

City of Great Bend
March 15, 2021

REGULAR SESSION

The Governing Body met in Regular Session in the remodeled southwest room of the Events Center. Mayor Cody Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following present: Councilmembers Junior Welsch, Lindsey Krom-Craven, Davis Jimenez, Jolene Biggs, Cory Urban, and Alan Moeder. Absent was Councilmembers Brock McPherson and Kevyn Soupiset. Also in attendance were City Administrator Kendal Francis, City Attorney Robert Suelter, City Clerk/Finance Director Shawna Schafer.

OPENING: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Minutes:** Minutes of the Regular Session held on March 1, 2021.
- b) **Claim's Warrant Register 3-15-21:** Covering 2021 bills to date in the amount of \$560,283.00.
- c) **Payroll Register P/R 3-12-21:** Covering payroll ending March 6, 2021 in the amount of \$349,478.80.
- d) **Appointments:** Mayor Schmidt made no appointments.
- e) **Concession Lease:** Approve attached lease agreement with Jason Ward to operate the concession at the Great Bend Sports Complex.
- f) **Agenda:** Approval of agenda as submitted or amended.

Mr. Urban made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moeder and passed with all voting in favor.

B. OLD BUSINESS: There were no old business.

C. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no 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:** There were no councilmember reports.

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

3. **Abatements:** Property Maintenance Enforcement Manager Austin LaViolette presented the following abatements to the Governing Body:

- a. **14 3rd Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; furniture and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 14 3rd Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-A.
- b. **100 Walnut Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; tires, appliances, furniture, scrap metal, bike parts, broken bags of trash, and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 100 Walnut Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-B.
- c. **117 Maple Street:** There is an untagged or inoperable vehicle on real estate 117 Maple Street constituting a motor vehicle nuisance. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-C.
- d. **313 Kiowa Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; a tub, sink, table, and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 3113 Kiowa Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-D.
- e. **319 Kiowa Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; mattress and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 319 Kiowa Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 031521-E.
- f. **441 Evergreen Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; toilet, trash bags, and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 441 Evergreen Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 031521-F.
- g. **709 3rd Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; tires and general refuse that needs to be removed located 709 3rd Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-G.
- h. **908 Elm Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; an appliance, tires, and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 908 Elm Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 031521-H.
- i. **1015 8th Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; tires, construction material, and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1015 8th Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-I.
- j. **1110 Hubbard Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; tires, filing cabinets, desk, and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1110 Hubbard Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 031521-J.
- k. **1202 Adams Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; tires that needs to be removed located at 1202 Adams Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 031521-K.
- l. **1203 2nd Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; tires and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1203 2nd Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 031521-L.

- m. **1203 Madison Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; construction debris that needs to be removed located at 1203 Madison Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 031521-M.
- n. **1206 Frey Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; tires and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1206 Frey Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 031521-N.
- o. **1207 Lincoln Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; pallets and construction debris that needs to be removed located at 1207 Lincoln Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 031521-O.
- p. **1210 Morton Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; branch pile that needs to be removed located at 1210 Morton Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-P.
- q. **1221 Wilson Street:** There is a yellow Ford van on the property that is not displaying current registration and/or is not in operable condition on real estate 1221 Wilson Street constituting a motor vehicle nuisance. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-Q.
- r. **1308 Morphy Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; a couch, mattress, and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1308 Morphy Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-R.
- s. **1416 9th Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; pallets and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1416 9th Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-S.
- t. **1423 11th Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; tires and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1423 11th Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-T.
- u. **1520 Hubbard Street:** There are several untagged or inoperable vehicles on real estate 1520 Hubbard Street constituting a motor vehicle nuisance. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-U.
- v. **1807 Stone Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; tires, plastic containers, tarps, scrap wood and metal, furniture, construction material, and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1807 Stone Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-V.
- w. **2312 8th Street:** There is an untagged or inoperable vehicle on real estate 2312 8th Street constituting a motor vehicle nuisance. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-W.
- x. **2532 11th Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; an appliance that needs to be removed located at 2532 11th Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-X.
- y. **2720 20th Street:** There is a grey pickup on the property that is not displaying current registration and/or is not in operable condition on real estate 2720 20th Street constituting a motor vehicle nuisance. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-Y.
- z. **5818 Hemlock Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; a recliner that needs to be removed located at 5818 Hemlock Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-Z.

- aa. 5943 Birchwood Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; pallets, toilet, construction debris, and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 5943 Birchwood Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 031521-AA.

Ms. Biggs a motion to approve Resolution Numbers 031521A-AA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welsch and passed with all voting in favor.

- 6. Memorial Fund Donation:** Fire Chief Luke McCormick reported that on September 28, 2019, the Great Bend Fire Department responded to a residence on fire. Upon arrival Captain Matthew Petersen and Firefighter Brandon Werth entered the structure where they found Lawrence Rziha still inside. Unfortunately, Mr. Rziha passed away from his injuries sustained during the fire. The family of Mr. Rziha donated memorial funds in his honor to the Great Bend Fire Department to use towards equipment purchases. In December 2020, the Fire Department chose to add an additional Thermal Imaging Camera to our inventory. The department used funds from the memorial in the amount of \$1,545 to assist with the overall purchase price of \$5,800.
- 7. Nepotism Policy:** Human Resources Director Randy Keasling reported that the City continues to have challenges filling staffing in certain areas. In an effort to help with staffing shortages, we are proposing to amend the Nepotism Policy to allow for family members to be hired in certain circumstances. The Police Department had an interview last week where the candidate is a brother to a current police officer. This individual is qualified for the job, but the City is not able to hire him due to our current nepotism policy. Councilmember Biggs questioned whether we are wanting to change the policy to accommodate an existing staff members situation or for staffing. Councilmember Krom-Craven questioned why we would take out the clause where family members would not be allowed to serve on the executive team. She also wanted clarification if these family members would be able to be placed on the same shift or not. Randy responded that we could certainly leave the clause about the executive team in the policy and that we would not permanently place family members on the same shift. There may be times where the individuals would be called back to work for staffing requirements but that would only be temporarily. Mr. Welsh made a motion to approve the amended nepotism policy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moeder and failed by a vote of 2-4, with Ms. Krom-Craven, Mr. Jimenez, Ms. Biggs, and Mr. Urban voting no. Ms. Krom-Craven then made a motion to approve the amended policy but to leave in the clause about not allowing family members on the executive team and to include clarification about family members not being placed on the same shift. The motion was seconded by Ms. Biggs and passed by a vote of 5-1, with Mr. Jimenez voting no.
- 8. Replacement Docks:** Public Lands Director Scott Keeler reported that the docks at Stone Lake and Vets Lake were last rebuilt in 1996 and around 1999, respectively. The floats were reused at that time with new wood. Since then, both have continued to age, and need replaced. Staff researched and compared the cost to rebuild both docks verse purchasing from a manufacturer. EZ Docks were the most cost-effective meeting ADA Standards and providing the best warranty for a total cost of \$34,299.20. In 2020, the City transferred at year end \$50,000 for park maintenance. Mr. Urban made a motion approve the purchase of 2 docks from EZ Docks for a total cost of \$34,299.20. The motion was seconded by Ms. Biggs and passed with all voting in favor.

9. **SRCA Change Order:** City Administrator Kendal Francis reported that the contractors uncovered a large area of saturated base soils that were too wet to provide a solid base on which to pour the new concrete. The soils with time would have dried naturally. However, in order to prevent lengthy project delays, we chose to authorize contractors to incorporate fly ash into the soils to artificially dry it and make it a solid base for construction. The cost of the additional material and labor is \$19,472.40. Additionally, we made the decision to replace an additional 18' of concrete approach to lessen the degree of slope when transitioning from concrete approach to the actual dragstrip. The ground clearance on race cars is so minute that too drastic of a slope change can cause them to bottom out and damage the undersides of the vehicle. The cost of this change is \$8,525.00. Mr. Urban made a motion to approve the dragstrip change order for Suchy Construction in the amount of \$27,997.40. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welsch and passed with all voting in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Krom-Craven made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Welsch seconded this motion and passed with all voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm.