



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
July 2, 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, July 2, 2019 in the City Council Chambers with Mayor Inskeep presiding. Councilmembers Dechant, Daveline, and Piros de Carvalho were present. Councilmember Soldner was absent from the meeting.

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

3. The prayer was given by Councilmember Dechant.

4. Proclamations

a. The Proclamation for Ulster Project of Hutchinson Month was accepted by several youth with the Ulster Project. They thanked the City for having them; and said this is a great opportunity.

b. The Proclamation for Clayworks and CosmoWorks Days was accepted by Rick Staab of Disability Supports of the Great Plains and Clayworks CEO, as well as Jim Remar and Mimi Meredith with the Cosmosphere. Rick Staab said it has been a labor of love to take the building and turn it into something the community will see as being very special. He said there are 150 participating artists in the program in both communities; and they are excited for all of the possibilities. He said the future is unlimited; and he is proud to have this in the community. Jim Remar of the Cosmosphere also spoke. He said it was an honor when the Cosmosphere was asked to be a part of what Disability Supports was doing at Clayworks. Mr. Remar said for the past couple of years they have worked with some of the population at Disability Supports and Clayworks; and this is an opportunity for them to expand what they do to help impact the developmentally disabled population; and those who might not have the ability to go to space camp, etc. He said they are excited to create something unprecedented in the country; and said Hutchinson will be a destination for this endeavor.

c. The Proclamation for Parks and Recreation Month was accepted by Justin Combs, Director of Parks and Facilities, and Amy Conkling with the Hutchinson Recreation Commission. Mr. Combs said we are fortunate to have the parks we do; and said the Master Plan pointed out high points as well as targeting some areas that can be improved. He also thanked the council and the community for their support; and thanked the Hutchinson Recreation Commission for being a great partner. Amy Conkling said she has been with the Recreation Commission for 12 years; and in the past decade, people tell her all the time that Hutch Rec is everywhere. She also said they have a great partnership with City.

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.)

There were no oral communications from the audience.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes of June 18, 2019 City Council meeting.
b. Approval of appropriation ordinance in the amount of \$1,449,322.74.

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.

7. Ordinances and Resolutions

- a. Consider Ordinance prohibiting truck traffic on Apple Lane. Paul Brown, City Attorney, spoke about the bridge's weight capacity; and said this would not prevent local deliveries or emergency vehicles. Councilmember Daveline asked about enforcement. Chief Hooper said the traffic unit has done selective enforcement; and is educating drivers to use another route. He said excess speed is also a problem; and they have been addressing that as well. Chief Hooper said once signage is installed, they will begin taking enforcement action. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, to approve Ordinance 2019 - 4 amending Chapter 23. Motor Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Hutchinson, Kansas; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

8. New Business

- a. Consider South Main Street striping plan. Mayor Inskeep said there are quite a few people here for the topic; and it is encouraging to see they are interested in this matter. He reminded everyone this is a business meeting; and we are all in this together.

Jeff Peterson, Director of Engineering, said at the last council meeting he was asked to send letters to business owners to get input on the South Main striping alternatives. Councilmember Daveline said he is curious about the Engineering Department's standpoint; and what their recommendation would be. Mr. Peterson said they would prefer to stay with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, with striping to remain the same, but said he open to input on the matter. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho asked about the Washington Street boulevard. Mr. Peterson said the project which extends down Washington from 17th Avenue to 27th Avenue, is being administered by KDOT; and is to be bid in October, with construction taking place next year. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho asked if this will serve the south side. Mr. Peterson said not at this time, but their intention is to continue it southbound. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Daveline asked about the scope of work, as well as the time schedule. Mr. Peterson said next week crews will be doing the ultra-thin coating on 30th from Waldron to K-61; and once that is complete, they will move to South Main by Carey Park and proceed northward. Discussion ensued regarding the bike boulevard, etc.

Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she had some questions about safety. She said she wants to consider all modes of transportation, park access, safety, etc. She also said she has had a property owner complain about drag racing on that portion of Main; and asked what could be done to calm that down. Mr. Peterson said restriping the street wouldn't deter that; and it happens at times the street is not busy. Discussion ensued regarding the number of accidents, traffic counts, etc.

Councilmember Dechant said 20-25 years ago downtown Main Street was all but gone until someone imagined a revitalized downtown. He said that idea became a spark for what has grown into today's downtown. Councilmember Dechant talked about his idea; saying, he wished it had come up six months or six weeks ago, but that it came in time to pause and consider the possibilities. He said as people approach Carey Park or enter Main Street from the south, it shouldn't be a part just to be endured. He said it needs to be revitalized; and asked what impression this portion of Main Street gives. Councilmember Dechant said after hearing from people he is convinced that the angled parking needs to remain; and that there are numerous reasons to modify South Main.

Councilmember Piros de Carvalho thanked Councilmember Dechant for bringing this idea up as it puts a spotlight on a part of the community that many have forgotten. She said there are thriving businesses in that area; and she shares the vision for a revitalized area. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she has thought about how she accesses the park; and has never once gone down Main Street. She said she always goes down Maple Street or Plum Street; and is not sure that Main Street is the safest way to get there. She said she has heard from 12 business owners that said narrowing the street to two lanes of traffic might pose additional safety issues because of truck traffic.

Councilmember Daveline said he values all of the feedback that was received; and that while he is not adverse to change, he is going to respect that feedback; and will support the current striping. He said he wishes the whole process could have begun months earlier; and they have all learned a lesson.

Mayor Inskeep said he will reserve his comments until all public comments have been made.

Andy Anderson, 424 Carey Street, said when this matter was brought up at the last meeting it was said there was no additional cost. He again asked councilmembers if there would be an additional cost. Mayor Inskeep said there would be some cost for the bike symbols, markings, etc. Discussion ensued.

Ruth Bradley, with Tyson Foods of 521 South Main, said she appreciates the spirit of the proposal in wanting to make South Main nicer, but she is primarily concerned about safety. She said they have approximately ten trucks a day entering through the loading dock on South Main; and moving the dock is not an option. She said this is a huge safety issue for the truck drivers, as well as for bicyclists, etc. Discussion ensued.

Archer Jarrett, 306 S. Main, said she would like to keep angled parking. She said they currently have ten parking spaces; and they need to keep all of them. She also talked about some drivers being confused where Main Street now goes from four lanes to two lanes; and said signage is not very prominent. David Jarrett said it is dangerous where the two lanes merge; and suggested a gradual narrowing rather than how it is currently. Discussion ensued.

Kristina & Brian Herl, 928 S. Main, said they own an auto repair business; and currently have five parking spaces. Ms. Herl said with parallel parking they would only have two parking spaces. They also spoke about congestion at the merged area, safety issues, etc. Discussion ensued regarding bike lanes, bicycling in the business district, etc.

Joseph Reed, owner of a vacant lot at 601 South Main and a building at 603 South Main, said he purchased the properties because he wanted to be around family; and wanted one of the old buildings. Mr. Reed talked about the frequency of portions of the street being blocked by trucks making deliveries to area businesses, as well as the road being unsafe for bicyclists due to the heavy truck traffic. Discussion ensued regarding incentives to improve properties in the area, historical concerns with regard to renovations, the lack of attention to South Main by the City, etc. Councilmember Daveline said Mr. Reed brought up some very good points; and said South Main is a tired area. He asked Jim Seitnater to share what future years might hold for South Main with regard to the Streetscape program.

Jim Seitnater, Housing and Downtown Coordinator, said the original Streetscape plan went to Carey Park; and the goal was to change the whole entrance into Carey Park into a roundabout type entrance. He said there was a lot of talk about going to two lanes of traffic, but the concept was entirely different than what is being discussed today. Mr. Seitnater talked about the area being the first vibrant business district in the City with a lot of industry. He said each section of Main Street is different from the other; and you can't paint it with one broad stroke. Additional discussion ensued.

Justin Fields, 828 South Main, said he operates a business at the corner of South Main and Campbell, where he does work for aircraft customers from all over the United States. He said he is against any changes to the parking; and asked how the change might impact future new development in the area. Mr. Fields said if the City has \$18,000.00 to spend on stickers on the street, why not use that money instead to fix some of the curbing, etc. He also said with the possible changes to

the Woodie Seat bridges, that traffic will be coming up Main Street. He said if South Main is choked down to two lanes, it would be a mess; and it should be left the way it is.

Sheila Martin, 2405 N. Main, said she is a North Main person who has been through the changes. She said she was part of the petition drive when the City said they wanted to go to two lanes on Main Street. Ms. Martin said everywhere changes were made, anywhere from four to ten parking spaces were lost per block. She said the flowers are beautiful, but they've taken parking spaces. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Inskeep called for a break at 10:34 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:41 a.m.

Sherry Bosley, 1130 East Avenue C, talked about the dangers of bicycles on the sidewalks, saying she was almost struck on one occasion as she was coming out of Midwest Feed. Mayor Inskeep said bicyclists should be on the roadway, not on the sidewalks; and they are to follow the same rules as vehicles.

Sarah Bagwell, 803 West 22nd, said there has been good conversation, but the decision should be based on the recommendations of the people in the area. Discussion ensued regarding a vision for South Main, bicycle boulevards, etc.

Jackson Swearer, 103 West 22nd, said he's heard a lot of excellent reasons to keep angled parking; and has also heard concerns about narrowing the street. He said he had sent out an AARP fact sheet to councilmembers with myths about narrowing streets, saying road diets are bad for business. Mr. Swearer said the truth is that a road diet encourages people to slow down which benefits businesses. Mr. Swearer suggested narrowing South Main Street, maintaining the angled parking, and eliminating bike lanes. Mayor Inskeep said this is a nice compromise, as he has struggled with the parking piece. Councilmember Daveline said there were some points he wanted to summarize as the article said you need to engage the public, embrace the public process, start with a road diet on a street that has light traffic, etc. Additional discussion ensued.

Kari Mailloux, 10 Whitmore, said South Main has been neglected; and small business owners there want to make it a more pleasing place. She said she hopes this is not a one-time conversation, but that it will open up a longer conversation. Ms. Mailloux said we need to make sure concerns are addressed and considered; and we need to be pro people and pro future of the community.

Debra Teufel with the Hutchinson Chamber of Commerce, said one of the Downtown Hutchinson sub-committees discussed this matter, with some seeing benefits in the change, while others saw it as a hindrance. She said many did not want to do away with angled parking, but could support the suggestion of making South Main a two lane street. Ms. Teufel said the Chamber sent e-mails to downtown business members; and she spoke about the responses she received. She said there needs to be thoughtful consideration; and not rush to judgment.

Steve Drach, 1302 Bristol, said he was here to represent the Vitality Team. He said they are excited about the opportunity to extend biking and hiking trails, but as a group, they want to promote safety and trails. He said from what he has heard, you have to listen to the businesses and the people, or there won't be any people. Mr. Drach also spoke about the bicycle boulevard, as well as other options for accessing the park.

Matt Mayo, with Midwest Iron, said they have a large footprint in the area; and their business blocks the street five to ten times a day with semi-trucks, heavy equipment, etc. He said if there are only two lanes of traffic, that presents a problem. Discussion ensued regarding traffic congestion, revitalization, etc.

Ron Brubaker, who owns property at 824 South Main and 816 South Main, thanked Councilmembers Soldner and Piros de Carvalho for postponing a vote on this matter for two weeks so property owners could have input. He said his family has occupied 824 South Main for 34 years; and they have never had a City official approach them about upgrades or anything else. Mr. Brubaker said the City has neglected this end of town; and said they are not just vacant building owners, but they take pride in their area and try to take care of their properties. He said he is glad their voices have been heard.

Jim Seitnater, Housing and Downtown Coordinator, spoke about an e-mail sent out by Susan Puls of Hutchinson Industrial Supply. He said she is out of town or she would have been at the meeting. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho talked about the petition that was circulated by Ms. Puls and signed by business owners in the area wanting to retain the street as it is currently. She also said she received letters from Johnson Sheet Metal, Innovative Tint, etc.

Mayor Inskeep said he received a large amount of e-mails, both pro and con. He spoke about the number of parking spaces along that section of South Main, saying there is more than ample parking.

Councilmember Daveline said it seems like we are trying to fit a square peg in a round hole; and said council needs to listen to the businesses. He said nothing has changed his mind. Councilmember Daveline said we need to move forward with Option 1; and made a motion to approve the striping plan on Main Street from Avenue C to Carey Park as currently designed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho.

Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she lends a lot of weight to the business owners in the area; and she hears they want it to remain as it is. She said this area isn't the most appropriate place for this project; and said Avenue A worked because it's a residential area. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said we need to look into how to ease regulatory burdens, how to assist with development, funding for Washington Boulevard, etc. She said after much consideration she chooses to continue the striping as originally designed.

Councilmember Dechant said he is glad he raised the issue because he wanted discussion. He said he has heard enough that he is backing away from a biking lane. He said it would be a small investment if they found they made a mistake, as they could go back and repaint the stripes back to the way it is now. Councilmember Dechant talked about a vision for the future, having more walking traffic in the area, as well as bicycling. He said he is concerned if it's not done now, he will be long gone before it's considered again. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she doesn't think this should be about what the councilmembers want, but that input needs to come from the greater community and business owners. She said she would like to see a whole neighborhood redevelopment with business owners getting together to discuss their vision, etc.

Mayor Inskeep spoke about the proposal being different now; and said most of the e-mails were opposed to parallel parking. He said that issue is no longer on the table. Mayor Inskeep said he knows that if you continue to vote for the status quo, you will continue to get the status quo. He said all of them have a greater vision of what South Main can be; and that this is an opportunity to use their imagination.

The motion made by Councilmember Daveline failed to pass, with Councilmember Daveline and Piros de Carvalho voting yes; and Councilmember Dechant and Mayor Inskeep voting no.

Motion by Mayor Inskeep, second by Councilmember Dechant, to change the striping to two directional lanes with a center turn lane, leaving the parking as is; and not including bicycle lanes. The motion failed to pass, with Councilmembers Daveline and Piros de Carvalho voting no; and Councilmember Dechant and Mayor Inskeep voting yes.

Councilmember Dechant said if we remain at a tie, it may force a couple more weeks of opportunity to explore other alternatives. He said he likes the idea of taking more time; and we could do this in order to have further conversations. Councilmember Daveline asked about the work schedule in the contract. Discussion ensued. The City Manager said the council has already approved the contract with this striping plan. He said we can wait until the next meeting when Councilmember Soldner will be here, but he suspects nothing will change; and we will be prolonging the matter again with the vote probably ending up as 3 to 2. Mayor Inskeep said he prefers the matter be resolved today. Additional discussion ensued.

Mayor Inskeep said this is a .67 mile of asphalt that won't have any parking disrupted, but will have traffic slowed down which is a benefit to certain businesses. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she understands it's a different conversation, but looking at the letter from Johnson Sheet Metal, they are opposed to a center turn lane. She said she's also heard from other businesses about this matter; and Tyson, one of the top 10 employers in the City, is also opposed. Councilmember Daveline said if we don't listen, we are sending a message to those businesses that Council has no regard for South Main. He said we need to embrace

South Main; and wants them to know he is listening to them. Additional discussion ensued, at which time Councilmember Dechant said they were at impasse.

Paul Brown, City Attorney, said council approved a contract that includes striping. He said we have a binding contract; and there is no further action because there was not a majority vote. Mr. Brown said the proposal was simply brought up for consideration; and there was no agreement to make a change. Mr. Deardoff said the City would proceed with the contract as approved.

Mayor Inskeep called for a break at 12:08 p.m. The meeting resumed at 12:15 p.m.

b. Consider 2018 Audit. Angela Richard, Finance Director, spoke. She said there were no significant difficulties with audit; and everything went very smoothly. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, second by Councilmember Dechant, to approve the 2018 financial audit as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Discuss request to rename Avenue A Park. Rebekah Starkey Keasling, Director of Public Information, spoke about the results of on-line survey. She said there were over 20,000 views on Facebook, with 726 votes being cast. Of those votes, half voted to keep the Avenue A Park name, with an even split for the two other names that were proposed. Ms. Keasling said it is staff's recommendation to retain the Avenue A Park name; and to consider the Chester Lewis name for a park in the future.

Christopher Weitrick said he is not surprised by the findings; and is glad it could be put to a vote. He also talked about the naming of Grasshopper Park, the Third Thursday Smallville event, as well as Smallville Con.

Jesse Juma, 2708 Westminster, said he is a proponent of Smallville, but with the public input he understands leaving the name as Avenue A Park. He said he is still interested in seeing a pop-up park being named Chester Lewis Park. Discussion ensued.

d. Consider Agreement with MKEC for Water Tower Improvements. Brian Clennan, Director of Public Works, spoke about the project. Discussion ensued regarding pricing, illumination of the tower, exterior design, etc.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Dechant, to approve Professional Engineering Services Agreement with MKEC for Water Tower No. 1 and No. 4 Improvements; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

e. Consider Phase II Design-Build Agreement for Intermediate Pump Station. Brian Clennan, Director of Public Works, spoke. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Dechant, second by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, to approve an agreement with Burns & McDonnell/CAS Constructors LLC, subject to resolving an

issue regarding the General Conditions and Supplementary Conditions of the Contract; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Report of City Officials

a. Council

- Councilmember Daveline had no comments.
- Councilmember Dechant had no comments.
- Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she was heartened by the conversation today; and that it was handled very well. She said while they don't always agree with what needs to be done, they all feel passionately about moving the community forward. She also reminded everyone about the parade on July 4, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.; and about the fireworks at the Fairgrounds at dusk.
- Mayor Inskip said they will not always agree, but they had a lively discussion. He also wished everyone a happy 4th of July.

b. City Manager

Mr. Deardoff said he toured the golf course yesterday. He said several of the fairways have been under water for weeks; and they are proposing to come up with approximately \$10,000.00 to buy zoysia sod to repair the areas. Mr. Deardoff said some of the greens look pretty good.

Mr. Deardoff also talked about the BUILD grant for the Woodie Seat Freeway project. He said it is coming along nicely; and they want to have it in by weeks end as it is due July 15. Mr. Deardoff said the grant will be awarded in December; and the City has received 20 letters of support for this project.

The City Manager said the 2020 proposed budget was given to councilmembers this morning. He said this is his recommended budget; and he is proposing a 1 mill increase. Budget study session dates are set for 8:00 a.m. on July 11, 18, 23 and 30th. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Deardoff talked about the requirement in the Special Event Policy for picking up after horses. He said the policy asks that the sponsor, not individual saddle groups, be responsible for clean-up. Mr. Deardoff said the street sweeper just makes a bigger mess; and that a Gator and a couple of shovels would take care of clean-up. Discussion ensued.

10. Executive Session

Motion by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, second by Councilmember Dechant, 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 2020 contract negotiations with the City's bargaining units; the open meeting to resume in the City Council chambers at 1:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting reconvened in the Council Chambers at 1:30 p.m.

11. Adjournment

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

Upcoming Meetings

July 11, 2019	8:00 a.m.	Budget Meeting
July 16, 2019	9:00 a.m.	City Council Meeting
July 18, 2019	8:00 a.m.	Budget Meeting
July 23, 2019	8:00 a.m.	Budget Meeting
July 30, 2019	8:00 a.m.	Budget Meeting