

City Council Meeting Minutes  
February 16, 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 Brooks and Sharon Haun, Mark Berner, Larry Siegrist. City Attorney Bill Halvorsen and City Administrator Nick Jones were also present. Others attending were Mindy Andres, Marcus Hernandez, Susan Harris, Aron Doty, Matt Forge, Sean Tiffany, Nicki Tiffany, Christy Davis, Monica Simecka, and Cody Catlin.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD I**

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger moved agenda item Neighbor Hood Revitalization Plan to the Public comment period to allow those attending the meeting that had other obligations a chance to speak. Sean Tiffany spoke to the council regarding the changes made by the County to the Neighbor Hood Revitalization Plan and how it could affect growth downtown with surrounding County's providing a better structure to help new businesses. Sean Tiffany also told the Council that he attended the County's Public Hearing on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 and that it was not much of a Public Hearing as the County handed out the Neighbor Hood Revitalization Plan to the people in attendance. The County allowed some discussion about the plan changes and told those in attendances that the changes were recommended by the County Appraiser Ryan Michaelis and are like what Wabaunsee County does. Christy Davis expressed concern with the changes and how it could impact the growth the City is seeing downtown moving forward. Christy Davis said her restoration of the old National Bank would not have been possible without the incentives that were available under the old Neighbor Hood Revitalization Plan. Christy Davis suggested the Council meet with the County and restore the Neighbor Hood Revitalization Plan to its original requirements. Several of the Council members expressed concern regarding the changes and the potential impact that could have on growth downtown. Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to table the resolution until the next Council meeting and to set up a meeting with the County Commissioners to discuss the changes. A motion was made by Councilperson Sharon Haun to table the resolution and meeting with the County Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Keith Wessel.

Motion Carried 6 – 0

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- February 16, 2021 Minutes
- February 16, 2021, to Current Appropriations.
- Cabin Transfer N/A

Motion carried 6 – 0

**OLD BUSINESS**

• **CTS Group – Update**

City Administrator Nick Jones reported the CTS Group and Services Unlimited have completed install of the LED lighting in City Facility's. City Administrator Nick Jones also reported the RTS group is working on replacing water meters and have under a hundred left to install. The project was scheduled to resume on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February but do to extreme cold the timeline to start was pushed back.

**North Riverwalk Extension – Update**

City Administrator Nick Jones reported that he meant with KDOT and BG Consultants regarding the project. BG Consultants is working on redesigning the North Riverwalk project and is expected to complete the redesign within the next week. Once the redesign is complete Brady Hedstrom with BG Consultants will submit the new plans to KDOT and Bryant and Bryant Construction. KDOT will allow Bryant and Bryant to start work once the plans are submitted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Neighbor Hood Revitalization Plan – Resolution**

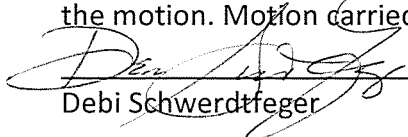
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#### GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

- **Councilperson Jason Booker** – expressed excitement about the new businesses going in downtown and said the City needs to back the people investing in our community.
- **Councilperson Mark Berner** – None
- **Councilperson Keith Wessel** – Told the Council that the Lake Committee has been looking into installing camping areas at the City Lake and would get back to the Council regarding it. Councilperson Keith Wessel also inquired about the Lake Annexation meeting and Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger said she would address it during her comments.
- **Councilperson Mark Brooks** – Asked permission to start working on camping spot at the Ben I. Smith Ball Field and work with the Rec Committee to come up with recommendations for the Council.
- **Councilperson Larry Siegrist** – Asked about the sewer and main hole rehab project and the status. City Administrator Nick Jones informed the Council that the relining of the sewer lines was complete, and that Johnson Company would be back in the Spring to complete the sewer manhole rehab.
- **Councilperson Sharon Haun** – Requested that the Back Country Horsemen of Kansas be allowed to use the property behind the Fire Station and the Katy Depot for trailers and horses that are riding the trail. Councilperson Mark Brooks made a motion to allow the use of the park. The motion was seconded by Sharon Haun. Motion Carried 6 – 0
- **City Attorney Bill Halvorsen** – None
- **City Administrator Nick Jones** None
- **Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger** – Thanked the people who were able to attend the Zoom meeting with Bill Murphy. Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger also had received phone calls from Lake Annexation Committee members who were concerned with meeting until they completed their second round of the COVID vaccination. Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger said we would reschedule the meeting with the Annexation Committee to late April or early May due to COVID concerns and vaccinations that are in progress. Councilperson Jason Booker inquired if the Mayor had spoken to the Chamber regarding meeting with them. Councilperson Mark Brooks recommended meeting with them before the Council meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger suggested having a work study at 5pm on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and moving the City Council meeting to 6pm start time. Councilperson Jason Booker made motion to have a work study on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5pm with the Chamber Board to last 1 hour. The motion was seconded by Mark Brooks Motion Carried 6 – 0

#### ADJOURNMENT

Councilperson Keith Wessel made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Jason Booker seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 – 0

  
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Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
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Nick Jones City Administrator

