

City Council Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2025

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Debi Schwertfeger called the regular City Council Meeting to order. Council members present were Mark Berner, Denise Hartman, Nathan Adams and Sharon Haun also present were the City Administrator Nick Jones, Others attending were Jan Sciacca, Karen Exon, Ryan McDonald, Ben Moore, Brett Waggoner (Via Zoom)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

INVOCATION: Denise Hartman

PUBLIC COMMENT:

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the packet. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion. Motion Carried 4 – 0. The consent agenda consisted of:

- March 4, 2025, Minutes
- March 4, 2025, to Current Appropriations.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Katy Depot Next Steps:**
 - Ben Moore Studios – Ben Moore
 - Governmental Assistant Services – Brett Waggoner

Ben Moore explained the next steps for the Katy Depot project and said some of the items have been started and completed such as documenting and measuring the building and design. Morre asked the Council if they have any design changes that they wanted made. Councilperson Mark Berner asked what a realistic time frame is to break ground. Moore said the process for full construction documents is about 60 days with 30 days on the architecture side and then the engineer will commence, and they will need about 30 days. Moore said in the first 30 days there will be some investigative research with the structure of the building and then it would need a 30-day public notice for bidding. Moore said if all the stars align you could have a contractor in 4 months possibly but did not expect a contractor to be able to start right away with the work load they probably will have. Moore thought next winter would be closer to when the project would start. Administrator Jones said that Gas has to conduct a environmental review and Brett Waggoner said that the process can take place while all of the other items are taking place and would take around 30 to 45 days.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Morris County Court House Parking:**

Administrator Nick Jones told the Council that the project was originally scheduled for March or April of last year and was pushed back and the new plan is to start in May of 2025. Administrator Jones said they have all the approvals through KDOT for the project. Mayor Schwertfeger asked if the road would be closed. Moore said that KDOT is requiring traffic control down to a signal lane. Councilperson Nathan Adams asked how many parking stalls there will be. Moore said there will be a total of 6 spots with 1 being handicapped. Administrator Jones said it will also slow traffic to 20mph in that area.
- **Police and Fire Committee Recommendation: Appointment of Joseph Fricilone and Brett Samuels:**

Mayor Schwertfeger read the recommendation of the Police and Fire Committee to appoint of Joseph Fricilone and Brett Samuels to Volunteer Fighter Fighters for the Council Grove Fire Department. This appointment is contingent on passing a physical and drug/alcohol screening. Councilperson Denise Hartman made a motion to approve the recommendation. The motion ws seconded by Councilperson Nathan Adams. Motion carried 4 – 0
- **City Hall Software Discussion:**

City Administrator Nick Jones told the Council that the current software provider GWorks new cloud-based software is not working correctly and the city has been unable to switch over as there are a multitude of issues that have not been resolved. Administrator Jones said GWorks has tried to onboard the city to the new software but

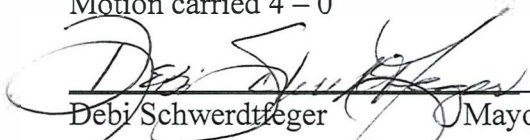
several of the functions did not work or did not work correctly and that the onboarding training could not answer questions on how functions worked. The city auditor also has concerns about how the system tracks expenses and its reporting. Administrator Jones said he has spoken to and emailed several times about the concerns with no resolution and gave GWorks a deadline for April to fix the issues before looking elsewhere. Administrator Jones has had meetings with Tyler Technology and Edmunds GovTech to demo their software and will bring the his recommendation to the Office Committee for review before taking it to Council.

• **GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS**

- **Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger** – Said she spoke to Administrator Jones about the ordinance regarding vacant buildings and that they must report the vacant building and have it advertised for sale or for rent. The reasoning for the ordinance had to do with safety and to make sure buildings do not cause problems for their neighbors.
- **Councilperson Mark Berner** – N/A
- **Councilperson Denise Hartman** – said the Council voted to put in the black rod iron fencing and asked if the city was going to put any concrete base around of the poles to cut back on weed eating.
- **Councilperson Sean Honer** – Absent
- **Councilperson Nathan Adams** – SRTS school is looking nice and asked how long they have to finish. Administrator Jones said they have 13 or 15 days to finish the project and that he spoke with Casey Bettis and asked them to start at the Grade School and finish that up since school was out for Spring Break.
- **Councilperson Sharon Haun** – N/A
- **Councilperson Jason Booker** – Absent
- **City Attorney Brian Henderson** – Absent
- **Assistant City Attorney Molly Priest** – Absent
- **City Administrator Nick Jones** – said you may have seen the guys working at Durland Park working on the caboose and mini katy depot power washing and getting it ready to repaint. Jones asked Councilperson Haun if she knew the back story on the caboose.

Mayor Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Denise Hartman seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4 – 0


Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST:


Nick Jones City Administrator

