

GREAT BEND CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 3, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Location - Events Center in the remodeled addition (southwest room)

The Council meeting will be livestreamed for public to view on our city council Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/gbcitycouncil/>.

AGENDA

Members present:

<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor Cody Schmidt	<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Cory Urban
<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Kevyn Soupiset	<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Lindsey Krom-Craven
<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Brock McPherson	<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Junior Welsch
<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Alan Moeder	<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Davis Jimenez
<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Jolene Biggs	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk/Finance Director Shawna Schafer
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrator Kendal Francis	<input type="checkbox"/> Attorney Robert Suelter

OPENING: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Minutes:** Minutes of the Regular Session held on April 19, 2021.
- b) **Claim's Warrant Register 4-19-21:** Covering 2021 bills to date.
- c) **Payroll Register P/R 4-23-21:** Covering payroll ending April 17, 2021 in the amount of \$427,128.35.
- d) **Appointments:** Mayor Schmidt will make appointments as appropriate.
- e) **Independence Day Fireworks Show & Batcats Fireworks Shows:**
Authorize the Fireworks Display at Expo Grounds on July 3, 2021. Authorize the fireworks display at the Great Bend Bat Cats home games on June 4 or June 5, 2021 and July 2, 2021.
- f) **Agenda:** Approval of agenda as submitted or amended.

B. OLD BUSINESS

C. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The public is free to comment on items not listed on the agenda. Please address comments to the City Council as a body and be mindful of others who may also wish to speak by limiting comments to 3 minutes.

1. **Great Bend Housing Authority:** Lynn Fleming with Great Bend Housing Authority would like to give an update on the renovation of the Great Bend High Rise.

D. NEW BUSINESS

- 2. Councilmember Reports:** Councilmembers will report on the boards and commissions that they serve on.

Recommendation: Informational item.

- 3. Administrators Update:** City Administrator Kendal Francis will present an update on what is happening within the City organization.

Recommendation: Informational item.

- 4. Economic Development Report:** Economic Development Inc. President Sara Hayden will present her monthly report.

Recommendation: Informational item.

- 5. Abatements:** Property Maintenance Enforcement Manager Austin LaViolette will present abatements.

Recommendation: Take action on abatements.

- 6. Unsafe and Dangerous Structure 1205 Odell:** The structure at 1205 Odell has deteriorated and is in unsafe and dangerous condition. In order to deal with the structure and cause it to be repaired or removed by the owner, a hearing must be held in the matter. Austin LaViolette has prepared the attached document outlining his findings and the reasons he believes make the structure unsafe and dangerous. The attached resolution sets the hearing in this matter for July 6, 2021, at 6:30pm. Notice will be mailed to all owners and interest holders and will also be published two time in the official city newspaper. City Attorney Robert Suelter will report.

Recommendation: Motion to adopt Resolution No. 050321-.

- 7. Unsafe and Dangerous Structure 1714 Adams:** The structure at 1714 Adams has deteriorated and is in unsafe and dangerous condition. In order to deal with the structure and cause it to be repaired or removed by the owner, a hearing must be held in the matter. Austin LaViolette has prepared the attached document outlining his findings and the reasons he believes make the structure unsafe and dangerous. The attached resolution sets the hearing in this matter for July 6, 2021, at 6:30pm. Notice will be mailed to all owners and interest holders and will also be published two time in the official city newspaper. City Attorney Robert Suelter will report.

Recommendation: Motion to adopt Resolution No. 050321-.

- 8. Police Department Body Armor:** The Police Department needs to replace the body armor that is issued to its employees. The body armor is only warranted by the manufacturer for 5 years and will be out of warranty soon. We have been budgeting \$7,500 dollars each year for this purpose during years 2019, 2020 and 2021 for a balance of \$22,500. Additionally, We have a balance of \$28,735.14 in the vest grant fund, and there exists a possibility that we will receive partial reimbursement through the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership, as we have in the past, but those monies have not been made available as of yet. The vests and vest carriers are from Baysinger's Uniform and Supply and cost \$44,550. The pouches are from Zero 9 Holsters and the cost will be \$4,613.40. Police Chief Steve Haulmark will report.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the purchase of the vests and vest carriers from Baysinger's Uniform and Supply for \$44,550 and to purchase the pouches from Zero 9 Holsters for \$4,613.40.

- 9. Pothole Patcher Truck:** We are looking to acquire a new patcher truck to replace our 1995 Ford ProPatch. Currently, the truck is out of service and will be going to the welding shop to have a patch that was placed in the hopper 2 to 3 years ago redone. We received 3 bids and the low bid was from H D Industries for \$162,622.96. Public Works Director Jason Cauley will report.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the low bid for the pothole patcher truck from H D Industries for \$162,622.96.

- 10. Ambulance Service Fees:** City Ordinance Chapter 13, Section 13.12.020 establishes the fee schedule for service provided. The current fees were established on 4/21/2014. Staff has conducted a survey of the surrounding Ambulance Service Charges as well as the allowable charges from Blue Cross and Blue Shield and Medicare. The results are shown on the attached chart. Fire Chief Luke McCormick will report.

Recommendation: Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 4368 establishing the fees for ambulance services.

- 11. Automated Meter Reading (AMR):** Reading meters at a fast enough pace to read the entire route within the billing cycle leads to errors in data entry, which in turn leads to re-reads and billing errors. An analysis of meter reads since April 2018 shows the average monthly billing estimations to be 17%, which equates to approximately 1037 estimations. We added another position in March 2019. That helped alleviate estimations, but accuracy did not improve. Hiring and retaining quality employees who are able to both quickly and accurately read meters has been a challenge. It is a stressful job that requires working in the elements for low pay. We have had utilized 8 different meter readers since adding the 2nd reader. Technology provides the answer to these recurring issues. Automated Meter Reading systems record the usage and send the readings via radio waves to a collector & computer system mounted in a vehicle. Those are then downloaded into the City's billing software. The entire town

could be read in less than 1 day. The original plan was to utilize the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to purchase the system. However, as the ARP funds were to be distributed in two tranches, we had already been preparing for an application to the Kansas Public Water Supply Loan Fund knowing that it would be necessary in order to initially cover costs. The loan would be a 20-year term with a fixed interest rate of 1.3% as of March 2021. City Administrator Kendal Francis will report.

Recommendation: Motion to move forward with the AMR project and setting a public hearing for June 21, 2021 at 6:30pm at 3111 10th Street.

12. Request for Executive Session: An executive session has been requested to discuss purchasing property for a new Law Enforcement Center pursuant to the preliminary discussion of the acquisition of real property exception, K.S.A. 75-431(b)(6).

Recommendation: Motion to recess into executive session for a period of 20 minutes to discuss purchasing property for a new Law Enforcement Center pursuant to the preliminary discussion of the acquisition of real property exception, K.S.A. 75-431(b)(6). The open meeting will resume at _____ p.m.

ADJOURNMENT