



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
March 6, 2018
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, March 6, 2018 in the City Council Chambers with Mayor Dechant presiding. Councilmembers Daveline, Piros de Carvalho, and Soldner were present. Councilmember Inskeep was absent from the meeting.

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. Jim Remar of the Cosmosphere, updated the Council on what has been taking place at the Cosmosphere. He thanked the citizens for voting in favor of the sales tax issue; this makes up 16-18% of their operating budget and supports exhibits and educational programs. Mr. Remar spoke about the number of people that come to the Cosmosphere each year, how to grow revenue, etc. Mayor Dechant asked Mr. Remar about a satellite facility that was planned for the Kansas City area. Mr. Remar said the Cosmosphere is working with a developer in Kansas City on an educational component in that area. He said this is all being done through private and state funding. He said if the project goes forward, it will be a “teaser facility” that educates people about what is being done at the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson; and will hopefully spur tourism here. Mr. Remar said all of the space artifacts will remain in Hutchinson; and the Kansas City venue will be a feeder for the educational programs. He said the Hutchinson facility is about history; and the Kansas City facility may look more toward the future. He said the Cosmosphere will receive a management fee, with those dollars coming to Hutchinson to support the operations here. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said there is a misconception about how the Kansas City facility will be funded; and if tax revenue from Hutchinson is being used. Mr. Remar said no money is leaving Hutchinson; and zero dollars in tax revenue will be used. Councilmember Daveline asked about the existing footprint; and what the plans are for the former Hutch Floral property that the Cosmosphere acquired. Mr. Remar said the Cosmosphere had initially planned on developing that area; but after working with consultants, they realized they had a lot of underutilized square footage at the Cosmosphere facility. He said using that square footage better allows them to maximize the existing footprint; and there are no plans at the present time to do anything with the Hutch Floral property; it will remain as green space for now.

- b. Oral communications from the audience. (Please limit your remarks to five (5) minutes and to items NOT on the agenda.)

Arthur (Andy) Anderson, 424 Carey Street said he spoke last week about communication between councilmembers and the public. He said he has a new Facebook page up and running called "Common Sense for Hutchinson", which is to allow citizens to voice their concerns along with ideas of how to solve those issues. He asked the council if there would be a chance of having a town hall meeting as membership on this Facebook page grows. Mr. Anderson thanked the Mayor for reaching out to him to set up a meeting; and said he has a meeting with the Director of Communications on Thursday.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes of February 20, 2018 City Council meeting.
- b. Approval of Change Order #1 for Golf Course Improvement Project.
- c. Approval of Release of Lien for Midwest Iron & Metal Co., Inc.
- d. Approval of revisions to Hutchinson Sports Arena rental fees.
- e. Approval of correction to Authority to Award Contract and Commitment of City Funds for Graber Safe Routes to School project.
- f. Approval of appropriation ordinance in the amount of \$1,874,659.89.

Mayor Dechant said he would like to move Item 5b to the last item of business under the New Business section.

Motion by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, second by Councilmember Soldner, to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item 5.b.; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

6. New Business

- a. Consider waiver of fees for USD 308. John Deardoff, City Manager, said this is a continuation of previous discussions; and he decided to put it on the agenda as a formal council item.

Motion by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, second by Councilmember Daveline, to approve the request by USD 308 to waive the Sports Arena fees for the annual graduation event.

Prior to voting, discussion was held. Councilmember Soldner asked about charging other taxing entities. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she has thought about this a lot; and knows the costs for utilities at the Sports Arena is enormous. She said this was sold as a community facility; and said we may need to have a larger conversation and enter into separate agreements with the other entities. She said it will hurt our budget, but it will also hurt the school districts budgets. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho asked if USD 308 has paid fees in the past for graduation exercises at the Sports Arena. Mr. Deardoff said no fees have been paid by either USD 308 or USD 313. Additional discussion ensued.

Rick Krause, Assistant Superintendent of USD 308, 1520 N. Plum spoke about fees charged to the Hutchinson Recreation Commission, Club Azzuri, etc., saying if the facilities are

used during off hours, these entities are charged for custodian costs, etc. Additional discussion ensued.

Councilmember Piros de Carvalho amended her motion to waive the Sports Arena fees for the USD 308 and USD 313 graduation ceremonies. The motion passed by a vote of three to one, with Councilmember Dechant voting no.

b. Consider Lead Track Use and Indemnification Agreement with Siemens Gamesa. Paul Brown, City Attorney, spoke. Mr. Brown explained that switches are not sufficient as rail cars can jump them. The derailer, however, pushes the train car off of the rail. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, to approve the Lead Track Use and Indemnification Agreement; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Consider approval of Maple Street Storm Sewer Improvements bid. Jeff Peterson, Senior Civil Engineer, spoke. Discussion ensued about limited access on streets in the area, when the project is to be completed, age of the infrastructure, etc.

Motion by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, second by Councilmember Soldner, to approve the bids for the Maple Street Storm Sewer Improvements; and authorize the Mayor to sign contracts with APAC-Kansas, Shears Division (including acceptance of the Base Bid, Alternate B and Alternate C), for \$689,320.00, subject to all legal requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

5.b. Consider Change Order #1 for Golf Course Improvement Project. Justin Combs, Director of Parks and Facilities, spoke. He said "greens mix" is another term for engineered soil that is blended in a very specific ratio so the greens will grow well. Discussion ensued about use of the greens mix, how it will be used, life span of the mix, etc.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Soldner, to approve Change Order #1 amending the contract with Houska, Inc. for the amount of \$22,500.00 for the purchase of an additional 600 tons of greens mix. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Report of City Officials

a. Council

- Councilmember Soldner had no comments.
- Councilmember Daveline commented about an article he had read about the City of Andale lowering speed limits in residential areas to 20 mph.
- Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she went to Carey Park this weekend and noticed that the waterfall on the lagoon was not working. Justin Combs said this uses well water; and the State regulates how

much water can be used. She also asked about surveillance in our parks, stating she was disappointed to read about the recent vandalism at Orchard Park. Mr. Combs said he is working with Todd Davis in our Information Technologies Department. The park will soon have internet capabilities; as the water tower next to Orchard Park will have an antenna and surveillance cameras. He said they may also be looking at the cost of an outside security company in 2019. Additional discussion ensued.

Councilmember Piros de Carvalho also said she had been approached about the possibility of leasing the old water slide tract at Fun Valley. Mr. Combs said from the Parks perspective, this property has been identified as a future bike park.

- Mayor Dechant had no comments.

b. City Manager

John Deardoff, City Manager, reminded councilmembers about the Study Session scheduled for March 15, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. at which time the Stormwater Master Plan will be discussed.

8. Executive Session

a. Motion by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, second by Councilmember Soldner, to recess into executive session pursuant to the employer-employee negotiations exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(3) in order to discuss issues related to 2019 contract negotiations with the City's bargaining units; the open meeting to resume in the City Council chamber at 11:00 o'clock a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting reconvened in the City Council chambers at 11:00 a.m.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, to recess into executive session pursuant to the employer-employee negotiations exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(3) in order to discuss issues related to 2019 contract negotiations with the City's bargaining units; the open meeting to resume in the City Council chamber at 11:25 o'clock a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting reconvened in the City Council chambers at 11:25 a.m.

9. Adjournment

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