

## MINUTES OF THE JUNE 19, 2017 CITY COMMISSION MEETING

The City Commission of the City of Holton met at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall on Monday evening, June 19, 2017. Commissioners Twila White, Mike Meerpohl and Dan Brenner were present. Commissioner Tim Morris was absent. Mayor Bob Dieckmann was also present.

Mayor Bob Dieckmann called the regular meeting to order.

Minutes of the June 5, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE:** Claims against the City of Holton between June 6, 2017 and June 19, 2017 were presented to the commission for their approval. After careful consideration, said claims were approved and given the title Appropriation Ordinance 2186. Twila White moved and Mike Meerpohl seconded the motion for their approval. Vote thereon: all; yes.

**LEASE AGREEMENT FOR 1981 FIRE TRUCK:** Rural Fire Department #4 would like to lease the city's 1981 Chevy C-70 E-One Fire Truck for use at their Circleville station. They will insure and keep this equipment in good repair at their own expense. They would also bring it back to Holton anytime there is a structure fire in the city limits. The truck is currently housed with other City of Holton trucks and Rural Fire #4 trucks at the Public Safety Building in Holton. The lease would be indefinitely and may be terminated by either party with 60 days notice. The truck is still useful, but has not been utilized since the aerial truck was purchased in 1999, other than training and hose testing. Dan Brenner made a motion to adopt the lease agreement for the 1981 Chevy C-70 E-One Fire Truck to Rural Fire Department #4. Twila seconded the motion. Vote thereon, all; yes.

**BUDGET PRESENTATIONS:** Electric Distribution Superintendent Scott Fredrickson started off budget presentations with the electric distribution budget. Fredrickson commented that everything was pretty much the same. He would like to replace his 2004 bucket truck in this budget and he would also like to start putting some of the city's primary electric lines underground. Fredrickson said he would like to start with an area on the west side of town where there are no alleys, only easement. The times they usually need to get to those lines is when it is storming and it can be difficult to get a truck in. He also brought up his 2017 capital outlay budget. He would like permission to seek a used truck that would be able to reach some of our lines that we currently cannot reach. He said that he would not use the truck in everyday type work, and felt a good used truck would fit our needs and cost a lot less. The problem with a used truck is that you cannot seek bids for it and have comparables that would be equal. You also have the problem that someone else may come along and buy it out from under you. Commissioners agreed to allow Fredrickson to go out and look for a used bucket truck with a taller reach.

Ira Harrison, Light Plant Superintendent, presented his budget proposal for 2018. He explained to commissioners that his budget included testing that needs to be done every few years on the engines. In 2018, he will need to test #10 engine. He also needs to look at refusing the tie transformer, which is the transformer where all the purchased power comes in to. This will need to have a contractor look at it and rebuild what is there as it is too old to get replacement fuses anymore. This could cost anywhere from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Dennis Ashcraft explained to the commissioners that his budget included replacing the sewer jetter. He also needs to replace the mower at the sewer plant. The rest of his budget is holding the line. Ashcraft passed out his annual wish list of

concerns to the commissioners, updating projects that have been completed and adding new ones that have come up this year. Commissioners thanked all the department heads for holding the line on their budgets.

**BECK-BOOKMAN LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT:** Beck-Bookman Library Board has notified the city of a vacancy created when Olga Kelly moved. The board is recommending Marilyn Watkins for the vacancy. Dan Brenner made a motion to appoint Marilyn Watkins to the Beck-Bookman Library Board. Mike Meerpohl seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

Mike Meerpohl asked about the Elkhorn Lake project and if we had a start date. Kerwin McKee, City Manager, said the contracts are at Reece Construction for signatures and will come to city next. They are looking at a mid-July start date. The project should be done in 45-60 days. Mike Meerpohl also asked about the dog park opening. McKee said we are waiting on some signage to do an official opening.

Twila White said she had been asked by several employees if the commission would consider giving the employees July 3 off as a holiday. The 4th of July holiday is on Tuesday and this would give employees a four day holiday weekend. Twila asked how other commissioners felt about this. Bob Dieckmann said he had no problem granting this holiday. Dan Brenner and Mike Meerpohl also said they had no problem with this. Twila White made a motion to grant July 3, 2017, as a holiday. Mike Meerpohl seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

Dan Brenner complimented Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Draper on being very busy and he appreciated the effort.

Kerwin McKee informed the commissioners that a shed at the power plant needs a new roof. He has received two bids and accepted the low bid. He also told the commissioners that we have noticed some loss of coverage on the southern part of town with the new tornado sirens. We will be adding an amplifier to one and see if it helps. If it does, we may purchase more to add on the others.

Meeting Adjourned.

Teresa Riley  
City Clerk