

## MINUTES OF THE APRIL 15, 2019 CITY COMMISSION MEETING

The City Commission of the City of Holton met at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall on Monday evening, April 15, 2019. Commissioners Mike Meerpohl, Twila White, Tim Morris and Dan Brenner were present. Mayor Bob Dieckmann was also present.

Mayor Bob Dieckmann called the public hearing for the property at 619 Ohio to order. Jeff Draper, Code Enforcement Officer, explained that he had received complaints about the structure being unsafe. Draper provided pictures of the property to the commissioners and added that the property owner had not done anything to improve the property. Brian Smith, property owner, also spoke. He said he has contacted a demolition company to see what it would take to get the structures taken down. Tim Morris asked if he thought this was something he could take care of himself or if he needed help. Smith said he could use some help. Tim Morris asked if he would allow Jeff Draper to assist him. Smith replied that Core First Bank had given him some ideas of who to work with. Mike Meerpohl asked how long he needed to get it removed. Twila White suggested 3 months and all of the commissioners agreed with that time table. Tim Morris made a motion to allow 90 days to get the structure removed and the lot cleaned up. Twila White seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes. Mayor Dieckmann adjourned the public hearing.

Mayor Bob Dieckmann called the regular meeting to order.

Minutes of the April 1, 2019 meeting were approved as written.

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE:** Claims against the City of Holton between April 1, 2019 and April 15, 2019 were presented to the commission for their approval. After careful consideration, said claims were approved and given the title Appropriation Ordinance 2232. Mike Meerpohl moved and Tim Morris seconded the motion for their approval. Vote thereon: all; yes.

**POSITION #5 APPLICANTS:** Applicants for Twila White's unexpired term in Position #5 on the Holton City Commission were given the opportunity to speak for 5 minutes each. Applicants for the position were Marge Cochren, R. Norman Johnson, Rex Larrison, Clara Lovvorn, Rodney Miller, Marilyn Watkins and Willy Wilson. After the applicants spoke, a paper ballot was taken to fill the position. On the first vote Marilyn Watkins received 2 votes, Rodney Miller received 2 votes and R. Norman Johnson received 1 vote. Due to the tie, a second vote was taken with just the top two vote recipients. On the second vote, Marilyn Watkins received 4 votes and Rodney Miller received 1 vote. Marilyn Watkins was announced as the commission choice to fill the term on Position #5. She will be sworn in at the next commission meeting.

**RESOLUTION #19-R003:** Kerwin McKee, City Manager, informed the commissioners the city had received a contract extension for the hydropower the city receives from Southwest Power Administration (SPA). This would extend the city's contract with SPA to 2033. McKee explained that this was a very small piece of the electrical pie for the city, but it was very inexpensive power, so he recommended approving the Resolution and the agreement. Dan Brenner made a motion to approve Resolution 19-R003. Tim Morris seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes. Tim Morris made a motion to approve the agreement for the contract extension. Mike Meerpohl seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

**PRAIRIE PICKERS:** Ron Meier, representing the Prairie Pickers, presented the commissioners with their "wish list" for Prairie Lake before their annual Picking Party in June. They would like to see lighting added to the parking area, additional electrical hookups for

campers, some leveling of the ground in camping area would help out, repair the road by the cove, and possibly add some speed bumps to the road to slow down drivers. Meier said this is just their wish list and they understand that getting this done may not happen. They have matched funds before and would be willing to again. Their maximum for matching funds would be \$1500.00. The commission said they would have Kerwin McKee and Mike Reichle take a look at what could be done.

**PROCLAMATION:** Commissioners were asked to proclaim April as Fair Housing Month by the US Housing and Urban Development. Mike Meerpohl made a motion to approve the proclamation. Dan Brenner seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes

**NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY:** Kerwin McKee, City Manager, has received a request from the residents of the 800 block of Iowa to block the street for a neighborhood block party on May 4 from 4-9 p.m.. Tim Morris made a motion to approve the street closing for a block party. Twila White seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

Mayor Bob Dieckmann presented Twila White with a plaque honoring her service as a city commissioner and a City of Holton medallion.

Meeting Adjourned.

Teresa Riley  
City Clerk