

The El Dorado City Commission met in a special session on October 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Room with the following present: Mayor Vince Haines, Commissioner Chase Locke, Commissioner Gregg Lewis, Commissioner Nick Badwey, Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson, City Manager Herb Llewellyn, City Attorney Jim Murfin, City Clerk Tabitha Sharp, Assistant City Engineer Scott Rickard and Assistant to the City Manager Brian Gartland.

VISITORS

Julie Clements	Times-Gazette	El Dorado, KS
Kathy Martin	Safe-House	El Dorado, KS
Steve Moody	220 E 1 st	El Dorado, KS
Caleb Carson	220 E 1 st	El Dorado, KS
Curt Zieman	220 E 1 st	El Dorado, KS
Sam McVay	141 N. Emporia	El Dorado, KS
James Cook	719 Fredrick Dr.	El Dorado, KS

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vince Haines called the October 5, 2015 meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Pastor Sam McVay, New Life Church, opened the meeting with prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Commission led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION

Fire Fighter Caleb Carson, City of El Dorado, discussed the history of Fire Prevention Week, relevant statistics and ongoing education efforts pertaining to fire prevention.

Mayor Vince Haines read the proclamation declaring October 4-10, 2015 Fire Prevention Week.

Kathy Martin, Safe House Board of Directors, discussed the history of the Safe House, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this month. The Safe House has housed of 54 women and 13 children this year and also assists victim’s basic needs as they transition back into the community.

Commissioner Nick Badwey and Mayor Vince Haines commented that they appreciate the efforts of the Safe House.

Mayor Vince Haines read the proclamation declaring October 2015 Fire Prevention Month.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Vince Haines opened the floor for Public Comment.

There were no comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the City Commission minutes from September 21, 2015 and the Special City Commission Minutes from September 16, 2015.

Approval of Appropriation Ordinance 09-15 in the amount of \$1,591,652.50.

Commissioner Gregg Lewis moved that the Consent Agenda, as presented, be approved.

Commissioner Chase Locke seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Chase Locke stated that the City had a productive meeting with the YMCA. City and YMCA Staff will work together to develop the first steps in the partnership, which will then be presented to the Recreation Board, YMCA Board and later to the Commission.

City Manager Herb Llewellyn said YMCA's in Wichita have after school programs. He has asked the YMCA to consider if El Dorado has similar needs and is waiting to hear back from them.

Commissioner Locke asked for clarification on the location of the Salvation Army event.

City Manager Llewellyn stated the Salvation Army has outgrown their existing space and needs a location for storage and distribution for those in need during the holiday season. The Civic Center is available, but the preference would be to find an alternate location as it is in high demand during the holidays.

Commissioner Locke stated that the Salvation Army is in need of coats for kids, and anyone who wants to give should consider contacting them now, rather than waiting until it's colder.

Mayor Vince Haines asked if the City could do a ribbon cutting event to celebrate the finalization of Towanda Street.

City Clerk Tabitha Sharp stated she would start the conversation with staff and local partners who have been involved in the project.

Mayor Haines said it was a big project and that it's important that we let the public know about it.

Commissioner Locke asked if ribbon cutting ceremonies were common for street projects.

Assistant City Engineer Scott Rickard stated that the City did a ribbon cutting ceremony when 6th and Boyer was completed.

Mayor Haines asked for previous Commissioners to be invited to the ceremony. Commissioner Nick Badwey and Commissioner Locke agreed.

Ms. Sharp asked if the sidewalks should be completed prior to the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Mr. Rickard indicated that due to the number of projects currently being vetted, it may take a while to complete the sidewalks.

Mayor Haines indicated he did not want to wait too long.

Commissioner Locke agreed.

City Manager Llewellyn provided a list of concrete projects being worked on. He advised that it will be later in the week before he has an idea of the priority of the projects and that weather is a key factor in their completion.

City Manager Llewellyn asked what the size of the sidewalk being installed on Towanda was.

Mr. Rickard advised that he anticipates six feet sidewalks and that a paving machine should be able to be used.

City Manager Llewellyn advised the path on 12th street is wider and will take longer, as it requires a different process, which will take more time. He stated that if the weather is good, then this process will go quicker.

Mr. Rickard recommended that staff proceed with the ribbon cutting as there is too much uncertainty of when the sidewalks will be poured. He also recommended inviting the contractor to the ceremony.

Mayor Haines directed City staff to coordinate the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Mayor Haines advised that Transportation Secretary Mike King would be coming to the City to visit. He stated that El Dorado Inc. and the City planned to discuss current projects in our community and would like to discuss ways for the City to partner with the State.

Mr. Rickard stated there are several items he would like to discuss with Mr. King, including the Turnpike, Central and Boyer interchange, and Main and McCollum, which had been previously denied funding. He also expressed a need for Transportation alternative projects, including sidewalks, bike paths and signage.

Mayor Haines stated that he attended a Highway 254 Meeting in Benton last week. He stated this is likely the beginning of a newly formed coalition, and it included community leaders from the area, including members of the Blueprint for Regional Economic Growth from Wichita.

Mayor Haines stated that Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson was also in attendance. He stated that the committee primarily discussed traffic safety and education and the 2004 Butler County Development Plan for the 254 Corridor.

Mayor Haines stated that he would like to continue the conversation regarding the corridor.

Mayor Haines asked if it would be possible to sell the City's bottled water at local events.

City Manager Llewellyn stated that he is currently training several staff members to move into a City Manager position. He stated that Ms. Sharp, a former intern before becoming City Clerk, is one of those members. Ms. Sharp has been prepped for this question and he deferred to her.

Ms. Sharp stated that the City often offers water bottles to organizations for events, often at little-to-no charge, and has done so for a long time. She stated that the cost to the City is about forty cents per bottle.

Ms. Sharp asked if Mayor Haines knew the cost of the water bottles that the other organizations were selling for.

Mayor Haines advised he did not know the cost, but that concession stands sell a lot of water to out of town visitors and it makes sense to put the El Dorado name on bottles. This would be a good form of advertising, even if some money is lost in doing so.

Ms. Sharp said she thought water is \$2.00 a bottle at the Stadium, but the contract may only allow Pepsi to sell there. Ms. Sharp asked if water is sold at \$2.00 a bottle, could the City give it away at a loss.

Commissioner Locke asked if the City does concessions for tournaments.

City Manager Llewellyn said it was a possibility, not normally though. He reiterated that BG Stadium has a contract with Pepsi, which only allows for Pepsi water to be sold there.

Commissioner Locke said he is specifically referring to ball tournaments, as this would be good advertising for those visiting from out of town.

Ms. Sharp advised that those who run the tournament are able to hire the City for concessions.

Mayor Haines stated that he did not necessarily intend to give water away, but wouldn't mind selling it at a reduced rate. He asked for input from the Commission.

City Manager Llewellyn clarified Ms. Sharp's earlier comment, he stated that he did the math on selling 200 bottles of water at the cost of 10 cents each. He stated that this would be a loss of \$60.00 for the City to supply water at an event. He stated this loss is not extreme because the City typically gives away the water.

City Manager Llewellyn stated that it would provide the City an opportunity to let the public know how good the water is.

Mayor Haines asked for input from the Commission. The Commission agreed that marketing our water was a good idea and directed staff to move forward with suggestions on implementation.

Commissioner Locke asked if the City has contacted Prairie Fire Marathon in Wichita.

City Manager Llewellyn asked if this was an Oz Endurance event.

Commissioner Locke advised that Oz helps time it, but does not produce it. He stated that this may be an opportunity to get the City's name out to the Wichita Community.

Mayor Haines suggested the City consider putting a new message on the label.

City Manager Llewellyn advised that staff tried to be the water vendor at Riverfest, but were unsuccessful.

Commissioner Badwey asked what kind of water Pepsi sells.

Commissioner Locke replied that they sell Aquafina.

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson stated that she went to two of her grandchildren's soccer games and a flag football game last weekend. She wanted to complement the City Recreation Department and comment on how well the coaches work with the children.

Commissioner Wilkinson reiterated her appreciation on the completion of Towanda. She stated she is in favor of a ribbon cutting event.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Clerk Tabitha Sharp reminded the Commission that the League of Kansas Municipalities conference is this weekend at the Capital Plaza in Topeka. She stated that it starts Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. with breakfast and vendor roundtables, and the first official meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. She stated Commissioners are encouraged to contact her with questions.

Ms. Sharp stated that there will be a work session on Wednesday, October 14th at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and utility rate increases.

Commissioner Chase Locke advised that he will be absent for the work session as he has a trip planned to Dallas.

Mayor Vince Haines advised that he will not be able to attend the Commission Meeting on October 19th. He stated that Vice Mayor Nick Badwey will serve in his place.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Nick Badwey moved to recess into an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal matters, and to reconvene the regularly scheduled meeting in the City Commission room at 7:25 p.m.

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

Mayor Vince Haines called the meeting back to order at 7:27 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Nick Badwey moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

City Clerk Tabitha D. Sharp

Vice Mayor Nick Badwey