

Unexpected Visitor At Hiawatha Commission Meeting

(KNZA)--An unexpected visitor appeared at the Hiawatha City Commission meeting Monday evening.

A wayward bat circled the commission chambers for most of the meeting. However, despite the distraction, the commission was able to conduct their business.

The commission approved a resolution supporting an application to the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation for tax credits to help finance renovation of all 48 units at the Pemberton Village apartment complex on North 1st Street.

Topeka-based Commercial Group Inc. submitted a similar application last year, but weren't successful in being awarded tax credits.

City Administrator Mike Nichols presented to the commission for their review three health insurance plan options provided by the city's current provider, Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Nichols said the city was recently informed that the current plan provided to city employees will not be continued due to the Affordable Care Act.

The commission directed Nichols to gather input from the employees before coming back to their next meeting with a recommendation.

And the commission approved advertising for bids for the city's comprehensive insurance coverage. Nichols said over the last four years the city's comprehensive insurance costs have increased about \$16,000 or 20 percent. In addition, he said it's been 10 years since the coverage has been bid out.

Many Signals Communications