

## MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 21, 2020 CITY COMMISSION MEETING

The City Commission of the City of Holton met at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall on Monday evening, December 7, 2020. Commissioners Tim, Morris, Marilyn Watkins, and Dan Brenner were present. Mayor Bob Dieckmann was also present. Commissioner Mike Meerpohl was absent.

Mayor Bob Dieckmann called the regular meeting to order.

Minutes of the December 7, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE:** Claims against the City of Holton between December 8, 2020 and December 21, 2020 were presented to the commission for their approval. After careful consideration, said claims were approved and given the title Appropriation Ordinance 2273. Tim Morris moved, and Marilyn Watkins seconded the motion for their approval. Vote thereon: all; yes.

**CITY COMMISSION POSITION #4:** Candidates that submitted their letters of interest were invited to speak to the commission and tell them why they are interested in serving on the commission. Dalton Beightel was the first candidate to speak. Beightel told the commissioners that he was born and raised here and currently works as a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Holton Elementary School. He also is a coach for middle school football and track. He said that the community has shaped him and he would like to give back to the community by serving on the commission. Jason Murphy was the next candidate to speak. Murphy said he had lived in the community for over 20 years and has raised two sons here. He is part owner in an electrical business in Topeka. He feels that his experience in contract negotiations and budgets would be of benefit. He also would like to give back to the community. Rex Larrison was the final candidate to speak. Larrison served on the commission from 1994-1997. He also served on the Jackson County Development Corporation board. He has been in business since 1994. He feels that the commission has done a good job keeping taxes down, but we need to attract new business. He doesn't want to cut what we are doing, but if we could get more businesses that would help what the mill levy brings in. Larrison was also raised here and is raising his two kids here. Dan Brenner said he would be abstaining from the vote since he won't be involved in the future. After a paper ballot was tallied, Beightel had 2 votes to Murphy's 1 vote. With the abstention going to the majority, Beightel won the paper ballot. Marilyn Watkins made a motion to appoint Dalton Beightel to fill the unexpired Position #4. Tim Morris seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

**CMB LICENSE RENEWAL:** Cereal Malt Beverage (CMB) licenses need to be renewed each year. This year's CMB license renewals include PH of Holton, LLC, Holton 66, Casey's General Store #1308, Casey's General Store #3413, Walmart store #378, Trails Café & Catering, 7-Eleven Sales Corp 35782, Dollar General Store and Cecil K's Hometown Market. Dan Brenner made a motion to approve the CMB renewals. Tim Morris seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

**DRINKING ESTABLISHMENT LICENSE RENEWAL:** The Cockeyed Pig Dive Bar and Grille is up for the second year of their Drinking Establishment License. Marilyn Watkins made

a motion to approve the renewal of the Drinking Establishment license for Cockeyed Pig Dive Bar and Grille. Dan Brenner seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

**RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL:** Arcada Liquor LLC is up for a two year renewal on their Retail Liquor License. Dan Brenner made a motion to approve the Retail Liquor License for Arcada Liquor LLC. Tim Morris seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

**YEAR END MEETING:** Kerwin McKee, City Manager, told commissioners that a date and time for the year end meeting needed to be set. Dan Brenner made a motion to hold the meeting at 8:00 a.m. on December 31, 2020. Marilyn Watkins seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

McKee reported that we have replaced the roof on the pool house. We also were able to sandblast the graffiti off the limestone. We currently have the residential lighting contest going on. McKee reported that all of the departments have been working together well and that makes things work well. He also reported that we would be using sand from the old volleyball courts at Rafter Park as base for the new courts at Countryside Park.

Marilyn Watkins asked if staff had developed any ideas for the park money that was left to the city. McKee said we had a few ideas but have not decided on anything. There is no timeline to use the money. Watkin also asked if there was a report on the cost of the bells around the square. McKee said the chamber was not able to do anything more for the bells. Marilyn Watkins made a motion to pay an additional \$500 towards the cost. Tim Morris seconded the motion. Vote thereon: all; yes.

Tim Morris asked for an update on the city departments in teams. McKee said we are still working in teams and will be for the time being. He does not have a timeline on when to go back to regular schedules.

Dan Brenner commented that he would like to thank everyone for being great team members. He also asked members to consider camera radar for US Highway 75. He has spoken to others that use it and it has helped slow down traffic. He also would like to see a skate park built with the money gift to the parks. He also would like to see the commission set aside \$2500 a year to fill open ditches. He also would like to see the city open a dialogue with the county on duplicated services.

Meeting Adjourned.

Teresa Riley  
City Clerk