

City Council Minutes  
May 23, 2022

The meeting was called to order in the Council meeting room at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Lance DeLissa in the absence of Mayor Hegwood. Present were Mitch Brenner, Roberto Holguin, Brian Kroth, and George Lucas. Also present were City Administrator Dean Cordes, City Clerk Janet Gleason and Attorney Clay Kuhns. Visitors were Bobbie Allison, and Emily Boyd.

The meeting opened with the Public Hearing regarding the property located at 602 E. Kansas. Cordes explained that written notice, with detailed notes of the work required to clean up the property, was sent to the property owner on February 9, 2022. Cordes said nothing had been done. The property owner said some of the trash has been cleaned up. Cordes then explained to the property owner that the Council will set a time frame and if the work has not been completed the property could be demolished and the cost would be assessed to the property owner. Council repeatedly asked the property owner when he thought he could have the work finished and he could not give them a date. Cordes asked if he would be willing to sell the property, but he said due to other needs he had a lien on the property. Council directed the owner to have the trash and trees cleaned up and the windows fixed by next week. He was given 60 days to complete the siding repairs and paint.

Emily Boyd presented information to the council regarding Meade County Historical Society project to update the front of the Museum. The initial work of painting and repairing the building has been fully funded. They have applied for a matching grant and are seeking donations to paint murals related to the county history on the panels on the front of the building. Cordes asked what the life span of the murals would be, and she said that with the materials they use now the paintings could last more than 30 years. Holguin asked if they would consider adding something related to the Kansas Futurity since it is an important part of Meade history. Boyd will get more information on that and take it to the Historical Society Board. Boyd would like to have the donations by July. Council would like Boyd to update them in June regarding the amount of funding still needed and will decide on a donation at that time.

There was no public comment.

Six utility extensions have been granted for May. Four accounts are waiting on KERA payments and there are 48 accounts that need to be paid by 10:00 a.m. tomorrow to avoid disconnect.

The housing project construction is on schedule. Boese is writing a marketing plan for the next grant application and requested feedback from the Council regarding the strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities they feel are evident in our community and county.

Minutes of the May 9, 2022, meeting were approved as written.

Motion by DeLissa, second by Lucas to approve Building Permit #22008, subject to lining the garage up with the home. Motion carried with all in favor. Building Permit #22009 was denied by the Planning Committee and by the Council.

Cordes distributed a list of the pool repairs and costs to the council. The total cost so far was \$33,675.04. There are a few invoices outstanding but should be minimal. The pool has been filled. The skimmers are working better than they have in years and it appears that the leaks have been fixed. Cordes will continue to measure the daily levels. The Splash Pad should be repaired and ready to go by the weekend.

Cordes asked about the concrete where the old Diner 54 was located. Consensus was that it should be removed and could be replaced with chat rather than concrete. Cordes will contact Family Dollar to request approval of this

DeLissa asked about the power plant and Cordes stated that the new generator had been tested last week. It ran about 4 hours, and was working great. He also inquired about the property purchased by Tod and Imogene Davis. Cordes stated that they are moving forward with the plans for a laundromat and may begin construction in June.

Gleason informed the council that the graduation banners were not ordered so there would be no funds taken from the donation fund.

Consensus of council was to send Boese to the Kansas Housing Conference in Wichita August 30-Sept 1, 2022.

Attorney Kuhns presented more information to the Council on grant funding that could be available and on the proposed Meade County Vision Housing Authority. He has applied for a 501C3 and is working on the by-laws for review once all the members have been appointed. It will consist of seven members. Initially the meetings would probably be monthly. One appointed by each city council, two appointed by the county commissioners, and two appointed from Economic Development. Motion by Kroth, second by Holguin to appoint Brenner to the board. Motion carried, all in favor. Brenner abstained.

Motion by Brenner, second by Lucas to recess into executive session to discuss Personnel matters relating to non-elected personnel for ten minutes, to meet back in this same room. Motion carried with all in favor. After executive session, no action was taken.

Motion by Kroth, second by Brenner to enter into executive session for consultation with the attorney for attorney-client relationship for ten minutes, to meet back in this same room. Motion carried with all in favor. After executive session, no action was taken.

Motion by Kroth, second by Holguin to extend the probationary period for Joseph Ramsey for ninety days

Consensus of council to allow Attorney Kuhns to offer a settlement agreement regarding the damages sustained at the city park.

Motion by Brenner, second by Holguin to adjourn. Motion carried with all in favor.

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J.D. Hegwood, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Janet Gleason, Clerk