

Hamilton County Commissioners' Special Meeting
P.O. Box 1167
Syracuse, KS 67878
Meeting Place— Jury Room
Hamilton County Courthouse
November 4, 2014
8:30 a.m.

Keith A. Puckett, Chairman
John R. Simon, Vice-Chairman
Randall C. Braddock, Commissioner
Michael W. Lewis, Commissioner
Nikki Schwerdfeger, Commissioner
Rob Gale, Attorney
Angie Moser, County Clerk

Commissioner Puckett called the Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with all Commissioners present.

AGENDA: Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Schwerdfeger seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

PRIOR MINUTES: Commissioner Simon moved to approve the October 21, 2014 Commissioner Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Lewis seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. Commissioner Puckett moved to approve the October 28, 2014 Special Commissioner Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Lewis seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: Discussed putting a drop ceiling in the Jury Room to approve the acoustics and replacing the table. This issue will be added to the 5-year plan.

JOY BEZONA: Joy Bezona, Communications Officer with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office requested to discuss a personnel issue. Commissioner Lewis moved for a 10-minute executive session for matters pertaining to non-elected personnel with the Commissioners, the County Attorney, the County Clerk, Undersheriff Mark Dewees, and Joy Bezona present. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. The executive session began at 8:43 a.m. and the regular meeting resumed at 8:53 a.m. Commissioner Lewis moved for an additional 5-minute executive session for matters pertaining to non-elected personnel with the Commissioners, the County Attorney, the County Clerk, Undersheriff Mark Dewees, and Joy Bezona present. Commissioner Braddock seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. The executive session began at 8:55 a.m. and the regular meeting resumed at 9:00 a.m.

LESLIE CARLHOLM: Ms. Carlholm, Community Development Director, discussed the following:

- 1) The Community Development Board has reviewed the cost benefit analysis for the proposed hotel project and is forwarding a recommendation to approve abatement of 100% of the property taxes for 10 years and require an annual \$5,000.00 payment in lieu of taxes be distributed across the taxing entities. As an industrial revenue bond project, it would also be eligible for a project sales tax exemption. The Commissioners discussed concerns of abating the property taxes for 10 years, but feel abating taxes will encourage new business. Also discussed concerns of existing businesses closing and losing their property tax income. Commissioner Lewis moved to approve a 10-year tax abatement of 100% of the property taxes for a new hotel, and to require an annual \$5,000.00 payment in lieu of taxes. Commissioner Braddock seconded the Motion. It was approved with three "ayes" and two "nays". Ms. Carlholm informed she will discuss the legalities with Gilmore and Bell and report back to the Commission when the public hearing will be.

5-YEAR PLAN: The 5-year plan was reviewed. Jury Room will be added.

ROAD PROJECT LIST: The Road Project List was reviewed. Road crew is hauling gravel to start working on Road B.

ROAD COMMITTEE REPORT: Discussed the various graders used and when the leases are coming up. Also discussed issues with a surveyor digging up the County's paved road to find a cornerstone.

EMS DIRECTOR INTERVIEW COMMITTEE: Commissioner Lewis informed Kenny and Diedra Smith said they would be willing to stay on the EMS crew until the County could hire a new EMS Director. He will speak with Kenny and Diedra and report back to the Commission. Commissioner Lewis also reported he spoke with the Kansas State Board of EMS regarding the regulations and future of Rural EMS services. It was decided to ask one person from the Sheriff's Department, the Hospital, the County Health Department and one or two Commissioners to be on the EMS Director Interview Committee.

ROZ INVOICE: Ms. Carlholm discussed the Rural Opportunity Zone bill received from the Kansas Dept. of Commerce. One individual has left the County and is no longer eligible. It was decided to prorate the invoice between the County, Hospital, City and School.

R.O.W. PERMITS: Reviewed a Right of Way Permit submitted by Syracuse Dairy to bore under County Road 35 to place a 2" PVC pipe for a water line. Commissioner Braddock moved to approve the Right of Way Permit submitted by Syracuse Dairy for the water line on Road 35. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. Also, reviewed a ROW Permit submitted by WGP, KHC, LLC to bore under County Road 35 to place a 4" poly gas line. Commissioner Braddock moved to approve the Right of Way Permit submitted by WGP, KHC, LLC for the gas line on Road 35. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

WARRANTS: After review and discussion, Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the Warrants in the amount of \$99,895.06. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

HOSPITAL NO-FUND WARRANTS: None.

COMMISSIONER REPORT: Tax sale is this Thursday, November 6th.

As there was no more business to come before the meeting, Commissioner Lewis moved for adjournment. Commissioner Braddock seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

ATTEST:

County Clerk

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner