

GREAT BEND CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 2, 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 July 19, 2021.
- b) **Claim's Warrant Register 8-2-21:** Covering 2021 bills to date.
- c) **Payroll Register P/R 7-30-21:** Covering payroll ending July 24, 2021, in the amount of \$331,083.52.
- d) **Appointments:** Mayor Schmidt will make appointments as appropriate.
- e) **Street Closure:** Close the north half of Lakin Ave. from Main to Kansas from 7am to 11am on Saturday September 11, 2021, for the remembrance ceremony of 9/11.
- 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.

D. NEW BUSINESS

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

Recommendation: Informational item.

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

Recommendation: Informational item.

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

Recommendation: Informational item.

4. **Abatements:** Code Enforcement Arthur Keffer will present abatements.

Recommendation: Take action on abatements.

5. **Kansas Street Lane Diet:** In 2016, a master plan for a Barton County Bike/Pedestrian plan was approved by the city council. The plan has laid dormant since then. A subgroup of Be Well Barton County has been meeting to see what is possible in implementing the plan and increase the bicycle safety and friendliness of Great Bend. A selection of projects from the plan have been picked as "low hanging fruit" to begin the process. One such project that is suggested in the plan is Kansas Street be repainted from 16th to 24th from a 4 lane to 2 lanes with 5' bike lanes thus, a lane diet. This portion of Kansas Street is part of a larger planned route that would provide safe access for cyclists from the college into Great Bend. The group and city staff have been looking for outside funding for the project as to reduce and possibly eliminate the burden on the city financially. One such funding opportunity is the KATE grant from KDOT which is specific to alternate transportation. I am looking for the council's approval to alter the paint on Kansas Street to make room for the bike lanes. Once approved the group will begin the process of seeking outside funding for the project. Public Works Director Jason Cauley will report.

Recommendation: Motion to approve to alter the paint on Kansas Street to make room for bike lanes.

6. **Easement at the Airport:** The City has leased a portion of the airport apron to the Spray Brothers for the purpose of constructing a hangar project. Nextech is providing cable service to the hangar for computer services and other services. In order to do this, they must acquire an easement from the City to install the buried cable. Engineering has reviewed the easement and recommends

approval. Legal recommends that this easement be granted. City Attorney Robert Suelter will report.

Recommendation: Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the easement document be adopted.

7. **SRCA Dragstrip Discussion:** It has recently come to light that; issues exist with the finished racing surface on the newly reconstructed dragstrip that prevent the track from being utilized for racing. S.R.C.A. notified administration on July 21st that upon completion of the project, several "high spots" existed in the track's racing surface to such a degree that it caused dragsters to shake and their wheels to physically leave the racing surface. They described to me how they had been working with Suchy Construction to fix the problems. However, it was now to a point that they must hire a company, Total Venue Concepts (TVC) to professionally polish the concrete racing surface, and the cost is estimated to be approximately \$100,000. S.R.C.A. was prepared to hire the company to perform the work as they were the only company who could complete the work without forcing multiple race cancellations. However, as you know, the City recently provided a \$160,000, 10-year, interest free loan to the S.R.C.A to build permanent protective retaining walls on the outside edges of the race lanes and to upgrade their electronic timing system. The City covered the entirety of the cost of the project, \$274,320.78 (with 2 bills yet to be received) with the expectation that S.R.C.A would reimburse us up to the loan amount. S.R.C.A. does not have enough money to hire TVC and pay the City the additional monies owed. City Administrator Kendal Francis will report.

Recommendation: Take appropriate action.

ADJOURNMENT

WORK SESSION AGENDA 8/2/2021

1. Sales Tax Question Finalization