking on East 20th. He said if council wants to eliminate parking there, council would need to approve an ordinance disallowing truck parking in that area. Discussion ensued.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.