

**CITY COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Commission Chambers  
101 S. Hickory, Ottawa, Kansas  
Minutes of March 16, 2011**

The City Governing Body met at 9:30 am this date for the Regular City Commission Meeting with the following members present and participating to wit: Mayor Reed absent. Mayor pro tem Humm, Commissioner Jorgensen, Commissioner Fler, and Commissioner Ramsey. A quorum was present.

The Mayor pro tem called the meeting to order and welcomed the Chamber Audience and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and the invocation was given by Director of Finance Scott Bird.

**Consent Agenda**

Thereupon, Commissioner Ramsey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Fler, to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda included the Agenda and Minutes from the February 28, 2011 Study Session and the March 2, 2011 Regular Meeting. The motion was considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. Thereupon, the Mayor pro tem declared the Consent Agenda duly approved.

**Public Comments**

None offered at this time.

**Declaration**

Thereupon, the Mayor asked the City Commission for declarations of any conflict or outside communications that might influence their ability to impartially consider today's issues and come to a fair decision. None were declared.

**First Quarter Recognition of City Employees**

Thereupon, the Governing Body recognized first quarter recognition of city employees. Employees recognized have been promoted or have recently completed educational and professional development programs, and those who are new to the City. Thereupon, the following employees were recognized:

**Kallen Jennison, Firefighter – EMT I**

Kallen completed his Bachelor of Arts degree with a Leadership major from Bellevue University on November 13, 2010.

**L. Scott Davis, Equipment Operator I**

Scott joined the City as an Equipment Operator I on February 7, 2011. He works in the Public Works/Cemetery Division.

**Sammual Hughes, Operator I**

Sammual joined the City as Operator I on February 28, 2011. He works in Utilities/Electric Production at the Power Plant. (not present)

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**Emergency Shelter Grant**

Thereupon, the Governing Body reviewed a request from Peg McFadden on behalf of Project Hope requesting the City of Ottawa to act as grant recipient and certifying sponsor for an Emergency Shelter Grant application from the Kansas Resource Corporation.

During discussion it was explained this Emergency Shelter Grant application requires a local unit of government to certify the grant by ensuring compliance with grant requirements and to distribute funds to the grant sub-recipient, Project Hope. Peg McFadden has asked the City of Ottawa to provide this certification.

Thereupon, the Governing Body heard from the City Attorney Bob Bezek, City Manager Richard Nienstedt, and Director of Finance Scott Bird who explained the process and time required administering the grant, the City being responsible if they partnered on the grant, as well as, concerns expressed related to the match requirements.

Thereupon, Commissioner Jorgensen stated the program was a very honorable need in our community. His concern was the short timeframe to review the request, as well as, the possible liability the City has.

Thereupon, Commissioner Jorgensen requested the Governing Body, whoever that may be, after the election, begin looking at a way to partnership with Project Hope and others in our community to address the issue of homelessness. Thereupon, the Governing Body agreed by consensus with this request.

Thereupon, the Governing Body heard from Tammy Johnson, 827 W 17<sup>th</sup>, who explained the stated concerns were legitimate. Ms. Johnson responded to questions.

Thereupon, Commissioner Jorgensen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Fleer, to table this item until further research and information could be provided for the next grant year. The motion was considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. Thereupon, Mayor pro tem Humm declared the item duly tabled.

**Cereal Malt Beverage License-Great Life Golf & Fitness**

Thereupon, the Governing Body reviewed an application for a Retail Cereal Malt Beverage License, for consumption on the premises, made by Mike Mallory on behalf of Great Life Golf & Fitness (Ottawa Country Club). The application has been reviewed by the Police Department and City Attorney with no reason for denial found. Thereupon, Commissioner Ramsey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jorgensen, to approve the application. The motion was considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. Thereupon, the Mayor pro tem declared the application duly approved.

**Resolution- General Obligation/Temporary Notes**

Thereupon, the Governing Body reviewed a resolution authorizing the sale of \$840,000 principal amount of General Obligation Renewal Temporary Notes, Series 2011-A, of the City of Ottawa, Kansas. Thereupon, Commissioner Fleer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jorgensen, to adopt the resolution.

During discussion it was explained bids for these General Obligation Renewal Temporary notes will be received by the Finance Director until 10 am on Wednesday, April 6, 2011. The motion was considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. Thereupon, the Mayor declared the resolution duly adopted and the resolution was duly numbered resolution number 1544-11.

**Report by City Manager**

Thereupon, City Manager Richard Nienstedt reported on the following:

- Joint City/County/USD 290 Luncheon CANCELED
- Homelessness is a problem in our community, and suggested City take leadership in identifying partners to assist with the problem and arrive at a solution

**Reports by City Commissioners**

Thereupon, Commissioner Jorgensen explained how different people look at homelessness in different ways. Commissioner Jorgensen stated Project Hope is an honorable mission.

Commissioner Jorgensen announced there would be a Chamber, “Meet & Greet” for the candidates running for office, on March 22, at Ottawa High School, from 6-8 pm. Commissioner Jorgensen invited everyone to attend and ask questions of the candidates.

Thereupon, Commissioner Ramsey stated a co-worker of Mayor Reed stated she was very busy, tired, and after being in D.C. as a representative of the City she is ready to be home but had visited and had good conversation with our legislators.

Thereupon, City Manager Richard Nienstedt explained he had visited with Mayor Reed. She had met with Senator Moran and Congresswoman Jenkins. In addition, she had spent some time with a representative from the City of Manhattan regarding the levy certification. Mr. Nienstedt reiterated how important the Governing Body relationships with the Legislators are. The City can attest to the importance due to of funding received in the past.

**Announcements**

Thereupon, Mayor pro tem Humm announced:

1. March 21, 2011: Study Session at 4 pm
2. March 22, 2011: Chamber “Meet & Greet” School Board & City Commission candidates, at Ottawa High School, 6-8 pm
3. March 28, 2011: Study Session at 4 pm

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**Adjournment**

The being no further business to come before the Governing Body Commissioner Fler made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. Thereupon, the Mayor pro tem declared the meeting duly adjourned at 10:02 am.

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Carolyn S. Snethen, City Clerk