

City Council Meeting Minutes  
June 4, 2024

**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, 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, Zoey Bond, Johnny Messer, Carla Argabright, Michael Argabright, Karen Exon, Ryan McDonald, Angie Schwerdtfeger.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION:**

Johnny Messer

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mike Argabright who is running for Kansas Senate District 17 introduced himself to the Council. Mr. Argabright was the Superintendent of USD 252 for 16 years and has a background in farming.

Karen Exon with the Council Grove Lake Association gave a report on the activity at the City Lake over Memorial Weekend. Exon thanked the Council Grove Police Department for the patrol of the lake over Memorial Weekend. Exon said that about 50% of the boats she saw did not have the Council Grove boating sticker displaced on their boat. City Administrator Nick Jones said that several boat owners come to City Hall without the proper paperwork to registrar their boats. Exon also pointed out that several boats were not following the proper direction of the City Lake and operating in an unsafe manner along with not following the no wake zoning. Administrator Jones suggested a large fine to owners who have not registered their boats and are operating them on the City Lake. Council asked Molly Priest to come up with a draft for review to fine boats who did not get their boats registered.

**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:

- May 4, 2024, Minutes
- May 4, 2024, to Current Appropriations.
- Cabin Transfers: E-14
- License Renewal: Club Liquor License – The Territorial Ballroom

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Update: Council Grove Library Roof**  
City Administrator Nick Jones said that Murphy's Seamless Roofing has completed redoing the Council Grove Library roof.
- **Update: T-Mobile Hometown Grant – Katy Depot**  
City Administrator Nick Jones said the Katy Depot was not awarded grant funds from the T-Mobile Hometown Grant. Administrator Jones said that he plans on reapplying as it can be applied for quarterly.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Memorandum of Understanding Katy Depot: Council Grove Area Trade & Tourism Assoc.**  
City Attorney Molly Priest when through the draft of the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Council Grove and the Council Grove Area Trade and Tourism Association. The MOU states that the Association will be responsible for cleaning and painting the inside of the building and the city will provide the paint and materials needed. The Associations starting rent will be \$300 per month plus utilities until the restoration of the Depot is complete and a new rent amount is negotiated. It also states the Association understands that the city is seeking grant funding for the restoration of the Depot. After discussion Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to approve the MOU. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 6 – 0

- **Alcohol Consumption and Sale at Community Events Application: Council Grove Rotary Club**

Council approved an Alcohol Consumption and Sale at Community Events application for the Council Grove Rotary Club during Washunaga Days from 3pm to 12pm on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>. After discussion Councilperson Sharon Haun made a motion to approve the application. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Nathan Adams. Motion carried 6 – 0

- **Council Grove Library Guttering: Quotes**

City Administrator Nick Jones presented a quote from Kaw Valley Sheet Metal, LLC to replace the guttering at the Council Grove Library in the amount of \$4,810. The quote was the only one received. The Council table the item until the Council Grove Library Board knows the outcoming of grants they applied for to help cover the cost and receive more quotes for replacement.

- **Governmental Assistance Services: Contract for Services**

City Administrator Nick Jones presented to the Council a Contract for Services with Western Consultants Brett Waggoner to complete and submit an application for a Community Development Block Grant for Community Facilities Project in the amount of \$8,950. Administrator Jones said that he and Brett Waggoner have spoken regarding the possibility of the Census Survey not coming back in the city's favor and that the application funds can be used for a \$300,000 Commercial Block Grant. After discussion Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the Contract for Services with Western Consultants. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Mark Berner. Motion carried 5 – 1 with Councilperson Honer voting against the motion.

- **Executive Session: Non – Elected Officials**

Councilperson Sean Honer made a motion to go into Executive Session for Non-Elected Officials to include the Mayor, Council, City Attorney, and City Administrator for 30 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilperson No Action was taken.

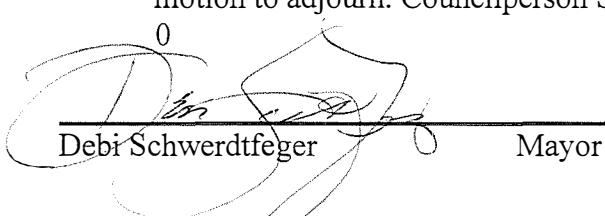
- **Executive Session: Attorney Client Privilege – City Lake – Pat Riorden**

Councilperson Sean Honer made a motion to go into Executive Session for Attorney Client Privilege concerning the City Lake with Attorney Pat Riorden and to include the Mayor, Council, City Attorney, and City Administrator for 30 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion carried 6 – 0. No action was taken.

### **GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS**

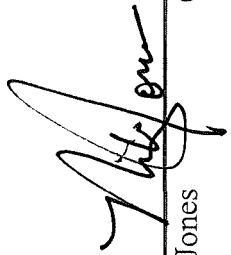
- **Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger** – N/A
- **Councilperson Mark Berner** – N/A
- **Councilperson Denise Hartman** – commented on the successful Unbound Gravel bike race going through the city over the weekend. Administrator Jones said there were some issues that will need to be discussed with the organizers to improve the race in the future.
- **Councilperson Sean Honer** – N/A
- **Councilperson Nathan Adams** – N/A
- **Councilperson Sharon Haun** – thanked the City Crews for the cleanup from the storm that occurred. Administrator Jones said the storms put the city crews behind with all the clean up and put them behind with the preparation for the town and cemeteries. Administrator Jones said the city crew mowed and weed-eated Greenwood Cemetery in 2 days. Administrator Jones also said the city will be ordering new flags as about 20 of them need retired. Administrator Jones said no disrespect was intended by displaying a flag the needed retired.
- **Councilperson Jason Booker** – N/A
- **City Attorney Brian Henderson** – Absent
- **Assistant City Attorney Molly Priest** – N/A
- **City Administrator Nick Jones** – N/A

Mayor 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

