



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
September 3, 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, September 3, 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 Darryl Peterson, Grace Christian Church.

4. Petitions, Remonstrances and Communications

- a. Hutchinson Police Department Crime Reduction Strategy Report. Chief Jeffrey Hooper, Hutchinson Police Department, talked about crime statistics and the crime rate for the City, saying there have been a lot of news stories as well as a lot of rumors going around. He said when he got here the two biggest questions were (1) what he was going to do about the drug problem; and (2) when was the community police officer program coming back. He said community policing isn't a program, but is a philosophy inside the department. Chief Hooper said every officer has to engage with the community; and the City is now divided into beats, with each beat having an e-mail address and cell phone number so citizens can contact the officers directly.

Chief Hooper said when he arrived, Hutchinson had the fifth highest crime rate in the state. He said his strategy in dealing with this problem is community engagement; and an intelligence led policing strategy. He also said we were 100% reactive when it came to crime; and that he would rather be proactive, focusing on people and places. Chief Hooper spoke further about putting officers in neighborhoods, talking with residents, etc.

Chief Hooper talked about community engagement, saying he told officers he wants them talking to people and businesses, as well as going door to door in some neighborhoods. He also said he has an officer in every school at least one time a week, greeting kids, eating lunch with them, etc. He said that officers also get maps showing where crime is occurring; and officers then focus on that area.

Chief Hooper presented year-to-date statistics regarding the reduction in crime rates; and said the total is now 31.6 down from 53.7; and is below the state average of 35.0 He said he is proud of what has been accomplished

so far, but his goal is to be in the 20% range. He said the Police Department will be pulling out of the drug enforcement unit; and will be devoting their resources and manpower to the current policing system as he knows it works.

Discussion ensued.

- b. 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.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes of August 20, 2019 City Council meeting.
- b. Approval of reappointment to the Hutchinson Recreation Commission of Leslie Shea, 1004 Dundee Court, to a second four-year term beginning 8/01/2019 to 8/01/2023.
- c. Approval of the appointment to the Visit Hutch Advisory Board of Lynsey Becher, 1325 East 6th Avenue, to fill the unexpired term of Charles Johnston in an at-large, odd year term, from 1/01/2018 to 12/31/2019.
- d. Approval of appointments to the Hutchinson Human Relations Commission of the following:
 - Jesse Juma, 2708 Westminster Drive, for a first full three-year term beginning 9/11/2019 to 9/11/2022.
 - Julia Johnson, 428 East Avenue A, for a first full three-year term beginning 9/11/2019 to 9/11/2022.
 - Tammy Cowser, 3200 Garden Grove Parkway, for a first full three-year term beginning 9/11/2019 to 9/11/2022.
 - Joel Reiss, 217 West 20th, for a first full three-year term beginning 9/11/2019 to 9/11/2022.
- e. Approval of voting delegates for the 2019 League of Kansas Municipalities Annual Conference.
- f. Approval of appropriation ordinance in the amount of \$1,331,883.25.

Datjaeda Moore, Human Relations Officer, spoke about the appointments to the Human Relations Commission. She said they had 15 applications, but only anticipated having two to three. She introduced those in attendance; and thanked the Mayor for his effort in helping make sure the commission is diverse. Mayor Inskeep said it is exciting; and he expects great things from the group going forward.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline second by Councilmember Soldner to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Ordinances and Resolutions

- a. Consider Resolution setting a public hearing regarding unsafe and dangerous structures. Trent Maxwell, Building Official, spoke. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner second by Councilmember Dechant to approve Resolution 2019 R 15 fixing the time and place and providing for notice of a hearing before the Governing Body of the City of Hutchinson, Kansas, at which time the owners, their agents, lienholders of record and occupants of the structures located in said City hereinafter described may appear and show just cause why such structures should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished as dangerous or unsafe structures; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Consider Ordinance amending main trafficway improvements Ordinance 2016-7. Angela Richard, Finance Director, spoke. Discussion ensued regarding the bonded amount for the next phase of Main Street, interest rates, refinancing, etc.

Councilmember Soldner left the meeting at 9:50.

Motion by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho second by Councilmember Dechant, to approve Ordinance 2019 - 10 amending Ordinance No. 2016-7 of the City of Hutchinson, Kansas, authorizing the construction of certain main trafficway improvements and authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds to pay the costs thereof; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed with four councilmembers voting in favor of the ordinance; and Councilmember Soldner not voting.

7. New Business

a. Consider 2019 JAG Grant Application. Chief Jeffrey Hooper of the Hutchinson Police Department said this is the Federal grant that comes out every year; and funds are predetermined based on population and the crime rate. He said a public hearing is required to officially accept the grant. The Chief said last year they purchased first aid kits; and this year they will be purchasing rifles so one can be in each patrol vehicle. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Soldner returned to the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline second by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, to open public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Dechant to close the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Dechant to approve the 2019 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) application; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Consider bids for Fun Valley restroom renovations. Justin Combs, Director of Parks and Facilities, said the restrooms are 38 years old; and have had very minor maintenance during that time. He said the restrooms will be gutted; and will have new fixtures, fiberglass reinforced panels on walls, epoxy flooring, etc. Mr. Combs said the bids

were very close; and said they hope to begin the renovations in September. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Dechant, second by Councilmember Piros de Carvalho, to approve a contract with Ward Davis Builders Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$149,760.00 for renovations to Fun Valley restrooms; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Report of City Officials

a. Council

- Councilmember Piros de Carvalho reminded everyone that today is the United Way campaign kickoff; and asked everyone to support it in any way they can. She also reminded everyone that the Kansas State Fair begins on Friday.
- Councilmember Dechant also said the State Fair starts on Friday; and encouraged everyone to get out and have a good time.
- Mayor Inskip said there will be a lot of guests in town for the State Fair; and encouraged everyone to be good stewards.
- Councilmember Daveline said he noticed on the Channel 12 news on that the Wichita City Council is considering joining in with a national group regarding the opioid crisis; and asked if we had been approached by anyone. Paul Brown, City Attorney, said we had not been approached directly, but knows about this group. He said Reno County has given it consideration, but they have not approached the City. Discussion ensued. Mayor Inskip asked Mr. Brown to look into this matter.
- Councilmember Soldner had no comments.

b. City Manager

- Mr. Deardoff talked about the old water slide property at Fun Valley saying the City has been approached by two groups regarding the sale and/or lease of this property. He said he is looking for direction from the council, but that his preference would be to lease the property. He also said there is a City Council policy regarding sale of City property. Discussion ensued. Justin Combs, Director of Parks and Facilities, said he highly recommends the City retaining ownership of the property. He said in the Park Master Plan access to the river was pointed out as being a very valuable recreational activity for the City. He said the only way we can guarantee having an access point is if the City remains the owner. Mr. Combs said since there are at least two parties interested, he would recommend doing an RFP. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Daveline said he concurs with that recommendation. Councilmember Dechant said the property has been vacant for quite some time; and it takes time and money to maintain the property. He said he did support selling the property, but leasing it does make better sense. Additional discussion ensued regarding taxes, terms of a lease agreement, etc.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Daveline, to recess into executive session pursuant to the consultation with an attorney for the public body or agency which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)2) to discuss the authority of boards and committees; the open meeting to resume in the City Council chambers at 10:45 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting reconvened in the Council Chambers at 10:45 a.m.

9. Adjournment

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

Upcoming Meetings

September 10, 2019	8:00 a.m.	Joint Study Session (Fire Command & Training Center)
September 17, 2019	9:00 a.m.	City Council Meeting
October 1, 2019	9:00 a.m.	City Council Meeting