

City Council Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2024

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger called the regular City Council Meeting to order. Council members present were Jason Booker, Mark Berner, Denise Hartman, Sean Honer and Sharon Haun, also present were the City Administrator Nick Jones and City Attorney Brian Henderson and Molly Priest, Others attending were Jan Sciacca, Josh Sciacca, John Messer, Mark Brooks, Pastor Billy Kryger, Ryan McDonald, Rev. Adam Reichart.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

John Messer

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the packet. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion. Motion Carried 5 – 0. The consent agenda consisted of:

- Jan. 16, 2024, Minutes
- Jan. 16, 2024, to Current Appropriations.

OLD BUSINESS

• **Proposed Animal Ordinance Discussion:**

City Attorney Brian Henderson went over the proposed Animal Ordinance and suggested changes he proposed to the city council. During discussion Councilperson Denise Hartman read a letter from Rocking KM Vet and its veterinarians asking the council to repeal the ordinance against Pitbull breeds. City Attorney Brian Henderson advised against repealing the ordinance as the bit from a Pitbull is much worse than other breeds. Each one of the Council members, except for Councilperson Hartman agreed the Pitbull ordinance should stay in place. Discussion was also held regarding raising the dog tag fee to those that have dogs that are not spayed or neutered. The Council advised the City Attorney to finalize the animal ordinance for the next council meeting.

• **Animal Control Officer Ordinance 2264:**

City Attorney Brian Henderson presented Animal Control Officer Ordinance 2264, which updates the pay from \$300 a month to \$450 a month for the Animal Control Officer. After discussion Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to approve Ordinance 2264. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sharon Haun. Motion Carried 5 – 0

NEW BUSINESS

• **Kaw Mission Sign Request: City Easement:**

Mark Brooks the Historic Site Administrator for the Kaw Mission requested permission to install a new sign on city easement located by the entrance to the Kaw Mission parking lot with the understanding that if any utilities work is performed and the sign needs removed it will not be the responsibility of the city to replace the sign. Site Administrator Brooks also requested permission to have a new sign along the Riverwalk sidewalk directing people to the Kaw Mission. After discussion Councilperson Denise Hartman made a motion to approve the requests. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion Carried 5 – 0

• **Council Grove City Lake Park Hay: Sealed Bids:**

City Administrator Nick Jones opened three sealed bids received for hay at the City Lake Park.

- Bid 1: Matt Hensley with Bar H LLC \$8,500 per year and a 3-year total of \$25,500.
- Bid 2: Peyton Heins: \$9,750 and a 3-year total of \$29,250.
- Bid 3: Eric Auchard with Wolf Creek Cattle Company \$11,501 per year and a 3-year total of \$34,503.

After discussion a motion was made by Councilperson Denise Hartman to except the bid from Eric Auchard with Wolf Creek Cattle Company. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Council Grove City Lake Park Mowing: Sealed Bids:**

City Administrator Nick Jones opened the two sealed bids received for mowing at the City Lake Park.

- Bid 1: Terry Davis: \$9,520 per year and a 3-year total of \$28,560.
- Bid 2: Twin Lakes Lawn Service Wayne and Lucas Kohler: \$8,287 per year and a 3-year total of \$28,560.

After discussion Councilperson Sean Honer made a motion to accept the bid from Twin Lake Lawn Service. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sharon Haun. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Council Grove Sunnyslope Cemetery Mowing: Sealed Bids**

City Administrator Nick Jones opened the three sealed bids received for mowing at the Sunnyslope Cemetery.

- Bid 1: Terry Davis: \$4,800 per year with a 3-year total of \$14,400.
- Bid 2: Twin Lakes Lawn Service Wayne and Lucas Kohler: \$4,381 per year with a 3-year total of \$13,143.
- Bid 3: Andrea – Rowley: Bid was not considered due to lack of liability insurance and workmen’s comp insurance as required when submitting bid.

After discussion Councilperson Denise Hartman made a motion to accept the bid from Twin Lakes Lawn Service. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sean Honer. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Utilities Department Recommendation: David Siemers**

The Utilities Committee recommends a pay increase for David Siemers of \$1.50 for successfully passing his Kansas Class 1 Wastewater Operator Certification in accordance with Resolution 101822-0. After discussion Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to approve the recommendations from the Utilities Department Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion carried 5 – 0

4.1 Increase rates based on advanced Certification

A. Unless otherwise addressed herein, rate increases based on advanced certification shall be approved on a case-by-case basis as recommended by the department head and approved by the city administrator.

B. Specific Department Certification Rate Increases:

Public Utilities Certifications (Certifications as recognized by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment)

Kansas Class I Water Operator	\$1.50 Increase
Kansas Class II Water Operator	\$1.50 Increase
Kansas Class I Wastewater Operator	\$1.50 Increase
Backflow Prevention	\$1.50 Increase

- **Schedule Work Session:**

Discussion was held regarding possible Work Session on January 25th. Some of the Council members had conflict. Administrator Jones will work with the Mayor to come up with alternate days.

- **Executive Session: Non-Elected Employee:**

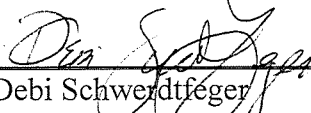
Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to go into Executive Session for 15 minutes and to include the Mayor, Council, City Administrator, and City Attorneys. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Mark Berner. Motion carried 5 – 0

Upon returning from Executive Session a motion was made by Councilperson Jason Booker to amend the city employment policy so that an employee requesting unpaid leave can receive approval from the City Administrator and Department Head. Instead of council to the Department Head, City Administrator and then to the City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Mark Berner. Motion carried 5 – 0

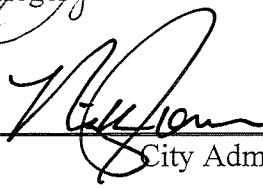
GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

- **Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger** – N/A
- **Councilperson Mark Berner** – N/A
- **Councilperson Denise Hartman** – N/A
- **Councilperson Sean Honer** – N/A
- **Councilperson Nathan Adams** – Absent
- **Councilperson Sharon Haun** – Thanked the city crews for cleaning off the roads
- **Councilperson Jason Booker** – N/A
- **City Attorney Brian Henderson** – N/A
- **Assistant City Attorney Molly Priest** – N/A
- **City Administrator Nick Jones** – Informed the Council he submitted 3 different grants applications.

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Denise Hartman made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Jason Booker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0



Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST: 

Nick Jones City Administrator

