

**Study Session Minutes  
Ottawa, Kansas  
Minutes of December 14, 2015**

The Governing Body met at 4:00 pm this date with the following members present and participating to wit: Mayor Skidmore, Commissioner Dickinson, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Reed, and Commissioner Graves were all present. A quorum was present.

Mayor Skidmore called the meeting to order.

**Public Comments**

The Governing Body heard from Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce John Coen regarding the Bike Lane Discussion generating discussion beyond the City of Ottawa.

**Minutes to Review**

The Governing Body reviewed minutes from the November 30, 2015 Study Session and agreed to place this item on the next regular meeting agenda, December 16, 2015.

**Cereal Malt Beverage License— Cosentino Group Inc.**

The Governing Body heard from Finance Director Scott Bird regarding a 2015 and 2016 Cereal Malt Beverage Application received by Cosentino Group Inc. They will be taking over Price Chopper as of December 27, 2015. It was agreed to place this item on the next regular meeting agenda.

**Wind Farm Energy Purchase**

The Governing Body heard from Utilities Director Dennis Tharp regarding an opportunity for the City of Ottawa to purchase energy from the Marshall Wind Farm. The amount of energy we would receive is 2.5 MW. The Nearman 10 MW of energy will be going away. Since Ottawa is currently able to cover its peak demand, there is no reason to have too much excess energy. This contract with the Marshall Wind Farm is the first real green energy for the City of Ottawa's portfolio. This is a 20 year contract starting in 2016. It was agreed to place this item on the next regular meeting agenda.

**Community Read Project and Wish List Fundraiser**

The Governing Body heard from Library Director Terry Chartier regarding the Community Read Project. All citizens are encouraged to read Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper. The First 250 books were ordered and gone in the first 4 days. More books have been ordered. The author will be here in Ottawa at Ottawa University on February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm and will hold a book discussion. T-Shirts are available at the library for \$15.00 each. Ms. Chartier also mentioned that they annual Wish List Fundraiser is going on as well. You can participate online or in person at the Library.

**Urban Growth Agreement**

City Manager Richard U Nienstedt asked for an executive session after the already scheduled agenda items.

### **Snow Removal Policy Review**

The Governing Body heard from Public Works Director Michael Haeffele who explained the protocol followed by the City's Public Works Department for snow removal. If there are 2" of snow or less, some parking is restricted on the arterial and collector streets and there is no snow plowed in the Central Business District. If there are 2" – 6" of snow, the Central Business District will be plowed with snow moved to the center of the streets and hauled off. The priority streets include the State and Federal Highways, the Central Business District, Hospital Access, arterials and collectors, schools, commercial, and industrial. Private sidewalks are to be cleaned by the property owners.

### **Commissioners' Reports**

Commissioner Graves stated she graduated with her Master's from Baker University and the Mayor of Kansas City spoke at graduation.

Commissioner Caylor encouraged all city employees to participate in the blood drive on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Commissioner Caylor reported she attended the first annual Christmas concert for the City Band. The event went very well.

Commissioner Reed reported there is an emergency blood drive at RMH on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Commissioner Dickinson congratulated Commissioner Graves on her graduation from Baker University.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Skidmore reported the Christmas Parade on Saturday had a great turn out this year. The City Float got second place.

### **Announcements**

Mayor Skidmore read the following announcements:

- December 16, 2015: Regular Meeting, 9:30 am, City Hall
- December 21, 2015: Study Session, 4:00 pm, City Hall
- December 25, 2015: Christmas Holiday, City Offices Closed
- December 28, 2015: Study Session, 4:00 pm, City Hall

### **Executive Session**

#### **Recess**

Commissioner Caylor made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Reed to recess into executive session for a period of 20 minutes with a statement to follow the executive session related to the City/County Urban Growth Area Agreement. The purpose of the executive session is attorney-client privilege with City Manager Richard U Nienstedt and City Attorney Blaine Finch in attendance. The motion was considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. The Mayor declared the meeting duly recessed at 4:40 pm.

### **Reconvene**

Commissioner Reed made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dickinson to reconvene into regular study session. The motion was considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. The Mayor declared the study session duly reconvened at 5:00 pm.

### **Recess**

Commissioner Caylor made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Graves to return to executive session for a period of 5 minutes with a statement to follow the executive session related to the City/County Urban Growth Area Agreement. The purpose of the executive session is attorney-client privilege with City Manager Richard U Nienstedt and City Attorney Blaine Finch in attendance. The motion was considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. The Mayor declared the meeting duly recessed at 5:00 pm.

### **Reconvene**

Commissioner Caylor made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dickinson to reconvene into regular study session. The motion was considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. The Mayor declared the study session duly reconvened at 5:05 pm.

### **Urban Growth Agreement Statement**

Thereupon, Mayor Skidmore read the following statement: This agreement is important for the citizens of the city and the county, who for 13,000 of those citizens are residents of both (entities). The city extends an invitation to the county commission to sit down and discuss areas of concern or desired changes with the Urban Growth Agreement before canceling the underlying agreement.

We stand willing to work together in a spirit of cooperation and openness to find the best solutions for the people we all serve.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Governing Body, Commissioner Caylor made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Graves, to adjourn the meeting. The motion as considered and upon being put, all present voted aye. The Mayor declared the meeting duly adjourned at 5:35 pm.

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Carolyn S. Snethen, City Clerk