

**CITY OF HESSTON  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MINUTES of February 12, 2024**

**Council Meeting No. 4**

The regular meeting of the Hesston City Council was held on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers / Municipal Court Building located 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**

Terry Woodbury with Woodbury Associates, Mike King, candidate for Kansas House District 74, Hesston Fire/EMS Director Russ Buller, Police Chief Chris Eilert, Library Director Jackie Nelson, and Adam Strunk with the Harvey County Now.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Brad Unruh moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Michael Wallace seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**CONSTITUENCY COMMENTS**

Mayor Kauffman opened the floor for constituency comments.

Mike King addressed the council regarding his candidacy for Kansas House of Representatives District 74.

Mayor Kauffman, hearing no further comments, moved to the next agenda item.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1179 – DESIGNATING OFFICIAL CITY NEWSPAPER**

Larry Fuqua moved to approve Resolution No. 1179, which designates the Newton Kansan as the official city newspaper. Michael Wallace seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

At 6:08 p.m. Council member Clare Moore arrived at the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**STRATEGIC PLAN BRIEFING**

Terry Woodbury with Woodbury Associates was present to discuss the development of the new strategic plan and the feedback he received from the council interviews. He requested the council provide two members to participate with six other community members from other parts of the public square (government, business, education, and human services) to outline a process to develop the new strategic plan.

**PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE PROPERTY**

Clare Moore moved to approve the offer made by Beneficient Heartland Foundation to purchase the land at the corner of Old 81 Hwy. and N. Lancaster St. for \$50,000. Susan Swartzendruber seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**ENGINEERING AGREEMENT – EMMA CREEK ROAD**

Michael Wallace moved to approve the quote from Certified Engineering Design, P.A. to provide a topographical survey and design engineering for street improvements on North Emma Creek Rd. Larry Fuqua seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**ANNUAL APPOINTMENT OF CITY OFFICERS**

Clare Moore moved to approve the mayor’s appointment of city officers as presented. The term would run through February 10, 2025.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
City Administrator	Gary Emry
City Clerk	Jason Thrasher
Deputy City Clerk	Warren Schmidt
City Treasurer	Valerie Bonham
Director of Emergency Services	Russ Buller
Municipal Judge	Randall Pankratz
City Attorney	J.T. Klaus
City Prosecutor	Heather Figger
Police Chief	Chris Eilert
Municipal Court Clerk	Janet Thrasher

Brad Unruh seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Council Member Larry Fuqua asked about the potholes on Lincoln Blvd. close to Casey’s. City Administrator Gary Emry informed the council that the three responsible entities - Hesston Public Works, KDOT, and Harvey County Road and Bridge met last week and were working on coming up with costs to address the issue.

**ADJOURN MEETING**

At 6:35 p.m. Clare Moore moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Brad Unruh seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Recorded by  
Jason Thrasher  
City Clerk