

City Council Minutes
September 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order in the Council meeting room at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hegwood. Present were Lance DeLissa, Mitch Brenner, Roberto Holguin, Brian Kroth and George Lucas. Also, present were City Administrator Dean Cordes and City Clerk Janet Gleason. Attorney Kuhns was absent. Visitors were Tom Kuhns, Bobbie Allison, Kimberly Stevens, Casie McAtee, Anthony Schmidt, Doug Ritter, Cheryle Shelton, Jamie Boese, Mike Gillen, Loren Borger, Sandy Borger, and Lance Kane.

Mayor Hegwood read and signed a Proclamation for Constitution Week marking the 234th anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America.

Mayor Hegwood asked if there were any public comments. L. Borger asked if taxes would decrease if the city saved money. Cordes noted that there are issues and projects that need to be addressed with the swimming pool, water projects, curb and gutter repairs and there would still be law enforcement. Sheriff officers attend the same academy and training and take the same oath to protect and serve as city officers. Kroth and Hegwood commented that if the city has a contract with the sheriff for coverage, they will cover the city according to the contract. Borger asked if Vanderpool would lose her job and Hegwood stated she would keep her job. There will still be Municipal Court and a need for a court clerk. Ritter will attend a council meeting once per quarter and more often if requested. Allison state that she had polled twenty residents of various ages regarding the consolidation. Nineteen were okay with consolidation and one preferred to keep the city police department. Cordes noted that the council and community have confidence in Ritter and the consolidation could be re-evaluated if there were a change in four years. Stevens noted that the Sheriff is an elected position and directly answerable to the people, but the Chief of Police is appointed. She also felt that the current Police Department employees should be recognized for their service. McAtee stated she would be disappointed not to have a city police department. She also commented that the traffic violations on highway 54 have been very bad.

Minutes of the August 23, 2021, minutes were approved as written.

Minutes of the August 30, 2021, Special Meeting minutes were approved as written.

Motion by DeLissa, seconded by Brenner to approve the Appropriations Ordinance in the amount of \$495,400.59. Motion carried with all in favor.

Council reviewed the proposed law enforcement agreement and requested clarification of section 8. Cordes will have the attorney revise it and submit it to Ritter for review. Hegwood asked council if there was consensus to move forward with the agreement. Brenner, DeLissa, Holguin and Kroth were in favor, Lucas was against.

Motion by DeLissa, second by Brian to approve Resolution 313:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR MODERATE INCOMING HOUSING GRANTS THROUGH THE KANSAS HOUSING RESOURCE CORPORATION.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Boese presented an update regarding the housing grant application. DeLissa commented that he felt any grants for housing upgrades should give priority to homeowners because landlords are running a business. Cordes said the only licensed contractor that had responded was Weston Kroth. Neil Isaac was willing to get a license but could not have it prior to the grant deadline. A licensed contractor must be on the application.

L & S electric will begin on the stoplight repairs this week.

Council approved Cordes's request to add an additional block to the water project due to a water line break and the condition of the pipe needing replaced. It would add around \$40,000.00 to the cost of the project.

The neighborhood revitalization program expired September 1, but economic development is working on some form of renewal. The city could apply for the program, and it would be transferable if the house were sold.

Council agreed to replace the floats and control system at the small lift station at a cost of around \$10,000.00. It would be a dual float system.

Motion by Kroth, second by Holguin to grant a 5-year increase from 21.77 to 22.86 to Eric Welker.
Motion carried.

The swimming pool was built in 1957 and although there were some modifications in the early 1990’s, the infrastructure is original. Council discussed at length the issues of water leakage at length and directed Cordes to try to find a company willing to look at it.

Council approved Boese and Gleason to attend the regional CCFMOA meeting in Garden City Friday, September 24. Motion by Kroth, second by Lucas to grant Boese a 3-month increase from \$15.00 to \$15.75.

Motion by Holguin, seconded by Kroth to adjourn. Motion carried with all in favor.

ATTEST:

_____J.D. Hegwood, Mayor

Janet Gleason, Clerk