

City Council Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2022

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger called the regular City Council Meeting to order. Council members present were Keith Wessel, Jason Booker, Sean Honer, Larry Siegrist, Sharon Haun and City Administrator Nick Jones and City Attorney Bill Halvorsen. Others attending were Marcus Hernandez, Lori May, Pastor Billy Kryger, Brian Brown

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Lori May with the Community Arts Council requested the use of property at the City Lake for the purpose of having a drive-in concert May said the event would take place on April 30th from 6 – 10pm. Mayor Schwerdtfeger inquired if they had enough help with parking and clean up for the event. May said that have 8 to 10 people to help with parking and clean up. After discussion Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sharon Haun. Motion Carried 5 – 0

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the packet. Councilperson Sean Honer seconded the motion. Motion Carried 5 – 0. The consent agenda consisted of:

- March 15, 2022, Minutes
- March 15, 2022, to Current Appropriations.
- Cabin Transfer: N/A

OLD BUSINESS

- N/A

NEW BUSINESS

• **City Lake Committee Recommendation: D-4**

City Administrator Nick Jones presented to the Council the recommendation from the City Lake Committee to approve a boundary line adjustment of 8' to the 100' high water setback for the construction of a covered deck for George F Grieb & Malinda J Alexander Trusts, D-4. Administrator Jones also noted that the adjustments will not restrict or interfere with the neighboring cabins or access to the area. After discussion Councilperson Larry Siegrist made a motion to approve a boundary line adjustment of 8' to the 100' high water setback for the construction of a covered deck for George F Grieb & Malinda J Alexander Trusts, D-4. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Keith Wessel. Motion Carried 5 – 0

• **City Lake Committee Recommendation – J – 18**

City Administrator Nick Jones presented to the Council the recommendation from the City Lake Committee to deny a boundary line adjustment of 148 feet for a 30' x50' storage shed. After discussion Councilperson Sean Honer made a motion to deny a boundary line adjustment of 148' for a 30' x 50' storage shed. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Keith Wessel. Motion Carried 5 – 0

• **Street and Parks Department Recommendation:**

City Administrator Nick Jones presented to the Council the recommendation from the Office Committee, which recommends the appointment of Wyatt Miller to Streets and Parks Department Riverwalk Maintenance position at a payrate of \$14.50 per hour. The appointment is contingent upon passing a physical, drug and alcohol screening, and background check. After discussion Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the appointment. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sharon Haun. Motion Carried 5 – 0

• **Police and Fire Committee Recommendation:**

City Administrator Nick Jones presented to the Council the recommendation from Police and Fire Committee to approve the changes made to the Council Grove Fire Department Constitution and By-Laws to include the addition of two Lieutenants and the Five Trustees on the Fire Board. The Police and Fire Committee also recommends the Council approve the appointment of John Scarce and Chris Brown to Council Grove Fire

Department Lieutenants. Assistant Fire Chief Brian Brown said the addition of the 2 Fire Department Lieutenants will help with multiple fire calls and allow the Fire Department to more adequately disperse resources. After discussion Councilperson Keith Wessel made a motion to approve the changes to the Bylaws and the addition of two Lieutenants and the 5 Fire Board Trustees on the Fire Board. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion carried 5 – 0

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to approve the appointment of John Scarce and Chris Brown to Council Grove Fire Department Lieutenants. A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Booker to approve the appointment. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion Carried 5 – 0

- **Office Committee Recommendation – BCBS Health/Dental Insurance Renewal**

City Administrator Nick Jones presented to the Council the recommendation of the Office Committee for the renewal of the City's BlueCross and BlueShield Health/Dental Insurance. The BCBS renewal starting on June 1, 2022, will be an estimated \$27,241.23 per month. (Starting 2021 premium was \$25,986.91 per month) Health Insurance premiums increased 5.77% for Health Insurance and 5.40% for Dental Insurance. The City's Health Insurance plan is age based instead of usage based.

The total budgeted amount for 2022 is \$341,000 the renewal will cost an estimated \$326,894.76 for the year running from June 1, 2022, to May 31, 2023. The City pay's the full premium up front and is reimburse out the employees pay each pay period (26 Pay Periods) for the 20% of spouse or family Health Insurance and Dental Premiums. The City will be reimbursed an estimated \$44,963.37 making the actual amount spent on Health and Dental insurance an estimated \$284,931.39. BCBS Health Insurance when up 5.77% and BCBS Dental Insurance when up 5.40%. City Administrator Jones informed the Council he checked with both State and Local Pool insurance and said they were more expensive and less comprehensive than BCBS. After discussion a motion was made by Councilperson Keith Wessel to approve the renewal of BCBS Health and Dental Insurance. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion Carried 5 – 0.

- **Executive Session: Non-Elected Personnel**

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. A motion was made by Councilperson Keith Wessel to go into executive session for Non-Elected Personnel which included the Mayor, City Council, City Attorney, and City Administrator for 20 minutes. The Motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion Carried 5 – 0
Upon returning to regular session no action was taken.

- **Executive Session - City Lake**


Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. A motion was made by Councilperson Keith Wessel to go into executive session for attorney client privilege regarding the City Lake, which included the Mayor, City Council, City Attorney, and City Administrator for 30 minutes. The Motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion Carried 5 – 0
Upon returning to regular session no action was taken.

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

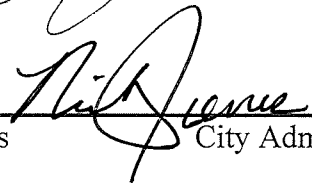
- **Councilperson Jason Booker** – N/A.
- **Councilperson Mark Berner** – Absent
- **Councilperson Keith Wessel** – N/A
- **Councilperson Sean Honer** – N/A
- **Councilperson Larry Siegrist** – asked about Sunnyslope and Greenwood Cemetery flag poles and who was responsible for painting and replacing the plaques. Mayor Schwerdtfeger said she has spoken to Rebecca Elisa who is in the process of sanding and painting the poles and replacing the plaques on the poles.

- **Councilperson Sharon Haun** – asked about the head stones in Greenwood Cemetery and who is responsible for fixing the stones that are leaning. Administrator Jones said the City is responsible for the care of the stones, but noted that we do not have the equipment to move the headed stones. Administrator Jones said he would follow up with Jeff Barbo and see what he recommends. Councilperson Haun also informed the Council that the Melow Foundation has awarded a \$5 million dollar grant to the Kaw Nation to move the Kaw Nation Rock and setup and area for it.
- **City Attorney Bill Halvorsen** – N/A
- **City Administrator Nick Jones** – N/A
- **Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger** – N/A

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Jason Booker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0



Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST: 

Nick Jones City Administrator

