



CITY OF COUNCIL GROVE • 205 UNION STREET • PO BOX 313
COUNCIL GROVE, KS 66846 • 620-767-5417 • COUNCILGROVE.COM

City Council Agenda
June 3, 2025
5:30 P.M. - City Hall

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Items not already on the agenda may be brought before the Governing Body. People must sign in to be eligible. (**Three-minute maximum time limit**). After three minutes, items will then be voted on to see whether to place the item on the next agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Minutes from the Previous Meeting:
- Appropriations:

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OLD BUSINESS:

• Safe Routes to School: Update				
<u>Motion:</u>	<u>Seconded:</u>	<u>Action:</u>	<u>Abstention:</u>	<u>Este. Cost:</u>
• Downtown Streetscape: Update				
<u>Motion:</u>	<u>Seconded:</u>	<u>Action:</u>	<u>Abstention:</u>	<u>Este. Cost:</u>
• Kate Depot Project: Update				
<u>Motion:</u>	<u>Seconded:</u>	<u>Action:</u>	<u>Abstention:</u>	<u>Este. Cost:</u>

NEW BUSINESS:

• Council Grove City Lake Discussion: Attorney Pat Riordan				
<u>Motion:</u>	<u>Seconded:</u>	<u>Action:</u>	<u>Abstention:</u>	<u>Este. Cost</u>
• Morris County Historical Society: Post Office Oak				
<u>Motion:</u>	<u>Seconded:</u>	<u>Action:</u>	<u>Abstention:</u>	<u>Este. Cost</u>
• Council Grove Public Library Trustee Board: Recommendation				
<u>Motion:</u>	<u>Seconded:</u>	<u>Action:</u>	<u>Abstention:</u>	<u>Este. Cost:</u>

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Governing Body Comments:

Adjournment:

City Council Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2025

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Debi Schwertfeger called the regular City Council Meeting to order. Council members present were Jason Booker, Mark Berner, Denise Hartman, Nathan Adams and Sharon Haun also present were the City Administrator Nick Jones, City Attorney Brian Henderson. Others attending were Jan Sciacca, Karen Exon, Ryan McDonald, Shelley Dunham, Marty Wright, Pastor Billy Kryger

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

INVOCATION: Pastor Billy Kryger

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comments

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilperson Denise Hartman 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:

- May 6, 2025, Minutes
- May 6, 2025, to Current Appropriations.

OLD BUSINESS:

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

- **Employee Health Insurance Renewal: Rhonda Fernandez: Professional Insurance Consultants:**

Rhonda Fernandez with Professional Insurance Consultants presented the Employee Health Insurance renewal. Mrs. Fernandez and City Administrator Nick Jones went through the process of shopping the city's insurance to different carriers and was not eligible for coverage because of the claims from the prior year, insurance claims of over 1.3 million. Fernandez said the city's increase for Health Insurance Coverage with BCBS is 27% and 13% for Dental. Fernandez said the hope is to have a good year and go to a self-funded plan and build reserves so the city can control its own destiny. The prior year Health Insurance and Dental cost was \$403,889.88 with the city being reimbursed \$48,729.12 for the employee's portion of the Health Insurance and Dental. The renewal will cost the city \$558,642.35 with the city being reimbursed \$75,791.88 for the employee's portion of the Health insurance and Dental. City Administrator Jones said the city will have to budget the total cost of the renewal and will be reimbursed over 26 pay periods from the employees. After discussion Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Evergy Franchise Fee – Ordinance 2273:**

City Attorney Brian Henderson went through the proposed Evergy Franchise Fee, which grants Evergy a 20-year right to operate in the City of Council Grove. The Ordinance stipulates that Evergy will pay the city a monthly franchise fee of 3% of gross cash receipts from the sale of electric in the City of Council Grove. After discussion, Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to approve Ordinance 2273. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Nathan Adams. Motion carried 5 – 0

- **Summer Seasonal Appointments: Recreation Department:**

Mayor Debi Schwertfeger appointed the following to Summer Seasonal employees for the Recreation Department. Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the appointments of Summer Seasonal employees for the Recreation Department, Streets and Parks Department, and Utilities Department. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sharon Haun. Motion carried 5 – 0

<u>Workers</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Wage</u>
Lillian Zeigler	Pool Manager	\$12.00
• Will Receive (\$.50 increase for each certification) (Lifeguard + WSI)		
Kierni Mullen	Manager Assistant	\$9.91
Casaia Mullen	Manager Assistant	\$9.91
<u>Workers</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Wage</u>
Elkan Spear	Lifeguard 3rd year	\$9.00

Brooklyn Wangerin	Lifeguard 3rd year	\$9.00
Breckyn McEuen	Lifeguard 3rd year	\$9.00
Linkin Sherwood	Lifeguard 3rd year	\$9.00
Marlie Hayes	Lifeguard 2nd year	\$8.50
Macelyn Taylor	Lifeguard 2nd year	\$8.50
Laine Johnson	Lifeguard 2nd year	\$8.50
Leo White	Lifeguard 2nd year	\$8.50
Whitlyn Mullen	Lifeguard 2nd year	\$8.50
Kason Spear	Lifeguard 1st year	\$8.25
Lucy Palmquist	Lifeguard 1st year	\$8.25
Capri Gant	Lifeguard 1st year	\$8.25
Marlee Gant	Lifeguard 1st year	\$8.25

Workers	Position	Wage
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Arianna Gonzalez	Concessions	\$7.69
Mazie Hayes	Concessions	\$7.69
Taegan Wilkens C	Concessions	\$7.69
Makenzie Grant	Concessions	\$7.69
Haylie Grant	Concessions	\$7.69
Evan Birk	Concessions	\$7.69
Hallie Frazier	Concessions	\$7.69
Jackson Stetcher	Concessions	\$7.69
Owen McIver	Concessions	\$7.69
Betsy Doornbos	Concessions	\$7.69
Claudia Simecka	Concessions	\$7.69
Carter Bremer	Concessions	\$7.69
Logan Stockwell	Concessions	\$7.69
Briley Cannon	Concessions	\$7.69
Quinley Sowers	Concessions	\$7.69
Aubrey McEuen	Concessions	\$7.69
Jace Schmidt	Concessions	\$7.69
Ashlynn Kesler	Concessions	\$8.69

Workers	Position	Wage
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Reid Buttery	Maintenance	\$11.00
Hayden Buttery	Maintenance	\$11.50
Jordan Carlson	Maintenance	\$12.50
Mija Carlson	Maintenance	\$12.50

Workers	Position
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Drew Buchman	Umpire
David McDiffet	Umpire
Dax Myers	Umpire
Mason Wilkens	Umpire
Maxton Villalobos	Umpire
Laramie Mayer	Umpire

- Summer Seasonal Appointments: Streets and Parks Department:**

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger appointed the following to Summer Seasonal employees for the Recreation Department. Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the appointments of Summer Seasonal employees for the Recreation Department, Streets and Parks Department, and Utilities Department. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sharon Haun. Motion carried 5 – 0

Worker	Position	Wage
David McDiffett	Maintenance	\$12.00
Beckett Nelson	Maintenance	\$12.00

- Summer Seasonal Appointments: Utilities Department:**

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger appointed the following to Summer Seasonal employees for the Recreation Department. Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the appointments of Summer Seasonal employees for the Recreation Department, Streets and Parks Department, and Utilities Department. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sharon Haun. Motion carried 5 – 0

Worker	Position	Wage
Chris Barbo	Maintenance	\$12.00

- **Appointment of City Inspector: James Masters:**

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger read the recommendation from City Administrator Nick Jones to appointment of James Masters to City Inspector position for the City of Council Grove at an hourly rate of \$35.00 per hour. This position is an exempt position under FSLA. Appointment is contingent upon passing a background check and drug/alcohol screening. The position start date will be June 2, 2025. After discussion a motion was made by Councilperson Mark Berner to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 4 -1 with Councilperson Nathan Adams voting against the motion.

- **GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS**

- **Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger** – asked if the swimming pool was ready to open. City Administrator Nick Jones said the pool is ready to open by the forecasted rain and the cool temperatures may not allow it to be open. Administrator Jones said he spoke with the Recreation Director Justin Carlson about putting a message out regarding the pool opening and keeping the community updated.
- **Councilperson Mark Berner** – N/A.
- **Councilperson Denise Hartman** N/A
- **Councilperson Sean Honer** – Absent
- **Councilperson Nathan Adams** – N/A
- **Councilperson Sharon Haun** – N/A
- **Councilperson Jason Booker** – asked about the water/sewer project and the hydrant that was replaced. Administrator Nick Jones said those projects are in the process of receiving funding and that the hydrant replacement was done by the Utilities Department to replace a broken hydrant.
- **City Attorney Brian Henderson** – N/A
- **Assistant City Attorney Molly Priest** – N/A
- **City Administrator Nick Jones** – said the new stage for the Amphitheater arrived and showed up in a semi and a box truck. Administrator Jones said he and Street Department Supervisor Jeff Barbo are going to look as adding a metal building to store the stage and other equipment that sets outside during the winter due to lack of space.

Mayor Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST:

Nick Jones City Administrator



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April 9, 2025

Members of the City Council,

The Council Grove Public Library Trustee Board would like to submit the name of Celeste Plitz as a Trustee nominee. If appointed, she will fill Jason Booker's spot on the Board. Celeste's address is: 37 McCardell St, Council Grove, KS 66846.

Please feel free to contact me at 767-5716 if there are any questions.

Thank you,


Shannon Reid-Wheat
Library Director