



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
July 17, 2018
5:30 p.m.

1. The Governing Body of the City of Hutchinson, Kansas met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 in the City Council Chambers with Mayor Dechant presiding. Councilmembers Daveline, Piros de Carvalho, Soldner and Inskeep 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. Proclamations

a. The Proclamation for Ulster Project of Hutchinson Month was accepted by Ashlene Magee, one of the Irish counselors. She said this program is an important and vital part of the community in Portadown; and thanked the council for the Proclamation.

b. The Proclamation for Emancipation Proclamation Day was accepted by Dellis Neal of the Emancipation Day Committee. She invited the community to come out on August 3 – 6 for festivities which include a movie, Jazz in the Park, a 3-point shootout, parade, picnic, gospel fest, etc.

c. The Proclamation for the Farmington Park Neighborhood was accepted by Melvin Barnett. Mr. Barnett said the Neighborhood Night Out is August 7th; and the 100th celebration of the Farmington Addition is on the 8th. Mr. Barnett said he has gotten to know a lot of the neighbors as he has walked the neighborhood and invited people to become part of what's happening.

d. The Proclamation for Parks and Recreation Month was accepted by Amy Conkling of the Hutchinson Recreation Commission and Justin Combs, Director of Parks and Facilities. Justin Combs, Director of Parks & Facilities, thanked the council for their support of parks and recreation. He said there is something to do in the parks for everyone all of the time. Mr. Combs said he had a conversation with someone from Kansas Wildlife & Parks who commented on Carey Park saying there's not another park like it in the State of Kansas. He said it was good to hear this from someone who goes to communities throughout the State.

Amy Conkling, Director of Marketing & Development with the Hutchinson Recreation Commission, thanked the Council for the Proclamation. She said HRC has been involved in a lot of events over the past five years; and they are expanding their vision of what they are in the community.

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.)

Richard Greever, President of the Central Kansas Landlords Association, a non-profit organization, which represents several of the City's largest landlords, said the City has collected over \$200,000.00 from Hutchinson landlords with the Rental Registration Program; and wants the City to subsidize their new website in the amount of \$5,000.00. He said the website will be available to all landlords at a reasonable fee; and the site will have various forms and information available. He said the City currently subsidizes the News for their rental site; and is asking council to do the same for them. Mayor Dechant said the Housing Commission was the entity that created this site; and that Mr. Greever needs to approach that body first to discuss the matter with them. Mr. Greever said he has asked to be put on their agenda.

Ardith Alexander, 1303 East 20th, representing Cause For Paws, said they are the support group for the Animal Shelter. She said this is their 12th year supporting the Animal Shelter; and have partnered with them on the spay/neuter program which has reached over 3,400 animals. She said they have also procured two rescue vans for the facility; and were instrumental in the development of the dog park. Ms. Alexander said she wants to affirm how excited they are as volunteers to continue to support the shelter; and appreciates all of the City's support. Mayor Dechant said he knows there has been concern expressed about the Animal Shelter's budget, but said no suggestions have been made one way or another; and was pleased to receive a full range of information. Mayor Dechant said they have no intention of changing the operation at the shelter; and nearly 90% of animals are adopted out. He said very few are put down unless it is for medical issues, disease or behavioral issues. He said he is not advocating for any change. Ms. Alexander said they have a wonderful, trusting relationship; and don't expect anything to change, saying council can depend on them to do their part. Councilmember Inskeep said he was not at the last meeting when this was discussed, but he has received numerous e-mails. He said he has had a chance to talk to others about this matter; and believes the current mode of operation is appropriate. Mayor Dechant said they may still look for ways to reduce costs, but the mode of operation will remain the same.

Jeanny Sharp, 1811 East 26th, spoke on behalf of the Hutchinson News. She said they have been working with the Planning Department to rebuild the "Hutch Area Homes" website. She said technology changes constantly, so it was rebuilt to be easier to navigate. Ms. Sharp said they have updated a lot of the information which includes Brush Up Hutch, code changes, etc. She said it is designed not only for rental properties and those for sale, but to be one collaborative site for information, financing programs offered by the City and State, etc. Ms. Sharp said usage in an average month shows 24,894 page views, with 16,191 unique visitors. She said the Landlords

Association is seeking a free place to advertise; and said currently their lowest price is \$10.00 a month. Ms. Sharp spoke more about maintenance of the site, funding, etc. She said this is not a lucrative business for the News, but they are doing it because it's good for the community.

Andy Anderson, 424 Carey Street, said he is not here to complain, but thanked the City Manager and Council for all of the repairs being made to streets. He also apologized to the City Manager and the Code Enforcement crew for some earlier comments, saying he has talked to them; and they get along fine now. He encouraged others with code enforcement issues to communicate with them as well.

Thomas Nelson, 7 Downing Road, said he would like to see the City hire an engineering or construction company to see if we can expand 17th to four lanes between Main & Plum. He said during rush hour the intersection at 17th and Plum is extremely busy; and when the State Fair is here there is a lot of traffic making it hard for people to get where they want to go in a timely manner. He asked if the City could look into these projects saying it would improve mobility. Mayor Dechant asked if we've looked at traffic counts in these areas. City Manager John Deardoff said there are a lot of streets that generate more traffic than others; and it is hard to design roadways around a certain time period when traffic is heavy. He said 17th is traveled heavily, but is not sure of how much right of way there is along that stretch of 17th. Mr. Deardoff said we can look at it as we grow, but this is not on the next 3-4 years plan. Discussion ensued regarding funding from KDOT, etc.

Judy Bachman, 213 East 12th, said she has been a resident since 1989. She said she got her dog six years ago at the shelter; and doesn't want to see any changes made there. She said it is an awesome facility; and that she donates when she can. Mayor Dechant reiterated that this discussion took place during a budget hearing; and things like this get around before a final decision is made. He said he doesn't foresee any changes; and doesn't favor moving in that direction.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes of the July 3, 2018 City Council meeting.
- b. Approval of appointment to the Airport Advisory Committee of Trevin Houseman, 4402 Sequoia, for a partial term beginning 1/01/2017 to 1/01/2020.
- c. Approval of Request to Exchange Federal Funds under the Federal-Aid Fund Exchange Master Agreement.
- d. Approval of appropriation ordinance in the amount of \$2,772,721.42.

Motion by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, second by Councilmember Inskeep, to approve the Consent Agenda; and authorize the Mayor to sign. Mayor Dechant spoke about Item 6.c. saying we accepted the change because we had no choice. He said it was announced a month ago that the Governor moved the rate back to 90%. The Mayor said he talked to the City

Manager; and the 90% goes into effect the next federal fiscal year, not immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Ordinances and Resolutions

a. Consider Ordinance adopting the 2018 Standard Traffic Ordinance. Paul Brown, City Attorney, spoke. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Daveline, to approve Ordinance 2018 - 17 incorporating the 2018 Standard Traffic Offense Ordinance by reference; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Consider Ordinance adopting the 2018 Uniform Public Offense Code. Paul Brown, City Attorney, spoke.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Soldner, to approve Ordinance 2018 - 18 incorporating the 2018 Uniform Public Offense Code by reference; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Report of City Officials

a. Council

- Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she has an item that was brought to her by three people. She said while they are excited about the changes in Orchard Park, there are a lot of private events centers; and questions if we should be putting our money into one at that location. Mr. Deardoff said it's already in the design process. Councilmember Inskeep said he was contacted about this as well. He asked if this facility was in the original discussion when the park was developed. Mr. Deardoff said it was in the initial discussions; and said there will be opportunity for discussion when bids are brought back for approval. He said our goal was to provide an affordable facility that was a little higher grade than the Homebuilder's Shelter. He said he hopes people will want to have family reunions, wedding receptions, etc. in the facility. Mr. Deardoff said we offer a lot with the surroundings at that location. Councilmember Daveline said he hopes this will stimulate use of the park. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho said she remembers the planning process of the park; and there are several community stakeholders with the playground, etc. She said there was tremendous interest in an outdoor facility at that time. Mayor Dechant said it's a fair question; and he would like to see discussion. He said the design process is underway, but it's not a done deal. Mr. Deardoff said the project is already bonded. Councilmember Piros de Carvalho

also said the project is already bonded; and it doesn't impact the general fund.

- Councilmember Inskeep had no comments.
- Councilmember Daveline had no comments.
- Councilmember Soldner had no comments.
- Mayor Dechant said there are several individuals in the audience that didn't speak, but he appreciates their attendance. He said not everything is exciting, but he appreciates their involvement.

b. City Manager

Mr. Deardoff said the next budget meeting will be held Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. The next budget meeting, if necessary, will be held at 5:30 p.m. on July 24, 2018.

10. Adjournment

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