

City Council Meeting Minutes  
Aug 17, 2021

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger called the regular City Council Meeting to order. Council members present were Jason Booker, Keith Wessel, Mark Berner, Sharon Haun, and Larry Siegrist. City Administrator Nick Jones were also present. Others attending were Mindy Andres, Marcus Hernandez, Sharon McVay, K. Exon, Larry Fisher, Jeff Barbo, Fred Bammes, Tad Fuller, Larry Berner, Robert Fox, Shelley Dunham, Carolyn Peterson, Andy Benning, Curt Burngantt, Jim Steckart, Vern Hay, Derrick Craige, Dan Fox, Kathy Fox

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD I**

N/A

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilperson Sharon Haun made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the packet. Councilperson Larry Siegrist seconded the motion. The consent agenda consisted of:

- Aug 03, 2021, Minutes
- Aug 03, 2021, to Current Appropriations.
- Cabin Transfer: N/A

Motion carried

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **North Riverwalk Extension – Update:**

City Administrator Nick Jones reported that work has started on installing the new lights on the North Riverwalk Extension. S&J Electric hope to be done in 2 to 3 weeks.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Department Head Reports:**

Jeff Barbo the Streets and Parks Superintendent reported to the City Council that his crew has been busy with several projects and upkeep of the City and City Lake such as, cleanup of blighted property on South 7<sup>th</sup> street, spraying for weeds, new buoys at the City Lake, Neosho Riverwalk Amphitheater, tear down of Washunga Days and several other events, mowing of city properties, millings on the roads at the City Lake. The City Council thanked Barbo and his crew for all their work.

Derrick Craige the Utilities Superintendent reported to the City Council that his crew have been busy with several projects such as, repairing several watermain or water service lines, replacement of lines on Wood Street, repairs at the Aquatic Center, working with CTS to install the new water meters and training on the new software, replacement of hydrants. Craige said the new system cuts meter reading time down from a week to 90 minutes. Craige said his department is short staffed and needs to add 1 employee but has received not applications to fill the vacancy.

- **Executive Session – City Lake**

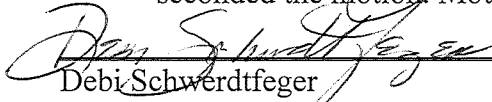
Councilperson Keith Wessel made a motion to go into executive session that included the entire council, City Administrator Nick Jones, City Attorney Bill Halvorsen to discuss the City Lake for 45 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. No action was taken.


**GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS**

- **Councilperson Jason Booker** – N/A
- **Councilperson Mark Berner** – Requested the use of the Recreation Building (Armory) for Sethfest in the event it rained. Councilperson Sharon Haun made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Keith Wessel.
- **Councilperson Keith Wessel** – N/A
- **Councilperson Mark Brooks** – Absent
- **Councilperson Larry Siegrist** – N/A
- **Councilperson Sharon Haun** – received a concern from someone in the public regarding the mowing of the hillsides on the Neosho Riverwalk and inquired about if there would be railing on the old Dam at the North end of the new sidewalk. City

Administrator Nick Jones said he would check with Tyner Insurance regarding the railing.

- **City Attorney Bill Halvorsen** – addressed the City Council regarding a recent (KORA) Kansas Open Records Act request and noted that the act does not make all government records open to the public to view as there are 55 exemptions. City Administrator Nick Jones noted that the records request has been denied due to confidentiality.
- **City Administrator Nick Jones** – N/A
- **Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger** – N/A
- Councilperson Mark Brooks made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Jason Booker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0

  
Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
Nick Jones City Administrator

