

COMMISSION MEETING**1:30 P.M.****JANUARY 6, 2021**

The Governing Body of the City of Emporia, Kansas, met in Regular Session, Wednesday, January 8, 2020, in the City Commission Meeting Room with Mayor Giefer presiding and Commissioners Brinkman, Geitz, Gilligan, and Smith present. Also present were City Manager McAnarney, Assistant City Manager Massey, City Clerk Sull and City Prosecutor Brandy Roy-Bachman. City Attorney Montgomery was absent.

Consent Agenda

It was moved Commissioner Gilligan, seconded by Commissioner Brinkman that the Consent Agenda listed below be ratified as a whole:

- a. Consider minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 16 and Adjourned Meeting held on December 30, 2020.
- b. Consider ratification of Payroll Ordinance for the period ending on December 18, 2020.

The vote follows: Commissioner Gilligan, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Giefer, aye.

**CITY COMMISSION
(Public Comment)**

This is the time for the public to make comments. No comments were made at this time.

A representative of Sacred Heart Catholic School, was in attendance to accept a proclamation recognizing the week of January 24th through 30th, as "Celebrating Catholic School Week" in Emporia. She stated each year the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas designates one week during the year to highlight Catholic Schools. The presence of a Catholic school in our community has proven to be additional amenity and incentive in the education of the youth of the City of Emporia. She stated Sacred Heart Catholic School is proud to be where students consistently work to their full potential. The legacy of Sacred Heart School will live on for many years thanks to dedicated administrators, teachers and students as well as a very supportive community.

Mayor Giefer then presented the proclamation.

CITY COMMISSION
(Flint Hills Crossing Community Improvement District - CID)
(Accept Petition)

Jim Witt, Special Project Manager, was recognized and addressed the Governing Body. He stated the first step in the creation of the CID for the Flint Hills Crossing Phase 1 project is the acceptance of the attached petitions submitted by the property owners. The method of financing the Project is 100% from a sales tax imposed pursuant to the Act on a pay as you basis and funds of the developer of the Project. No special assessments are requested to be imposed pursuant to the Act. The proposed amount of the CID sales tax is 1.00%. This action is consistent with state law and requires a Public Hearing be included in the next action item.

Commissioner Geitz made a motion to accept the Petition for the creations of the Flint Hill Crossing Community Improvement District. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Gilligan, aye; and Mayor Giefer, aye.

CITY COMMISSION
(Flint Hills Crossing Community Improvement District - CID)
(Resolution Number 3641)

Jim Witt, Special Project Manager, was recognized and addressed the Governing Body. He stated the next step in the process of the Community Improvement District (CID) for Flint Hills Crossing is to provide notice of a public hearing. The state statute requires two publication of the hearing notice with additional publication requirements regarding timing between notices and before the hearing itself. The first publication is scheduled for January 19th and the second is scheduled for January 26th. The notice of hearing does not bind the City to any final action regarding the establishment of the district. Additional information may be requested at any time before final action. He stated the petitioners request the formation of a CID for the purpose of financing project costs eligible for

reimbursement. The project is estimated to be \$6,870,773.61 with \$935,819.69 financed through CID revenues over the life of the district. The petitioners proposed financing the project cost through pay-as-you-go financing. The resolution shall set a public hearing on the advisability of creating the CID for Flint Hills Crossing on February 3, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Geitz made a motion to approve Resolution Number 3641, a resolution calling for a public hearing on the creation of the CID District for Flint Hills Crossing. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Gilligan, aye; and Mayor Giefer, aye.

**CITY COMMISSION
(City Manager's Report)**

This is a verbal report that announces upcoming events, recognized employees for outstanding contributions and provides the public information that may be of a general interest. The following information was presented at the meeting.

At the time this agenda was prepared, the following items were in the works:

TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR JANUARY 13TH STUDY SESSION

Recycling Contract Discussion.

Discuss CVAB Appropriations.

**CITY COMMISSION
(State of City Speech)
(Mayor Danny Giefer)**

As Mayor it is customary to review the progress that the City has made over the past year. I can say that 2020 has been a very challenging year for the city as well as our community.

The year started with the City of Emporia and Kansas Department of Health & Environment issuing a boil water order due to high turbidity for

water for water systems in Lyon and Coffey counties on February 26th and later lifted on February 29th. Shortly after that, in March, COVID-19 virus made it to the Midwest and our community. COVID-19 had a major effect on how the city conducted business and how we lived our lives. Many of the city properties such as the Zoo, Library, Rec Center, Jones Aquatic Center, City Auditorium and city/county offices were closed. Most have since opened with many restrictions.

Downtown events such as St. Patrick's Day celebration, Cinco De Mayo celebration, The Taste Event, Glass Blown Open Event, Dirty Kanza, Live in the Lot, etc. were all canceled.

In mid-March the City Commission and City staff began discussions on the effects the pandemic may have on our budget and how we run the City. Staff had conversations with the LKM (League of Kansas Municipalities) in Topeka and they told us to expect a 10-20 percent drop in sales receipts and be prepared for a drop in future property tax payments. Also with travel being down, we should expect a drop in our guest tax that we collect from visitors staying at our hotels/motels. Most cities did see these drops.

Sales tax in Emporia local retail tax was up .62% over 2019 totals. The City's share from the country tax was up 2.9% over 2019. The City's portion of property tax collections was right on target with earlier budget projections. The guest tax was down. The actual figures coming from sales and property tax collections spoke greatly of strength of our economy in Emporia. This is something for all of us to be proud of.

During 2020 Cargill completed a new 50,500 sq. ft. warehouse which will expand their operations. There was a final shut down of Detroit Diesel with a loss of over 100 employees. With the expansion of Simmons their employee numbers grew to more than 1200 with an increase of more than 400 employees in the last couple of years. In 2021 we hope to see that start of Phase 2 expansion at Fanestils.

In 2020 Emporia had 2 new housing subdivision started, Riverside Addition and Pleasant Point. There has been 22 new single-family dwellings that were constructed in the City, and the completion of existing building and new construction of downtown lofts. Single family home construction will be a priority in the future due to the severe shortage of homes on the market for sale.

The City annexed 7.4 acres into the City limits. Infrastructure improvements totaling \$1,657,191.95 for street improvements, \$949,271 for major water main improvements and the completion of a 2 year project for downtown sewer improvements. Quality of Life with improvements to the park system with upgrading playgrounds in various parks and capital improvements funded by Oasis Campaign for major changes and many improvements at the Zoo.

Although 2020 was very challenging for the City and its residents, we hopefully look forward in moving back to a more normal life later this year with special events returning to downtown and looking for students of USD 253 , ESU and Flinthills Technical College returning to classroom on a full time basis.

With continued solid economic numbers coming in we hope to continue major infrastructure improvements to street, water mains, sewer and moving forward with the runway extension project at the airport.

Looking back at the accomplishments over the past year, I am proud of the work and progress the city has made despite very difficult circumstances. I feel that the current city commission work well together and even when we don't agree, we move forward and try to do what is best for the community.

Our city staff continues to work within budget to maintain and improve our city in the best manner possible. I truly have enjoyed serving my third term as Mayor and look forward in working with this commission in the upcoming year.

Commissioner Gilligan then made a motion to adjourn sine die. Commissioner Brinkman seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Gilligan, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Giefer, aye.

Danny Giefer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kerry Sull, City Clerk

Commissioners Brinkman, Geitz, Giefer, Gilligan and Smith convened as the Governing Body.

Commissioner Geitz made a motion nominating Rob Gilligan to serve as Mayor for the coming year. Commissioner Brinkman seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Gilligan, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Geitz, aye.

Commissioner Geitz made a motion nominating Becky Smith to serve as Vice-Mayor for the coming year. Commissioner Brinkman seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

CITY COMMISSION
(Approve Surety Bonds)

Commissioner Brinkman made a motion to approve Surety Bonds for the City Manager McAnarney, City Clerk Sull and City Treasurer Harrouff. The City has obtained Surety Bonds from Cincinnati Insurance Co. for the 2021 fiscal year. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

CITY COMMISSION
(Designate Official City Newspaper)

Commissioner Geitz made a motion to designate The Emporia Gazette to be the official City newspaper, as per K.S.A. 12-1420. The City is required by State law to designate an official newspaper, which must have a general circulation in the City. Commissioner Giefer seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye;

CITY COMMISSION
(Designate Financial Institutions)

Commissioner Giefer made a motion to designate the following financial institution to serve as depositories of funds of the City of Emporia, per K.S.A. Supp. 9-401: Citizens State Bank; Community National Bank & Trust; ESB Financial and Lyon County State Bank. Commissioner Geitz seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF EAST-CENTRAL KANSAS BOARD
(Appoint Governing Body Representation)**

Commissioner Giefer made a motion to appoint Commissioner Geitz as the representative of the Governing Body to participate in the activities of the Regional Development Associate of East-Central Kansas Board. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Geitz, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

**JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
(Appoint Governing Body Representation)**

Commissioner Smith made a motion to appoint Commissioner Brinkman as a representative of the Governing Body to participate in the activities of the Joint Economic Development Advisory Council. Commissioner Geitz seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Gilligan, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

**RECREATION COMMISSION
(Appoint Governing Body Representation)**

Commissioner Geitz made a motion to appoint Commissioner Giefer as a representative of the Governing Body to participate in the activities of the Emporia Recreation Commission. Commissioner Brinkman seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

**EMPORIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOARD
(Appoint Governing Body Representation)**

Commissioner Brinkman made a motion to Commissioner Smith as a representative of the Governing Body to participate in the activities of the Emporia Community Foundation Board. Commissioner Geitz seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

**WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
(Appoint Governing Body Representation)**

Commissioner Geitz made a motion to appoint Commissioner Smith as a representative of the Governing Body to participate in the activities of the William Allen White Community Partnership. Commissioner Brinkman seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

**EMPORIA ENTERPRISES
(Appoint Governing Body Representation)**

Commissioner Giefer made a motion to appoint Mayor Gilligan as a representative of the Governing Body to participate in the activities of the Emporia Enterprises Board. Commissioner Brinkman seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

**EMPORIA CONVENTION AND ADVISORY BOARD
(Appoint Governing Body Representation)**

Commissioner Smith made a motion to appoint Commissioner Brinkman as a representative of the Governing Body to participate in the activities of the Emporia Convention and Advisory Board. Commissioner Geitz seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Smith, aye; Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

**JOINT CITY/COUNTY FACILITIES AND SERVICES COMMUNITY BOARD
(Appoint Governing Body Representation)**

Commissioner Geitz made a motion to appoint Mayor Gilligan as a representative of the Governing Body to participate in the activities of the Joint City/County Facilities and Services Community Board. Commissioner Brinkman seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

**(EMPORIA MAIN STREET BOARD)
(Appoint Governing Body Representation)**

Commissioner Geitz made a motion to table this appointment. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

Commissioner Geitz then made a motion to adjourn to January 13, 2021 at 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Giefer seconded the motion. The vote follows: Commissioner Geitz, aye; Commissioner Giefer, aye; Commissioner Brinkman, aye; Commissioner Smith, aye; and Mayor Gilligan, aye.

Robert F. Gilligan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kerry Sull, City Clerk