CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

August 21, 2012 7:00p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Junction City Commission was held on Tuesday, August 21, 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

Ernie Honas stated that he visited 1500 to 2000 homes during his campaign, and he would like to share some thoughts with the Commission. Mr. Honas stated that Junction City is all alone now electorally. Someone from Emporia is going to prefer business growing in Emporia vs. Junction City. Mr. Honas stated that we are stuck with the boundaries for 10 years.

Commissioner Johnson stated that money is wasted on the self-help program without the facts. Commissioner Johnson stated that the grant funds are not paid back. Commissioner Johnson stated that in the past, sewer and water fees were waived. Commissioner Johnson stated that it will take approximately 37 homes paying property taxes to cover the self-help program.

Deb Johnston stated that the City spent funds June 5 that will be spent in the 2013 Budget; timing needs to be changed. She stated that she is upset about not having information on the self-help housing program. She stated that the City is kicking the can down the street.

Terry Fleming of 1112 N. Washington stated that a man is living in a van near his property that has expired tags. The vehicle is moved occasionally, and is now located in a vacant lot at 1119 W. 12th St.

John Stewart asked what residency means. Commissioner Johnson stated that people should voluntarily wish to live in Junction City and be part of the community. Commissioner Johnson stated that the golf course superintendent is bending the rules regarding residency. City Manager Vernon stated that he looked into the issue, and Mr. Bernstein lives in Geary County. Commissioner Johnson stated that this is a high profile position.

Commissioner Taylor thanked Mr. Honas for running.

CONSENT AGENDA

City Manager Vernon informed the Commission that the check for the 2006 Ford Crown Victoria would not be sent out unless approved by the Commission. City Attorney Logan stated that she would feel comfortable if the vehicle purchase was pulled from the agenda so that she may further research the use of special law enforcement funds in this instance. Commissioner Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to table item 3c. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Consideration of Appropriation Ordinance A-16 2012 dated July 31th – August 13 2012 in the amount of $846,714.67. Commissioner Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the consent agenda as amended. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Abstention: Landes.

Consideration of the August 7, 2012 City Commission Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the consent agenda as amended. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Abstention: Landes.

Consideration to purchase a 2006 Ford Crown Victoria and to declare a 1999 Ford F250 as surplus and approve the sale of the vehicle by auction. Tabled

Consideration to approve KDOT Grant application for Airport Fuel Containment Station. Commissioner Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the consent agenda as amended. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Abstention: Landes.

APPOINTMENTS

Appointment to the Animal Shelter Board. Commissioner Aska stated that he would attend the meetings. Commissioner Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Sands to appoint Commission Aska to the Animal Shelter board for the remainder of the term. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Approve Bond Ordinance S-3112 on second reading. Commissioner Sands moved, seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve Ordinance S-3112 on final reading. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Consideration of Ordinance G-1115 eliminating the requirement for second reading of ordinances on final reading. City Attorney Logan stated that two readings would still be required on franchise Ordinances. City Attorney Logan stated that the Commission would have the option to table ordinances if they feel

more time is needed to make a decision. Commissioner Aska stated that receiving the agenda earlier would help in that decision making process. Commissioner Taylor stated that he is weary because of what occurred in the past. City Attorney Logan stated that she could add language to allow a single commissioner to table an item upon its first introduction to the Commission. Commissioner Sands, moved, seconded by Commissioner Aska to approve Ordinance G-1115 as amended on final reading. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of City owned building at 701 N. Jefferson Street. City Manager Vernon provided a number of options including: (1) selling the building, (2) adding to the building to create an updated Municipal Court/ Commission Chamber, (3) Business incubator, and (4) addition to the Arts District. Commissioner Johnson asked if there has been an appraisal of the building. Finance Director Beatty stated that the County has 701 N. Jefferson appraised at $250,000, and the current municipal court building is appraised at $300,000. Commissioner Johnson stated that he sees the reasoning of option number two. Mayor Landes asked about potential renovation costs. City Manager Vernon stated that the current Municipal Court building could be sold to generate revenue for the renovation. Mayor Landes suggested that the building be leased to a private organization until a plan is in place. Commissioner Aska stated that of the options provided, he prefers the second option also. Finance Director Beatty stated that the remodel would include the creation of a large room, and the removal of two walls. Commissioner Johnson stated that the building across the street would be safer for the public and more accessible. Commissioner Johnson stated that he felt the building is too nice to sell. Mayor Landes stated that there is a need for the Commission and the Court. City Manager Vernon stated that a more formal presentation can be provided in the future, and this presentation was simply to measure interest. Commissioner Sands stated that items two and four both have merit. Commissioner Taylor stated that he likes the idea of the Municipal Court moving and would like to see some plans.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Johnson thanked Mr. Honas for his comments, and is finds it interesting that the Senator for Junction City is in Emporia. Commissioner Johnson stated that the City cannot thrive based on troop movements, and real homeowners are needed. Commissioner Johnson stated that college graduates do not come back to the community, and the City needs people who will stay and pay the bills.

Commissioner Sands stated that if you are interested in the Young Professionals, you should contact the Chamber of Commerce; he attended a great social media

event. Commissioner Sands stated that the Women & Minority business owners meetings are great ones to attend.

Mayor Landes stated that the Animal Control Policy Group has still been meeting. Mayor Landes asked that people be vigilant when watching out for children in the roadways. Mayor Landes stated that the float your boat event was great, and video is available on YouTube. Mayor Landes wished Chief Brown a Happy Birthday.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sands moved, seconded by Commissioner Aska to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Ayes: Aska, Johnson, Landes, Sands, Taylor. Nays: none. Motion carried.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED THIS 4th DAY OF SEPTEMBER AS THE OFFICIAL COPY OF THE JUNCTION CITY COMMISSION MINUTES FOR AUGUST 21, 2012.

Tyler Ficken, City Clerk

Pat Landes, Mayor