

City Council Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2023

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, Larry Siegrist and Sharon Haun, also present were the City Administrator Nick Jones, City Attorney Molly Priest and Brian Henderson. Others attending were Jan Sciacca, Celeste Plitz, Mindy Anders, Renee Berner, Rev. Adam Reichart, Stephen McKnight, Ashley McKnight, Karen Exon, Andy Benning.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Rev. Adam Reichart

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 5 – 0. The consent agenda consisted of:

- Nov 7, 2023, Minutes
- Nov. 7, 2023, to Current Appropriations.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Greenwood Cemetery Rockwall: Update**
City Administrator Nick Jones reported the Hartman Masonry has started work on the Greenwood Cemetery Wall repair. Hartman Masonry plans to finish up in the next 2 to 3 weeks barring any weather-related delays.
- **City Lake Plat: Update**
City Administrator Nick Jones reported to the Council that Kaw Valley Engineering is finishing up the Lake Plat. Administrator Jones said that some adjustments made need to be made to finalize the plat sense there were some issues with the CAD file.
- **Water and Sewer PER Reports: Update**
City Administrator Nick Jones reported to the Council that while the city applied for prequalification's from the Clean Water State Revolving fund to redo water and sewer infrastructure were initially denied. Some entities have decided to drop from consideration making funding available and the city now has to opportunity to apply for funding. The Utilities Committee will meet after Thanksgiving to consider different options.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Celeste Plitz – Garden Fence:**
Celeste Plitz addressed the City Council requesting a variance to the city's fence ordinance #2027 to continue building a garden fence, which consists of branches being interwoven. The Council discussed safety concerns with the rebar sticking out of the ground and required that caps be placed on the rebar to help prevent injury. The Council also discussed at what point it is too much oversight on someone's property. After discussion Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to approve the variance for the fence with caps being placed on the rebar. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sean Honer. Motion Carried 6 – 0
- **GAAP Waiver:**
City Administrator Nick Jones presented to the Council GAAP Waiver Resolution 112123-01, which follows K.S.A 78-1120a that allows the city to waive generally accepted accounting principles in preparation of financial statements and financial reports. After discussion Councilperson Sean Honer made a motion to approve Resolution #112123-01. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion carried 6 – 0
- **Employee Christmas Party Date:**
City Administrator Nick Jones informed the Council that the Annual Employee Christmas party by on December 13th, from 11 – 1pm in City Hall.

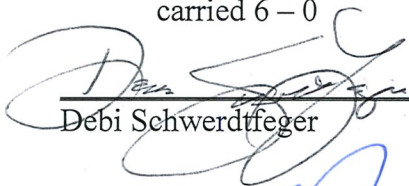
• **Library Roof Repair Proposal:**

City Administrator Nick Jones discussed with the Council issues with the library roof and provided pictures of the problem areas. Administrator Jones said he reached out to local roofers, and they declined to put in a proposal. Administrator Jones did receive a proposal from J.B. Turner and Sons Roofing and Sheet Metal of Topeka in the amount of \$15,656 to repair the roof. The Council discussed the pros and cons of repairing or replacing the roof. The Council decided to seek more bids for repair of the library roof.

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

- **Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger** – Excited about 177hwy reopening and reminded everyone to shop local.
- **Councilperson Mark Berner** – suggested the Councilperson Siegrist review some of the city ordinances and let the Council know of any issues he sees.
- **Councilperson Denise Hartman** – excited to see so many residents and guests enjoying Candlelight Charm and the comedy show.
- **Councilperson Sean Honer** – N/A
- **Councilperson Larry Siegrist** – Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- **Councilperson Sharon Haun** – Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- **Councilperson Jason Booker** – said he would like to see an official agreement between the city and the library. He would also like to have the library share their budget with the city since the city funds the library.
- **City Attorney Brian Henderson** – N/A
- **Assistant City Attorney Molly Priest** – N/A
- **City Administrator Nick Jones** – Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and reminded everyone that City Hal will be closed Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving.

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 – 0



Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST: 

Nick Jones City Administrator

