

**CITY OF HESSTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

MINUTES of April 8, 2024

Council Meeting No. 7

The regular meeting of the Hesston City Council was held on Monday, April 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers / Municipal Court Building located at 110 E. Smith Street.

PRESENT

Council members Larry Fuqua, Brad Unruh, Susan Swartzendruber, Clare Moore, and Michael Wallace (phone), City Administrator Gary Emry, City Attorney J.T. Klaus, and City Clerk Jason Thrasher with Mayor David Kauffman presiding. A quorum was present.

ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Mary Aycock with REAP, Doug Bruggeman with Mennonite Housing, Library Director Jackie Nelson, and Rusty Witcher with Harvey County Now.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

City Administrator Gary Emry requested that Mayor Kauffman add the following item to the agenda:

- Mennonite Housing / Windover Update

Mayor Kauffman added the item to the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Brad Unruh moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Clare Moore seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSTITUENCY COMMENTS

Mayor Kauffman opened the floor for constituency comments. Hearing no comments he moved to the next agenda item.

PUBLIC HEARING

VACATION PETITION PUBLIC HEARING

At 6:03 p.m. Mayor Kauffman opened the public hearing and asked for public comment.

Hearing no comment, he closed the public hearing at 6:04 p.m.

VACATION ORDER

Clare Moore moved to approve Vacation Order: Case No. VA-2024-001 as presented. Larry Fuqua seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Clare Moore moved to approve the real estate purchase contract as presented that would sell property at the corner of Old 81 Hwy. and N. Lancaster Rd. to the Beneficient Heartland Foundation for \$50,000. The location is the future site of the credit union. Larry Fuqua seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

REAP ORGANIZATION

Dr. Mary Aycok, Executive Director of REAP (Regional Economic Area Partnership of South-Central Kansas) was present to introduce herself and to invite the council and staff to participate in the REAP organization.

HESSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT

Hesston Public Library Director Jackie Nelson provided an annual update and report on the library.

ANNUAL DESIGNATION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Larry Fuqua moved to nominate council member Susan Swartzendruber to the position of Council President. Brad Unruh seconded. Motion carried 4-0 with Susan Swartzendruber abstaining.

FIRE / EMS CHIEF APPOINTMENT

Mayor Kauffman appointed Zach Bergen to the position of Fire / EMS Chief.

Clare Moore moved to confirm the appointment of Zach Bergen to the position. Brad Unruh seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

CITY HALL SERVER REPLACEMENT

Brad Unruh moved to approve the quote from ImagineIT for the replacement of the city hall server in the amount of \$26,259.17. Susan Swartzendruber seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

DOG PARK PROJECT ESTIMATE

Susan Swartzendruber moved to approve funding in an amount not to exceed \$130,790 for the Ridge Pointe Dog Park Project. Clare Moore seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

PICKLEBALL COURT LIGHTING BID

Brad Unruh moved to approve the quote from Kansas Electric in the amount of \$18,520 to install lighting at the Heritage Park Pickleball Court. Clare Moore seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

2025 BUDGET AND RIDGE POINTE DEVELOPMENT WORK SESSION

It was the consensus of the council to hold a work session on May 20th at 6:00 a.m. in the city council chambers to hold the 2025 Council / Staff Budget Work Session and a Ridge Pointe Development Work Session.

MENNONITE HOUSING WINDOVER UPDATE

Doug Bruggeman with Mennonite Housing was present to update the council on:

- Entryway lighting will be updated to “like new” condition.
- A parcel description is being worked on for the pond parcel.
- A document is being circulated among residents that indicate their desire to not form an HOA.
- An irrigation well that has not been used will be capped / plugged.
- The parcel for the park is still being offered as a donation to the city.

Larry Fuqua moved to have the city take over the maintenance and electricity cost of the entryway lighting at the Windover Subdivision. Clare Moore seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURN MEETING

At 7:20 p.m. Brad Unruh moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Clare Moore seconded.
Motion carried 5-0.

Recorded by
Jason Thrasher
City Clerk