



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
September 15, 2020
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 15, 2020 in the City Council Chambers with Mayor Piros de Carvalho presiding. Councilmembers Soldner, Daveline and Bagwell were present. Councilman Garza attended the meeting by teleconference.

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

Chief Jeffrey Hooper with the Hutchinson Police Department said he is honored to serve this community; and that today is a sad but important day in the Police Department's history. He said Ofc. Ken Kennedy was killed in the line of duty 48 years ago today. Chief Hooper said the Police Department is starting a new annual tradition dedicated to those officers that have died in the line of duty. He said beginning today, and each year hereafter, on September 15 (to honor Ofc. Kennedy) and on July 2 (to honor Ofc. Reason Sherman Monroe, who was killed in the line of duty July 2, 1924), all officers will be wearing the memorial band, holding a moment of silence, and doing a last call.

Datjaeda Moore, Human Relations Officer talked about the Hutchinson Youth Commission. She said planning for the commission will start next week. Keon Williams, a senior at Hutchinson High School, said Councilmember Garza has been in contact with the high school about the commission. He said it will be a nine member commission made up of students in the City, who will advise the City Council on various issues, as well as advocating to the City Council. Mr. Williams said youth are not listened to and are not taken seriously. He said there are a number of youth that have great ideas; and this will ensure that youth have a safe platform to discuss issues and solutions. The Mayor thanked him for coming; and acknowledged Councilmember Garza saying this was his brainchild. Discussion ensued about the makeup of the council, the application

process, etc. Councilmember Garza said this has been a dream of his for years, saying the youth of Hutchinson need to have a say in the community.

Kari Mailloux, 10 Whitmore Road, representing Heal Reno County, talked about their mission. She said the past four years they have held the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield; and that Hutchinson and Reno County have been awarded over \$590,000.00. She said the most notable investment has been the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, as well as improvements in the SW Bricktown neighborhood. Ms. Mailloux said they were just awarded Phase II in the amount of \$400,000.00 which will be framed around social determinants of health. She said the coordinator of the program will be Adam Stewart with the Hutchinson Recreation Commission.

Adam Stewart, Neighborhood Development Coordinator with HRC said as the Grant Coordinator his role will be reporting to Blue Cross Blue Shield regarding use of the grant funds, etc. He said the approach to using the funds will be community driven; and said he is eager to get input from residents on what they feel is important to the health of our community. Mr. Stewart said there will be a kickoff meeting at 4:00 p.m. today in the Hutchinson Regional Medical Center pavilion for Phase II; and said the community is welcome to attend. Discussion ensued.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes of September 1, 2020 City Council meeting.
- b. Approval of voting delegates for the 2020 League of Kansas Municipalities Annual Conference.
- c. Approval of Agreement between the City of Hutchinson, Kansas and Reno County, Kansas for the 2019 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award.
- d. Approval of reappointments to the Public Art Design Council of the following:
 - Larry McLain, 109 West 20th, Hutchinson, for reappointment to a second three-year term from 7/01/2020 to 7/01/2023.
 - Charles Johnston, 1022 E. Sherman, Hutchinson, for reappointment to a second three-year term from 7/01/2020 to 7/01/2023.
- e. Approval of appointments to the Hutchinson Human Relations Commission of the following:
 - Kristen M. Armstrong, 508 East 25th Avenue, Hutchinson, to fill the unexpired term of Julia Johnson for the term beginning 9/11/2019 to 9/11/2022.
 - Geralyn Smith, 1016 Lenox Avenue, Hutchinson, to fill the expired term of Carrie Meyer, for a first full three-year term beginning 9/11/2020 to 9/11/2023.

- f. Approval of August 2020 financial reports.
- g. Approval of appropriation ordinance in the amount of \$2,029,629.31.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Soldner, to approve the Consent Agenda; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Ordinances and Resolutions

- a. Consider Ordinance authorizing bonded projects. Karen Weltmer, City Clerk, spoke. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Bagwell, second by Councilmember Soldner, to approve Ordinance 2020 - 25 authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the City of Hutchinson, Kansas, to pay the cost of certain improvements, all pursuant to Charter Ordinance No. 50 of the City; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Consider Resolution authorizing the sale of General Obligation Bonds and General Obligation Refunding Bonds. Karen Weltmer, City Clerk, spoke. Councilmember Daveline asked Chief Hooper about the status of the Law Enforcement Center remodel. Chief Hooper said they are several months into construction; and are a little behind the projected finish date. He said the upstairs portion should be completed by mid-October, with the full project being completed in late February. Chief Hooper said there will also be improvements made to the exterior façade.

Motion by Councilmember Daveline, second by Councilmember Bagwell, to approve Resolution 2020 R 13 authorizing the public sale of approximately \$7,575,000.00 principal amount of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2020-B, and approximately \$7,970,000.00 principal amount of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020-C, of the City of Hutchinson, Kansas; and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion passed unanimously.

7. New Business

- a. Consider final plat for Apple Lane Second, a replat of the property at 2810 East 20th Avenue. Ryan Hvitlok, Director of Planning and Development, said earlier this year there was an amendment regarding the process for minor plats; and this is the first under that amendment. Mr. Hvitlök said this will remove platted setbacks as the setbacks greatly exceed what is currently required. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Soldner, second by Councilmember Bagwell to approve the recommendation of the Planning Department to approve the final plat for the Apple Lane Second Addition. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Consider Orchard Park security issues. Justin Combs, Director of Parks and Facilities, said there were discussions about a month ago regarding issues in the park; and he now has recommendations for improvements. Mr. Combs said he had a meeting with IT Director Todd Davis and Police Chief Hooper about these issues and what could be done. He said they developed a three phase process which includes cameras being

installed in Phase I, a security patrol in Phase II; and installation of a gate at the entrance for Phase III. Mr. Combs said the goal today is to get council's feedback; and to see what their expectations are. Councilmember Bagwell asked if other City parks have cameras; and suggested closing the parks earlier. Mr. Combs said there are no cameras in other parks; and went on to talk about legitimate activities that occur in the parks during the evening hours. He said most of the vandalism, etc. is occurring after midnight; and changing the park hours wouldn't fix the problem. Mayor Piros de Carvalho asked if we have a feeling for who the individuals are, saying she would like our approach to be more of an educational piece as she believes they are probably young individuals; and doesn't want to "put the hammer down".

Chief Hooper said this has been a problem for some time at all of the parks, but specifically in Orchard Park. He said there are several car groups that frequent Orchard Park, but this is a good community relations piece; and said they use the park for legitimate purposes. He also indicated that they help keep an eye on the park. Chief Hooper said he suspects it's young people out late at night causing the issues; and that they have connected with several different groups. Councilmember Bagwell asked about having mobile cameras that could be moved from park to park.

Todd Davis, Director of Information Technologies, said those are more expensive unless you were to get a hunters type camera. He said his recommendation would be to schedule those cameras to record during the time the park is closed; and that cameras could be installed for approximately \$5,000.00. Discussion ensued regarding cost, location of cameras, patrolling of the area, etc.

Chief Hooper said they did utilize the PSA programs for security patrols during the Covid shut down; and has also used them to patrol parks. He said they received a lot of positive feedback; and said it saved the City approximately \$66,000.00 as officers didn't have to be paid overtime. Chief Hooper said that have trained personnel, but would have to add hours and money to the budget to patrol the parks on a regular basis.

Lovella Kelley, who lives across from the park, said the issue that concerns the neighbors is safety due to the vehicles that are racing. She said the park shouldn't be open until midnight, no one is there fishing after dark; and what is happening there is dangerous. She said cars come out of the park racing down 43rd to Halstead; and there are a lot of walkers and bicyclists that use 43rd. Ms. Kelley said there is also a lot of racing taking place on the old K-61 highway. Councilmember Bagwell said the commonsense solution would be to close the park at dark and put up a gate. Ms. Kelly said she agreed; and indicated that speed bumps would help as well. Discussion ensued regarding park hours, speed limits, gating of the park, etc.

Chaz Porter, a member of the car club that frequents the park said their group is all over 20 years of age; and they are there from about 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., sometimes a little later. He said the individuals that are coming out later are younger. Mr. Porter said speed bumps are a great idea, but said that adjusting the hours of the park or installing gates wouldn't fix the problems. Discussion ensued. The Mayor said there hadn't been much discussion about patrolling the parks; and said that could be done equitably

throughout the community. She said this might be an easy first step; and if that doesn't work then we could look at another idea. Councilmembers Daveline and Bagwell agreed.

Chief Hooper said this was something that was done this summer; and it was well received. He said the schedule could overlap with closing time of the parks. Chief Hooper said based on the PSA's salary and when the patrolling is done, the cost would probably be about \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00 if the patrolling were done year round; and he would recommend a four hour patrol. He said they already have a system and equipment in place, but they would have to add additional personnel. The Chief said there should be enough money in this years budget, as well as next year's, to cover the costs. He said they would just need to hire and train the individuals, but believed the program could be up and running in a month or so. Additional discussion ensued.

The City Manager said if there's an appetite to fund the program, he thinks it is a good solution, saying boots on the ground is probably the best solution.

8. Report of City Officials

a. Council

- Councilmember Bagwell had no comments.
- Councilmember Garza said he should be back for the next meeting.
- Councilmember Daveline asked about the status of the CARES Act at the federal level; and what funding would funnel directly to the City. Mr. Cantrell said Finance has been tracking this; and said he would get someone to answer that question.
- Councilmember Soldner asked Ryan Hvitløk about applications for daycare funds. Mr. Hvitløk said they had only received a few, but that more may be submitted before the 5:00 p.m. deadline today. Discussion ensued regarding questions concerning the number of employees, income levels, etc. Mr. Hvitløk said a daycare operated by one individual would qualify so long as they meet the income requirements. He also said some of the daycares in the city are non-profit; and therefore, are not eligible. Mr. Hvitløk said there may be funds for non-profits that the county has put aside. Additional discussion ensued.

Karen Weltmer, City Clerk, responded to the question concerning CARES funding. She said they had a Zoom meeting yesterday with the county, and all costs that were submitted have been approved. She said this includes reimbursements of a little over \$30,000.00 plus estimated costs for the remainder of the year. Discussion ensued.

- Mayor Piros de Carvalho asked about plans for reopening City Hall. Mr. Cantrell said this will be discussed with department heads. The Mayor also asked about the Fun Valley property as everything had been put on hold. She asked if discussions could still take place this year. Justin Combs said it is doable, but he needs to determine how to proceed as there is now a third group that is interested. Discussion ensued.

b. City Manager

Jeff Cantrell, City Manager, told each of the councilmembers they have in front of them a book prepared by the Fire Department, mainly for accreditation purposes. He said the book contains a lot of data that allows us to fine tune how we respond, etc. Mr. Cantrell said Chief Beer will come before council after they have had a chance to review the book; and said we are very proactive with our emergency services, saying this level of data is not always incorporated even in the operations of larger cities.

Mr. Cantrell said opportunities have arisen which have allowed him to fine tune and reorganize a few things. He said inspectors continue to do the work they do as the department is being reshaped. Discussion ensued regarding responsive code enforcement, prioritization of issues, philosophy of the department, etc.

Todd Davis said Ms. Weltmer brought in the reimbursement amount documents. He said the City will receive \$30,836.00 to make it whole; and that the City applied for an additional \$485,431.00 for direct aid transfers, which are Covid related and happening in the future, for a total of approximately \$516,000.00.

9. Adjournment

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

Upcoming Meetings

October 6, 2020	9:00 a.m.	City Council meeting
October 20, 2020	9:00 a.m.	City Council meeting