

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 17, 2017 CITY COMMISSION MEETING

The City Commission of the City of Holton met at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall on Monday evening, April 17, 2017. Commissioners Tim Morris, Twila White, Mike Meerpohl and Dan Brenner were present. Mayor Bob Dieckmann was also present.

Mayor Bob Dieckmann called the regular meeting to order.

Minutes of the April 17, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE: Claims against the City of Holton between April 4, 2017 and

April 17, 2017 were presented to the commission for their approval. After careful consideration, said claims were approved and given the title Appropriation Ordinance 2182. Tim Morris moved and Mike Meerpohl seconded the motion for their approval. Vote thereon: all; yes.

MEET & GREET NEW EMPLOYEE: Kerwin McKee, City Manager, introduced Cliff Givens to the commissioners. Givens was recently hired for the Water/Sewer Department after the retirement of Dennis Klahr. Commissioners welcomed Givens to the city.

RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL: City staff recently received the renewal information for Jerome's Liquor Store. Dan Brenner made a motion to approve the retail liquor license renewal for Jerome's Liquor Store. Twila White seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

RESOLUTION 17-R002: Jeff Draper, Code Enforcement Officer, presented a resolution to the commissioners for removal of a fallen tree at 403 Hillcrest. Draper has been unable to make contact with the property owner by certified mail, so the next step is a resolution for the city to remove the tree and charge the costs back to the property. Tim Morris made a motion to approve Resolution 17-R002. Mike Meerpohl seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

BID AWARD: Sealed bids were solicited for a new backhoe for the Water/Sewer department. These bids were opened on April 11, and the results are as follows:

Murphy Tractor	John Deere 310SL	\$90,000
Foley Equipment	Cat 420 F-2	\$94,780
Foley Equipment	Cat 416 F-2	\$86,656
Sellers Tractor	JCB 3CX-14 Super	\$90,133
Victor L. Phillips	Case 580SN (2017)	\$89,692
Victor L. Phillips	Case 580SN (2016)	\$88,771

Dennis Ashcraft, Water/Sewer Superintendent, did a tabulation with rankings according to how well each backhoe fit the bid specs. His recommendation was for the Victor L. Phillips Case 580SN (2016). This is the backhoe they demonstrated and it would be available immediately. This piece of equipment had the highest ranking on his bid tabulation sheet. Tim Morris asked if it would be better to spend a little more and get the 2017 model. Ashcraft explained that the 2016 actually had two way hydraulics which wasn't on the bid specs but was a very desirable add-on, making the 2016 the better backhoe. Twila White made a motion to accept the bid from Victor L. Phillips for the Case 580SN (2016) not to exceed \$88,771. Dan Brenner seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

ORDINANCE 17-003 – ZONING CHANGE: The Holton Planning Commission heard a request for a zoning change at 619 Dakota from C-S Highway Service District to R-1 Single Family Dwelling at their March 27 meeting. This property has been used a residential for years, but had operated as a business when the last zoning update was done. The property owner needs to have the official zoning changed to reflect its current usage. There were no objections from neighboring property owners and the change was recommended by the Planning Commission. Dan Brenner made a motion to approve Ordinance 17-003 changing the zoning at 619 Dakota from C-S to R-1. Tim Morris seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

Kerwin McKee, City Manager, reported that Utility Service will be in town April 28 to inspect the standpipe. The Water Department will have to drain the standpipe for the inspection, so when people see water running down the road in that area, it is us draining the tower, not a water leak. Also coming up will be the annual sewer cleaning by Mayer Specialties. That will begin May 8. Water/Sewer staff will be hanging tags on doors in area affected by the cleaning and an ad will be put in the paper advising residents of the upcoming event.

Mike Meerpohl noted the new roof was going on at the pool. He also asked about where we were at on bidding out the spillway repair at Elkhorn Lake. McKee explained the design was ready so we should be getting the information soon.

Twila White asked where we were at on a longevity plan. She felt it was time to get something done on it. Bob Dieckmann said he was leaning more toward merit than longevity because it would require annual evaluations on employees. Tim Morris said he was leaning toward longevity. Dan Brenner also felt longevity was better because there could be a conflict if someone just doesn't like the employee. Mike Meerpohl and Twila White both felt longevity was the way to go. McKee told the commissioners that city staff would work over the earlier presented plan and add some options and bring it back for them to consider next meeting. Tim Morris he would like to see something not far off from original numbers. Bob Dieckmann said either way was fine, but we need to evaluate employees.

Dan Brenner asked about the new sirens. He noticed when they were tested last it had a voice announcement that we were under a tornado warning. He said we need to correct that so it doesn't say that when testing. He also informed the other commissioners that he had checked with the county appraiser's office and the new Walmart should add approximately 1.5 million to our assessed valuation.

Dennis Ashcraft informed the commission that the valve replacement project on the square went well. He said they had a lot of help from the Street Department which made the day go much quicker. They stated on the project about 7:00 a.m. and finished up just after 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned.

Teresa Riley
City Clerk