***MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 11, 2023***

The Governing Body of the City of Hoxie, Kansas, met in regular session on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Office. Present were:

 Darrick Zerr, Mayor

 Jim Erwin, Street Commissioner

 Kevin Schoendaler, Water Commissioner

 Janet Bainter, City Clerk

 Justin Armknecht, City Superintendent

 Paul Wisinger, Chief of Police

 Harry Joe Pratt, City Attorney

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Darrick Zerr at 6:00 p.m.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 13, 2022, were read and approved on a motion made by Schoendaler and a second by Erwin. Motion carried 3-0.

**Warrants**

The warrants and overtime for the month of November were reviewed, approved, and signed by the board.

**Cereal Malt Beverage License Applications**

The Board reviewed and approved the Cereal Malt Beverage Applications as presented.

**End of Year Transfers**

On a motion by Schoendaler and a second by Erwin, the board approved the following transfers:

General to Equipment Reserve $20,000

General to Capital Improvement $15,000

General to Employee Benefits $20,000

Water to Equipment Reserve $7,500

Water to Bond & Interest $17,500

 Sewer Maintenance to Equipment Reserve $20,000

Sewer Maintenance to Bond & Interest $99,693

MIH to Bond & Interest $33,084

Motion carried 3-0.

**2024 Blue Cross Blue Shield Renewal**

Bainter reviewed the health insurance rates for 2024 with the Commission. The monthly premium for 2024 increased 22% from $471.56 per employee in 2023 to $577.81 per employee in 2024. Mayor Zerr made a motion to renew the City’s Blue Cross Blue Shield policy for 2024. Schoendaler seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Airport Board**

Schoendaler made a motion to reappoint Darrick Zerr to the Hoxie City/Sheridan County Airport Board. Erwin seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**City Depositories**

On a motion by Schoendaler, the First State Bank, Equity Bank and the People’s State Bank were named as the City Depositories. Erwin seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Annual Pay Increases**

Schoendaler made a motion to give all employees a 4% pay increase for 2024 with the exception of Beau Mishler who will receive a $1.00 per hour increase for his 6 mo. review plus 4%, and Jeremy Farber who will receive $25.00/hr. Erwin seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Bri Cook and Brandy Kuhlman entered the meeting at 6:20 p.m. to discuss the parking situation around 1540 Queen. Cook stated that people are parking in front of her driveway when there’s a ball game at the high school and requested that the city paint yellow on both sides of her driveway to prevent people from parking there. Armknecht will paint the curbs. They exited at 6:25 p.m.

**Airport Beacon Light**

Armknecht presented a bid from Hali-Brite for an airport beacon light for $10,692.11 plus freight. It was agreed to order the light and pay for it out of the Hoxie City/Sheridan County Airport Commission account.

**Vacuum Excavator**

Armknecht also presented a bid from Ditch Witch for $60,744.78 for a gas-powered vacuum excavator. Mayor Zerr made a motion to purchase the vacuum excavator and pay for it out of Equipment Reserve. Erwin seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Executive Session**

At 6:57 p.m. on a motion made by Schoendaler and a second by Erwin, the Commissioners entered into executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss matters related to non-elected personnel. Present were the board, Janet Bainter, Justin Armknecht, Paul Wisinger, and Harry Joe Pratt. The board exited at 7:05 p.m. with no motions being made.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, Mayor Zerr made a motion to adjourn. Schoendaler seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Janet Bainter, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk Darrick Zerr, Mayor

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 Jim Erwin, Street Commissioner

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 Kevin Schoendaler, Water Commissioner