

Governing Body Minutes – March 13, 2018

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Topeka, Kansas, Tuesday, March 13, 2018. The Governing Body members of the City of Topeka met in regular session at 6:00 P.M., with the following Councilmembers present: Hiller, Clear, Emerson, Padilla, Jensen, Mays, Coen and Lesser -8. Mayor Michelle De La Isla presided -1. Absent: Councilmember Ortiz -1.

AFTER THE MEETING was called to order, Joshua Kelly, Topeka Baptist Church Student Pastor, provided the invocation.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present in the chamber.

BOARD APPOINTMENT recommending the appointment of Veronica Padilla to the Civil Service Commission to fill an unexpired term ending January 5, 2020, was presented.

Councilmember Clear moved to approve the board appointment. The motion seconded by Councilmember Jensen carried. Councilmember Padilla abstained. Mayor does not vote.

(7-0-1)

THE CONSENT AGENDA was presented as follows:

APPROVAL of a Workers’ Compensation Settlement for Billy Casey in the amount of \$30,000 for injury sustained while engaged in normal work duties was presented.

APPROVAL of a Workers’ Compensation Settlement for Brian Hill in the amount of \$125,000 for injury sustained while engaged in normal work duties was presented.

MINUTES of the regular meeting of March 6, 2018, was presented.

APPROVAL of Open After Midnight License applications were presented for the following:

<u>Business Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Boulevard Billiards	4700 SW Topeka Boulevard
Burger Stand at College Hill	1601 SW Lane Street
Buffalo Wild Wings	1227 SW Wanamaker Road
Gayle’s	600 NW Paramore Street
Glazed Goose	5630 SW 29 th Street

<u>Business Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
KNJ's	1909 NE Seward Avenue
Jeremiah Bullfrogs Bar & Grill	2940 SW Wanamaker Road
Los Charros	4111 SW Gage Center Drive
Old Chicago	1231 SW Wanamaker Road
Riegels 20's West	901 SW Fairlawn Road
Serendipity	820 N Kansas Avenue
Skinny's Sports Bar & Grill	4016 SW Huntoon
Tailgator's Sports Pub & Grub	2025 SW Urish Road, Suite 108
The Celtic Fox	118 SW 8 th Street
The Foundry	400 SW 33 rd Street
The Spot Tavern	2202 SW Buchanan Street
Theatre Club of Topeka	3028 SW 8 th Avenue
West Ridge Lanes	1935 SW Westport Drive
Whiplash Bar & Grill	2107 SE California Avenue
Wild Horse Saloon	3249 SW Topeka Boulevard

Councilmember Coen moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion seconded by Councilmember Clear carried unanimously. (9-0-0)

DISCUSSION of the proposed 2019-2028 Capital Improvement Plan and 2019-2021 Capital Improvement Budget was presented.

Brent Trout, City Manager, stated the 10 year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and three year Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) would be used as planning tools for the City's 2019 Operating Budget.

Nick Hawkins, Budget and Performance Manager, provided a brief overview of the CIP process, funding sources, types of projects included in the CIP, and General Obligation Bonds (projected and outstanding).

Jason Peek, Public Works Director, highlighted the following General Fund and Other Fund projects:

- Neighborhood Projects - \$14.9 million
- Facilities Projects - \$17 million
- Street Projects - \$133.5 million
- Pavement Management Rehabilitation and Reconstruction - \$46.8 million (Citywide Half Cent Sales Tax Extension 2020-2023)

- Pavement Management Project - \$9.9 million (Countywide Half Cent Sales Tax Excess 2018-2020)

Mayor De La Isla referenced potential funding that could be generated through an extension of the Citywide Half-Cent Sales Tax. She asked if staff has determined how to make a significant difference to residents with regard to an overall plan that would include street, sidewalk, curb, gutter and infrastructure improvements.

Jason Peek stated he would report back with a cost estimate for total street improvements and noted there would need to be approximately 90 miles of rural section roadways (roads that do not have sidewalks, curbs, gutters or stormwater systems) to address. He noted the Pavement Management Program funding has been proposed at the same level until discussed further by the Governing Body.

Councilmember Jensen questioned if the funding for the SE 29th Street Kansas Turnpike Authority (KTA) Interchange Project should be moved ahead in the CIP schedule.

Jason Peek stated 2023 was recommended by staff due to the number of roads the City currently has to maintain.

Councilmember Emerson stated he concurs with Councilmember Jensen regarding the funding of the SE 29th Street KTA Interchange project. He questioned what areas of the city were slated for street crack sealing and microsurfacing treatment, and how could residents find out if their street was scheduled for microsurfacing treatment.

Jason Peek stated he would provide a list of streets slated for microsurfacing to the Governing Body.

Councilmember Hiller expressed the importance of optimizing funding for the overall street plan and the cost of financing projects with general obligation bonds instead of cash. She spoke in opposition of the funding source being used for snow and ice removal and asked if there was a

plan to fund snow and ice removal 100% through operating funds instead of curb and gutter funds.

Doug Gerber, Deputy City Manager, reported the source of funding used for snow and ice removal was thoroughly vetted through the City's Legal Department and the policy was approved by the Governing Body.

Jason Peek reported staff remains conservative with the curb and gutter funds as these funds must last through the end of each year; however, it also was not the intent of staff to keep the funds in reserve status.

Councilmember Hiller requested a financial report outlining how much funds are expended on curb and gutter projects, and how much funds are expended on snow and ice removal. She referenced the pending tax credit application for the Municipal Building (City Hall), and questioned the actual dollar amount the City would have to pay for the Municipal Building updates and when the project would begin.

Jason Peek stated the City must budget the full amount for the total cost of the project upfront. He reported the City will apply for tax credits where applicable, and if approved, the City will receive a refund for the difference. He noted staff plans to maximize the tax credit potential while considering the long-term operational needs of City.

Councilmember Clear asked if the gravel streets in North Topeka were included in the Pavement Management Project. She expressed concern with moving the KTA Interchange Project forward in the CIP schedule and noted it would delay funding other projects in the CIP.

Jason Peek reported the Pavement Management Program was implemented for the maintenance of streets only; gravel roads would be addressed through specific improvement

projects; and entire neighborhoods would be handled in a phased approach by aligning all project improvements (street, sidewalk, curb, gutter and utility).

Councilmember Hiller asked how the CIP would accommodate the City's Sustainability Plan.

Jason Peek stated many of the recommendations resulting from the Vermont Energy and Conservation Study would be incorporated in the renovation of City Hall, and from an operational standpoint, the City plans to take a balanced approach by implementing certain sustainability recommendations through the operating budget when feasible as well as through capital improvement projects.

Brent Trout reported he recently met with members of the Sustainability Advisory Board and referenced the City's Energy Policy approved by the City Council eight years ago. He stated staff was in the process of researching where they are in regards to reaching the goals of the policy and understanding if those goals need to be modified or if other projects need to be considered.

Nick Hawkins continued discussion on the following projects:

- Quality of Life Projects - \$15.3 million
- Other Projects
 - Police Department Fleet Replacement - \$3.2 million (General Fund Cash)
 - Fire Station Yearly Renovation - \$2.2 million (General Fund Cash)
- Infill Sidewalk/Pedestrian Master Plan - \$3 million (General Obligation Bonds)

In conclusion, Nick Hawkins reported discussion would continue on March 20, 2018, with the possibly consideration of the CIP resolution on April 3, 2018.

Joseph Ledbetter spoke in support of moving the KTA Interchange project forward in southeast Topeka. He distributed handouts regarding economic development and growth and a copy of a newspaper article relating to balanced tax payoffs. He expressed the importance of balancing development on all sides of Topeka and public input when expending public funds.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CITY MANAGER, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL;

Brenda Younger, City Clerk, provided an overview of the March 20, 2018, Governing Body agenda.

Brent Trout, City Manager, stated consideration of the 2015 International Building Code, International Fire Code and Life Safety Code ordinances would be presented at the April 3, 2018, Governing Body meeting to allow staff time to answer questions received from Councilmember Hiller. He announced the City's 2019 Budget Open House would be held on March 14, 2018, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library.

Mayor De La Isla encouraged staff to consider suggestions made by Momentum 2022 members in regards to plans for economic prosperity and equality as they continue discussions on the Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Policy. She asked staff to consider looking at ways to capture development funds through grants or tax incentives for the purpose of contributing to overall housing throughout the city. She commented on charities that are close to her heart and stated if people are interested in donating the information is listed on her Facebook page, Michelle for Topeka.

Councilmember Coen invited all Governing Body members to participate in St. Patrick's Day festivities around the city on March 17, 2018.

Councilmember Lesser congratulated Hayden High School for winning the 4A, Division 2, 2017-2018 State Championship in basketball. He commended staff for honoring the late Marge and Barney Heeney and the tremendous contributions they made to the community.

Councilmember Hiller encouraged everyone to attend the St. Patrick's Parade and festivities on March 17, 2018. She reported Shawnee County Appraiser Steve Bauman, is reviewing the

value of property and how it relates to private investment compared to new development. She encouraged anyone with information that would help guide Mr. Bauman in his review to contact him directly.

Councilmember Clear announced Fellowship Bible Church would be opening their new Hi-Crest Fellowship Campus on March 17, 2018, located at Avondale East at 11:00 a.m. for Sunday church services.

Councilmember Emerson congratulated Topeka native and Navy Lt. Commander Dan Cnossen on becoming a gold medalist in the Biathlon for Team USA at the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea.

Councilmember Jensen encouraged everyone to attend the Blarney Breakfast on March 17, 2018, from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Blind Tiger Brewery and Restaurant to support the Easter Seals Capper Foundation.

Virginia Mendez appeared to speak under public comment.

NO FURTHER BUSINESS appearing the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Brenda Younger
City Clerk