

**CITY OF HESSTON  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MINUTES of December 11, 2023**

**Council Meeting No. 16**

The regular meeting of the Hesston City Council was held on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 110 E. Smith Street.

**PRESENT**

Council members Larry Fuqua, Michael Wallace, Brad Unruh, Susan Swartzendruber, and Clare Moore, 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**

Hesston residents Chris and Paula Miller, Larry Kleeman with Ranson Citycode, Jessica Stone and Will Wesolowsky with AGCO, Police Chief Chris Eilert, Fire and EMS Director Russ Buller, Library Director Jackie Nelson, and Adam Strunk with Harvey County Now.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Mayor Kauffman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Hearing none he moved on to the next item of business.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**CONSTITUENCY COMMENTS**

Mayor Kauffman opened the floor to constituency comments.

Hesston resident Chris Miller addressed the Council on the petition related to Charter Ordinance No. 140-2023-041.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Kauffman moved on to the next item of business.

**PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS**

**MUNICIPAL SERVICE RECOGNITION**

Mayor Kauffman and City Council recognized the following employee for his years of municipal service:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Years of Service</b>
Kyle Headrick	Public Works	35

**PUBLIC HEARING**

At 6:07 p.m. Mayor Kauffman opened the public hearing and asked for comment.

At 6:08 p.m. Mayor Kauffman closed the public hearing.

Clare Moore made a motion to approve the 2023 Transient Guest Tax Budget Amendment as presented. Susan Swartzendruber seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 180-2023-048: AGCO IRB**

Larry Kleeman with Ranson City Code and Jessica Stone and Will Wesolowsky with AGCO were present to answer questions related to the AGCO IRB Ordinance and associated projects.

Brad Unruh moved to adopt Ordinance No. 180-2023-048 which authorizes the issuance of \$10,945,000 in Industrial Revenue Bonds for AGCO. Michael Wallace seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**NISLY BROTHERS RESIDENTIAL REFUSE AND RECYCLE CONTRACT**

Clare Moore moved to approve the 5-year Nisly Brothers Residential Refuse and Recycling Contract as presented. Michael Wallace seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 080-2023-023: SOLID WASTE FEES**

Larry Fuqua moved to approve Ordinance No. 080-2023-023 which sets residential trash and recycle rates at \$19.75 per month. Clare Moore seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**STRATEGIC PLAN CONSULTING SERVICES**

Clare Moore moved to approve the Strategic Plan Consulting Services Contract with Woodbury Associates as presented. Brad Unruh seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**2024 COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Larry Fuqua moved to approve the 2024 Community Development Grants as noted below:

- Hesston Resource Center: Utility and Rent Subsidies - \$12,000
- Hesston Recreation: H-Town and Emma Creek Classic - \$1,000
- Hesston Area Senior Center: Meals on Wheels & Health Fair - \$8,000

Michale Wallace seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Mayor Kauffman made the following appointments:

	<b><i>Planning Commission &amp; BZA</i></b>	<b><i>Term Length</i></b>	<b><i>Term Begins</i></b>	<b><i>Term Expires</i></b>
1	Dean Leatherman	3 yrs.	Jan-24	Dec-26
2	Tim Page	3 yrs.	Jan-24	Dec-26
3	Derrick Klassen	3 yrs.	Jan-24	Dec-26

	<b><i>Library Board</i></b>	<b><i>Term Length</i></b>	<b><i>Term Begins</i></b>	<b><i>Term Expires</i></b>
1	Cheryl Peachy Stoner	4 yrs.	Jan-24	Dec-27
2	Roxana Koch	4 yrs.	Jan-24	Dec-27
3	Randall Loucks (unexpired term)	4 yrs.	Jan-23	Dec-26

	<b><i>HAEDC</i></b>	<b><i>Term Length</i></b>	<b><i>Term Begins</i></b>	<b><i>Term Expires</i></b>
1	Zach Phillips	2 yrs.	Jan-24	Dec-25
2	Mark Landes	2 yrs.	Jan-24	Dec-25

Clare Moore moved to confirm the Mayoral appointments. Brad Unruh seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**EMS STAFFING WORK SESSION**

It was the consensus of the Council to set Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers as the date, time, and location to hold a work session to discuss EMS staffing.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT END OF YEAR REPORT**

Police Chief Chris Eilert made a report to the Council on 2023 Police Department activities.

**2024 FIREWORKS DISCHARGE DATES**

Brad Unruh moved to set the 2024 fireworks discharge dates as July 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and July 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to midnight. The motion also set the fireworks sales permit fee at \$500. Clare Moore seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Brad Unruh moved to approve the 2024 Holiday Schedule as presented.

<b>HOLIDAY</b>	<b>CITY POLICY</b>	<b>2024 SCHEDULE</b>
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday in January	January 15, 2024
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May	May 27, 2024
Independence Day	Independence Day	July 4, 2024
Labor Day	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday in September	September 2, 2024
Thanksgiving	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday & Friday of November	November 28 & 29, 2024
Christmas	Dec. 25th & ½ day before & day after	1/2 day - December 24 & December 25 & 26, 2024
New Year's	New Year's Day, January 1st and the day before or after.	December 31, 2024 & January 1, 2025

Clare Moore seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**OTHER BUSINESS**

City Attorney J.T. Klaus addressed questions asked by Mr. Miller during the constituency comments portion of the agenda that were related to the protest petition filed for Charter Ordinance No. 140-2023-041. This Charter Ordinance added the city website as a possible future location for official city publications.

**ADJOURN MEETING**

At 6:50 p.m. Clare Moore moved to adjourn the meeting. Brad Unruh seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Recorded by  
Jason Thrasher  
City Clerk