

City Council Meeting Minutes  
July 2, 2024

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger called the regular City Council Meeting to order. Council members present were Jason Booker, Denise Hartman, Nathan Adams, and Sharon Haun also present were the City Administrator Nick Jones and City Attorney Brian Henderson and Molly Priest, Others attending were Jan Sciacca, Pastor Billy Kryger, Karen Exon, Chirsty Alexander.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION:**

Chirsty Alexander

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Karen Exon representing the City Lake Association thanked the city police for patrolling during the Memorial Day Holiday. Exon said that the Lake Association would like to see more random patrols for the upcoming Holiday Weekend. Administrator Jones said the city is doing what it can to cover all its duties with the Police Department down two officers. Exon said that if the city was going to enforce its new boat permit ordinance it should follow its own rules and have a City Lake boating sticker on the patrol boat Exon also said the KA number is still registered in Kansas Wildlife and Parks name and that a KA number is required.

**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 6 – 0 The consent agenda consisted of:

- June 18, 2024, Minutes
- June 18, 2024, to Current Appropriations.
- Cabin Transfers: IT-2, IT-3

**OLD BUSINESS**

- N/A

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Recreation Committee Recommendation: Anti-Bullying Policy: Discussion**  
City Attorney Brian Henderson when through the recommendation from the Recreation Committee regarding the adoption of an Anti-Bullying Policy. Administrator Jones suggested that the policy should include all of city recreation and the city departments. Attorney Brian Henderson was tasked with drafting a city-wide anti-bully resolution for all city departments for the next council meeting.
- **Planning and Zoning Committee Recommendation: Discussion**  
City Attorney Molly Priest and Brian Henderson discussed the role of the Planning and Zoning Committee and the recommendations the committee made regarding what the City Inspector could approve and what should be sent to the Planning and Zoning Committee. After discussion the Council requested the members of the Planning and Zoning Committee and City Inspector Stan Bartley attend the next meeting to discuss the recommendation.
- **GMDC Request: Housing Study Update**  
Chuck Scott Interim-Director for GMDC proposed to the City and County a cost share to conduct a new housing study as the past study is about to expire.

Partners:

We need to update the Morris County Housing Study dated March 25, 2022, that was completed by RDG Planning and Design. Kansas Housing Resource Corporation (KHRC) will accept housing studies that are less than three (3) years old and our housing study that we rely on for applying for financing assistance will become outdated next spring.

It is my recommendation that Morris County, the City of Council Grove, and GMDC consider sharing in the cost of having this housing study updated so that anyone needing the study to seek funding for their project, seek guidance for their housing project, etc. has a current study for that purpose.

We have gotten a \$5,000 not-to-exceed quote from RDG Planning and Design for updating the study by the end of the year. I would recommend that we consider sharing in the cost of this study as follows:

Morris County	\$1,500.00
City of Council Grove	\$1,500.00
GMDC	\$2,000.00

Let me know if you have questions or need additional information.

Thank you,

Chuck Scott  
Interim Director

After discussion Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the request from GMDC. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Atmos Energy: Road Repairs**

City Administrator Nick Jones that he has spoken with Chris Koehler regarding the gas line replacement and the concern regarding the roads being repaired. Koehler said Atmos will work with the city to come up with a plan for fixing the roads.

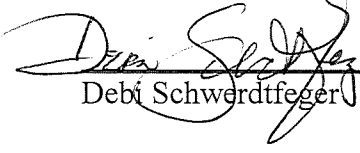
- **Executive Session: Attorney Client Privilege – City Lake – Pat Rioden**


No Update

### **GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS**

- **Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger** – said she spoke at the Kaw Nation Sacred Rock dedication and was humbled when the Kaw presented her with a ceremonial blanket and plans to put it in a case and display it at City Hall.
- **Councilperson Mark Berner** – Absent
- **Councilperson Denise Hartman** – said she enjoyed the fireworks and is going to miss stars and stripes fireworks.
- **Councilperson Sean Honer** – Absent
- **Councilperson Nathan Adams** – thanked the city crews for the hard work and preparing for Washunaga Days and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
- **Councilperson Sharon Haun** – said the Kaw Nation sacred rock dedication was very nice and is excited about possibilities and that the powwow was the largest she has seen at the new pavilion.
- **Councilperson Jason Booker** – said he is looking forward to a couple days off.
- **City Attorney Brian Henderson** – N/A
- **Assistant City Attorney Molly Priest** – N/A
- **City Administrator Nick Jones** – said that Brett Wagner with GAS will start doing the LMI survey's and going door to door to redo the city's census and that HUD released the census numbers and the current LMI 46.6% up from the previous 43.3%. GAS plans to start doing the surveys the week of July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Bettis Construction will start work on the SRTS project at the end of July or start of August. The annual chip n seal will begin at the end of July with the county providing the equipment and labor. Thanked Adams HomeStore for donating \$250 toward the 30 chairs for the Aquatic Center. Jones said there was an electric issue in the IT section at the city lake cause there to be a low current in the water causing people to be shocked. REA was also involved in trying to identify the issue along with Chad Farr's from Services Unlimited. Jones said there are still docks that have not updated their dock electrical to city code and that City Inspector Stan Bartley will be going over to inspect the electrical on the docks. Jones asked to have a budget work session at 5:30pm on Wednesday July 10 and also asked to reschedule the August 20 council meeting to August 19 due to a medical procedure on Aug. 20.

Council President for a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Denise Hartman made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Nathan Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 – 0

  
Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST:   
Nick Jones City Administrator

