

CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

October 2, 2012

7:00p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Junction City Commission was held on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 with Mayor Pat Landes presiding.

The following members of the Commission were present: Cecil Aska, Scott Johnson, Pat Landes, Jim Sands, and Jack Taylor. Staff present was: City Manager Vernon, City Attorney Logan, and City Clerk Tyler Ficken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Matt Jackson, Fire Fighter Union President of 1231 McFarland stated that the Fire Department will hold a Helland Park fundraiser which will include a running/walking event. The Fire Department will collect \$20 to be used for park improvements. The event will be held on October 13, 2012 and will include a 5K which is approximately 3.1 miles. Matt Jackson stated that he has mixed feelings on the residency policy. Mr. Jackson stated that one Fire Department employee had a fire at his home in Manhattan, and now under the policy would be required to move to Geary County though he goes to school, and his wife works in Manhattan. Mr. Jackson stated that it is difficult to have so many changes with the policy, but Junction City is becoming the training ground for other communities. Mr. Jackson stated that the City has enough work on its plate, and should not add being worried about where people live to that list. Commissioner Johnson stated that he agrees with Mr. Jackson; Commissioner Johnson stated that he would also like to look into the nepotism policy.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consideration of Appropriation Ordinance A-19 2012 dated Sept 11 to Sept 24, 2012 in the amount of \$649,898.30. Commissioner Aska moved, seconded by Commissioner Sands to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Consideration of the minutes for the September 18, 2012 City Commission Meeting. Commissioner Aska moved, seconded by Commissioner Sands to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Consideration of ambulance contractual obligation adjustments and bad debt adjustments (July 2012). Commissioner Aska moved, seconded by Commissioner Sands to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Consideration of ambulance contractual obligation adjustments and bad debt adjustments (August 2012). Commissioner Aska moved, seconded by Commissioner Sands to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

2012 National Fire Prevention Week Proclamation, presented by Mayor Landes, Chief Steinfort accepting.

It's About Me Breast Cancer Awareness Association proclamation.

Junction City Geary County Goes Pink Day proclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

A discussion by the City Commission concerning economic development goals. City Manager Vernon stated that there will be work moving forward on this item. There is going to be a contract for services renewal with the Chamber of Commerce. City Manager Vernon pointed to the goals set in the 2002 strategic plan. Mayor Landes stated that he is interested in valuation of commercial versus residential property in Junction City. City Manager Vernon explained that a comprehensive plan is different than a strategic plan in that a comprehensive plan includes specific issues of zoning, but they should be on the same page. Commissioner Aska asked if there was a report providing the results of the 2002 plan. Commissioner Johnson stated that the plan did not work out in the past, and incentives such as NRP are in place; businesses such as Pizza Hut and Cox Bros. BBQ did not need a strategic plan to start a business here. Ben Kitchens stated that business was provided with incentives in the past, and Finance Director Beatty is tracking that now. Commissioner Sands stated that when approaching this type of planning it is important to consider short, medium, and long term planning; typically if 70% of the plan works, then that's great. Commissioner Sands stated that there should be routine updated to measure progress on the plan. Finance Director Beatty stated that it is important to get involvement from the community, and include those from all walks of life (blue collar and white collar). Commissioner Johnson stated that people need to get to work on lowering taxes. Ben Kitchens stated that the 2002 plan provides a basic plan, but another important issue is improving the workforce. Tom Weigand stated that the Chamber will be working with youth to get them ready for work and focus on attendance and proper attire etc. Mr. Weigand stated that planning for an industrial park is more difficult than residential generally. Commissioner Taylor stated that it is important to get the education system involved CCC and Barton will help. Commissioner Taylor stated that an important reason the 2002 plan was not followed through was \$750,000 that the state kept and left a hole in

the local budget. City Manager Vernon asked the Commission to discuss goals and objectives for the EDC to include in the update.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Johnson stated that people need to buy local, and the City should set the example. Commissioner Johnson asked to receive an update on the Self Help Housing sales tax issue. Finance Director Beatty stated that the information was sent to the Kansas Department of Revenue. Mayor Landes stated that the Commission was told that all administrative costs were paid by the loan. Finance Director Beatty stated that the USDA audit should have caught the problem long ago. Commissioner Johnson stated that the City should focus on the basics.

Commissioner Taylor stated that he will not be able to attend the next October meeting. Commissioner Taylor congratulated Lance Custer on his BBQ victory.

Commissioner Aska thanked those who organized and participated in the Jammin' in JC event. Also, be sure to get yourself checked for cancer and attend regular screenings.

Commissioner Sands stated that the Friends of Animals group needs help, and provided information about the Pilots & Paws program. It is important that people take care of their property and make things look nice; keep your weeds out of the street.

Mayor Landes congratulated the Fiddler on the Roof production; performances have improved since showing at the Opera House. Mayor Landes stated that Jammin' in JC was great; this is the #1 Blues event in Kansas. Mayor Landes thanked the Fire Department for their work to raise funds for Helland Park. The Safe Routes to School program has made a dramatic change, and more sidewalks need to be improved. Mayor Landes stated that it is very important to get screened for cancer, he sees this every day, and early detection is the key.

STAFF COMMENTS

City Manager Vernon stated that the League of Kansas Municipalities will hold regional Suppers; the closest will be in Minneapolis, KS.

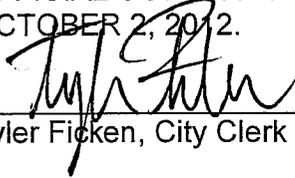
Finance Director Beatty stated that the Treasurer's report shows that all funds are in the positive which is a great milestone.

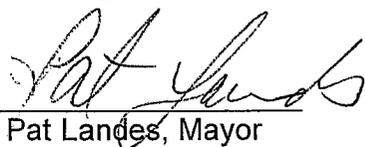
Municipal Services Director McCaffery stated that there will be street closures resulting from work being completed on the railroad crossings.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sands moved, seconded by Commissioner Aska to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED THIS 16th DAY OF OCTOBER AS THE OFFICIAL COPY OF THE JUNCTION CITY COMMISSION MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 2, 2012.


Tyler Ficken, City Clerk


Pat Landes, Mayor