

**CITY OF HANOVER  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 6, 2014 – OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mayor Kauffman called the Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, May 6, 2014 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Chris Kauffman, Councilors John Vajda, Doug Hammerseng, and Ken Warpula. Councilor Wendy Pinor was absent. Also present were City Administrator Annita Smythe, Administrative Assistant Brian Hagen, Public Works Supervisor Scott Vogel, and City Planner Cindy Nash. Guests present included Martin Waters, Dawn Spraugel, Lynnae Karsten, Jim Schendel, Jeremy Halek, Jeff Grupp and several other residents in addition to Doug Voerding from the Wright County Journal Press.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Smythe revised the claims amount to add the payout of the EDA loan for River Inn and a payment to Crow Hassan Builders for the City Hall restroom remodel. In addition, item 7(d) was added as a fee waiver request from Jeremy Halek.

**MOTION** by Vajda to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Hammerseng. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Vajda to approve the following consent agenda, seconded by Warpula.

- a. **Approve Minutes of April 15, 2014 Board of Appeals Meeting**
- b. **Approve Minutes of April 15, 2014 Regular City Council Work Session**
- c. **Approve Claims as Presented:**

➤ <b>Claims</b>	<b>\$ 121,854.91</b>
➤ <b>Payroll</b>	<b>\$ 5,624.84</b>
➤ <b>P/R taxes &amp; Exp</b>	<b>\$ 2,263.34</b>
➤ <b>Other Claims</b>	<b>\$ 991.08</b>
➤ <b>Total Claims</b>	<b><u>\$ 130,734.17</u></b>
- d. **Res No 05-06-14-34 – Accepting Donation from the Hanover Lions**
- e. **Res No 05-06-14-35 – Accepting Donation from Maverick Construction**
- f. **Res No 05-06-14-36 – Approving Payment to Snow Plow Drivers**
- g. **Res No 05-06-14-37 – Approving Contract for Services with City of Dayton**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Citizen's Forum:**

Several residents were on hand to address Council at Citizen's Forum.

Jeff Grupp, representing the Bridges at Hanover HOA, addressed the Council regarding the eminent domain action commenced by the City to obtain an access easement over Outlot H in the Bridges neighborhood. Grupp expressed that they understood negotiations would be ongoing, and did not expect this action. Council explained that negotiations can and should continue, but that the City needed to put these discussions on a timetable due to the planned development project.

Ron Walters appeared on behalf of the Wright County 4-H day camp to request a fee waiver for Settlers Park. He explained that it is a one day event. He did not believe it had been held in Hanover previously, but that it was open to all clubs in Wright County.

Jim Schendel, an area business owner, appeared to request a street light be added to the new power poles on 8<sup>th</sup> Street in the Industrial Park. There have been break-ins at some businesses recently, and it is hoped that additional lighting in the area will help to deter the thieves and make the area safer at night.

Martin Waters appeared on behalf of the Harvest Festival. He was asking that the City continue to provide similar support as it has done in the past, including Public Works and Fire Department assistance for certain events. In addition, he addressed questions about a recent news article proclaiming that this would be the last year of the Harvest Festival. He was unsure of the source for that report, but did express that the Harvest Festival has had difficulty in recent years getting the necessary volunteers for such a large event. He promoted the upcoming meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>, and also asked for assistance from the City in promoting the need for volunteers. There was also a discussion of possibly working with the Park Board in the future to provide assistance.

Patrick Callan, a resident in the Bridges neighborhood, appeared before the Council to express his dissatisfaction with the eminent domain process, and whether or not this was the best use of tax dollars. There was some discussion of the fact that tax dollars are also tied up in the landlocked parcel that the City can't presently sell, and that both time and money can be saved if the City and the Bridges can come to some agreement sooner. Other members of the Bridges HOA expressed that they would be available in the near future for a negotiation meeting. They requested that some members of Council attend the discussion, as they are the decision makers.

**Public Hearings:**

None

**Unfinished Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

**Res No 05-06-14-38 – Approving Transfers and Fund Closures**

Smythe explained that this is a result of completing a reconciliation of various fund balances in preparation for the annual audit. There are several capital project funds no longer in use that still have balances, a capital project fund with an outstanding loan, and a fund for a bond that was paid off but still has some residual revenue balances. This resolution closes out the funds no longer in use and re-allocates those funds to current projects funds, such as the street capital fund to be used for the Pavement Management Plan.

**MOTION** by Warpula to approve Resolution, seconded by Vajda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval of Zoning Amendments**

City Planner Nash explained that it is typical for cities to perform a regular review of zoning ordinances. She explained further that the amendments in this agenda are related to the codification that was completed last summer. As a result of the process that was followed to adopt the new ordinance, it was found that a few items had been removed inadvertently. These amendments clean up some of those issues, including the rules relating to home businesses. Nash noted that the Planning Commission recommended approval on a 3-2 vote, with the nay voters having concerns about the number of employees allowed at home businesses. Councilor Hammerseng, who is the Planning Commission liaison, concurred that there did not seem to be a broad consensus on that issue during the discussions he was present for.

**MOTION** by Vajda to approve the zoning amendments per the recommendation presented, seconded by Hammerseng. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Authorization for Public Works Facility Study**

Smythe explained that this idea had been raised at a staff discussion as a possible means to assist with the ongoing discussions of a Public Works Facility. Council did not feel this was needed at this time, so no action was taken.

**Fee Waiver Request – Jeremy Halek**

Jeremy Halek had been before Council previously to ask for a fee waiver for Settlers Park to hold an event that benefits the John Faas Foundation. The planned event has encountered a lot of support and has been expanded. Halek is now requesting a fee waiver for the Community Hall for the same date to accommodate the larger event.

**MOTION** by Vajda to waive the fee for the Community Hall rental, seconded by Hammerseng. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Reports:**

Vajda asked Nash if there was anything new to report on development of the unplatted portion of Crow River Heights, known as the “rest of the west”. Nash reported there was nothing concrete at this time, although there had been several inquiries.

Hagen reminded everyone that he would be out of the office for his wedding and would return May 21. Council expressed congratulations to Hagen on his upcoming marriage.

Smythe gave the following updates:

- Because of a change in procedures for handling absentee ballots this election cycle, it did not appear that Hanover would need to take on this responsibility from the two Counties. More information on the election process will be available soon.
- City Hall recently received a communication from Comcast related to their upcoming merger. They indicated that the Hanover market will be one that Comcast plans to divest as part of the merger process for regulatory reasons. Any further information received on this topic will be passed along.
- The Cities of Wright County are currently in discussions to form a Joint Powers Association for the purposes of engaging in contractual talks for transit service. Because of the broad applicability of the topic, Cities were hoping that Wright County would take the lead on this issue, but to date, that has not happened. Because of the time sensitive nature of the transit talks, with River Rider ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, Cities are working on a draft Joint Powers Agreement. Smythe will pass along additional information at a future meeting when more details are known.
- There are two economic development projects in progress in Hanover that likely will be seeking the City of Hanover’s support through the use of TIF funding. More information will be available as the projects move further along.

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION** to adjourn by Vajda, seconded by Hammerseng. **Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.**

APPROVED BY:

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Chris Kauffman, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Annita Smythe, City Administrator