

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 Nathan Adams also present were the City Administrator Nick Jones and City Attorney Brian Henderson and Molly Priest, Others attending were Jan Sciacca, Josh Sciacca, Jim Crosby, Virginia B. Pastor Billy Kryger, Marty Wright, Shannon Ried – Wheat, Jamie Johnson, Pauline Sharp, Dave Loewensteir, Nellye Hight, James Pepper Henry, Vernon Hay.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Jake Errickson

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilperson Sean Honer made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the packet. Councilperson Jason Booker seconded the motion. Motion Carried 6 – 0. The consent agenda consisted of:

- March 5, 2024, Minutes
- March 5, 2024, to Current Appropriations.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Chicken Ordinance #2266:**

City Brian Henderson presented Chicken Ordinance #2266, which changed the number of chickens allowed in the city limits from 4 chickens to 8 chickens per residents. After discussion Councilperson Mark Berner made an emotion to approve Ordinance #2266. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Nathan Adams. Motion carried 5 – 0

NEW BUSINESS

- **Pauline Sharp – Kaw Nation**

Pauline Sharp with the Kaw Nation introduced James Pepper Henry who announced the improvements being made at Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park. Mr. Pepper Henry said the Sacred Red Rock will be put in place on Wednesday March 20th at 2pm and invited the Council and Mayor to attend the ceremony. Mr. Pepper Henry also said they will be adding shower facilities, camping spots, power and water for vendors and food trailers. They also plan on having a caretaker that is present most of the year, along with adding security cameras. Mr. Pepper Henry also said the events that normally take place at the Kaw Mission will now be moved to Allegawaho Park on Saturday June 22nd during Washunga Days.

- **Jamie Nittler Johnson - Morris County Health Department – Digital Sign on City Easement**

Jamie Nittler Johnson representing the Morris County Health Department requested the Council allow the placement of a digital sign on city easement in front of the Morris County Health Department. Mrs. Nittler Johnson said the sign will shut off around 10pm each night and start again around 6 or 7am. After discussion Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Shannon Reid-Wheats – Council Grove Library Report**

Shannon Reid-Wheats with the Council Grove Library gave a report to the Council regarding the Library budget and stated that the budget for 2024 is set at \$103,281, which is down from the previous year. Reid - Wheats said the library offsets its cost by applying for grants for programming and other items. She also said that one of the three HVAC systems is needing to be replaced along with issues with the roof leaking. The City has

received bids for both items and the library will go to work writing grants to offset some of the cost with the city covering any additional funds needed for replacements.

- **Jim Crosby – Together with Veterans and Morris County**

Jim Crosby with Together with Veterans and Morris County asked the Council to wave the fee at the Council Grove Recreation Center (Armory) for the Veterans Health Fair on May 11th from 10am until complete. The fair will assist Veterans with enrolling for VA benefits, submitting claims. There will also be nurses from the VA available to go over toxin exposure, along with mobile Veterans Center, which allows for mental health services anonymously. After discussion Councilperson Sean Honer made a motion to wave the fees for the event. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Jim Crosby – Softball Club**

Jim Crosby representing the Council Grove Softball Club requested the use of the Softball fields for the upcoming Softball Club season. Mr. Crosby said that last year they raised \$8,400 for two families, paid local youth umpires \$1,845, and in total have spent or given out \$98,198 over the years. After discussion Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the Softball Club to use the fields. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Mark Berner. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Utilities Committee Recommendation: Curtis Watson**

The Utilities Department recommended the Council appoint Curtis Watson to Water Department Apprentice at a pay rate of \$16.00 per hour. This appointment is contingent upon completing a background check, physical, and drug alcohol screening. A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Booker to approve the appointment. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Office Committee Recommendation: Stanley Bartley**

The Office Committee recommended the Council appoint Stanley Bartley to City Inspector at a payrate of \$28.00 per hour. The appointment is contingent upon completing a background check, physical, and drug/alcohol screening. A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Booker to approve the appointment. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sean Honer. Motion carried 5 – 0

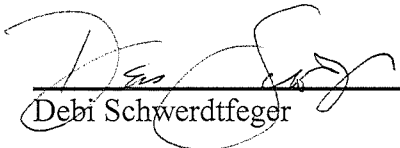
- **Executive Session – City Lake – Pat Riordan**

Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to go in to Executive Session for Attorney Client Privilege with Attorney Pat Riordan for 30 minutes to include the Mayor, Council, City Administrator, and City Attorney's. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 5 – 0. No action was taken.

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** – N/A
- **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** – said the application for the Mill N Overlay from Belfry to the West city limits was submitted and should know something in the next few months.

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


Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST: 
Nick Jones City Administrator

