

REGULAR SESSION

The Governing Body met in Regular Session in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Cody Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following presents: Councilmembers, Alan Moeder, Kevyn Soupiset, Jolene Biggs, Davis Jimenez, Lindsey Krom-Craven, and Natalie Towns. Absent were councilmembers Brock McPherson and Cory Urban. Also in attendance were City Administrator Brandon Anderson, Assistant City Administrator Logan Burns, City Attorney Allen Glendenning, and City Clerk Shawna Schafer.

OPENING: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Minutes:** Minutes of the Special Session held on June 19, 2023.
- b) **Claim's Warrant Register 7-3-23:** Covering 2023 bills to date in the amount of \$1,436,263.94.
- c) **Payroll Register P/R 6-30-23:** Covering payroll ending June 24, 2023, in the amount of \$379,396.92.
- d) **Appointments:** Mayor Schmidt made no appointments.
- e) **Street Closure:** Close McKinley and 17th Street Terrace starting at 9:50am for the wet/dry parade on August 12, 2023, for Party in the Park.
- f) **Street Closure:** Close 17th Street Terrace west of McKinley to White Sands Drive after the parade to midnight to utilize for extra parking and allow one-way traffic to be directed to the west on August 12, 2023, for Party in the Park.
- g) **Party in the Park Fireworks Display:** Allow the discharge of fireworks in Vets Park on Saturday August 12, 2023, by contracted officials starting around 10:00pm.
- h) **Non-Street Legal Cars:** Allow non-street legal cars that are local car club affiliated to be able to preregister and travel no more than 12 blocks to get to the Party in the Park Car Show on August 12, 2023, for Party in the Park.
- i) **CMB Beer:** Allow CMB Beer (no bottles or glass) in Al Burns Field for the Concert with help of Legion Riders and GBPD as additional security on August 12, 2023, for Party in the Park.
- j) **Vets Park Curfew Extension:** Authorize people to be in Vets Park past midnight on Saturday August 12, 2023, for cleanup of the Park in the Park event.
- k) **Police and Fire Training Agreement:** Authorize the Mayor to sign the mutual release between the City and Great Bend Economic Development that will allow city firefighters and police to engage in training in the old hotel adjacent to the Event Center before it is torn down.
- l) **Agenda:** Approval of consent agenda as submitted.

Mr. Moeder made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Biggs seconded the motion and passed with all voting in favor.

B. OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

C. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were 3 visitors'.

- 1.) Janice Walker addressed Council about the League of Women Voters. Save the date for July 16 at KS Wetlands Education Center for a meeting on "An Introduction to Alternate Voting Methods".
- 2.) Mariah Starnes addressed the Governing Body about backyard chickens.
- 3.) Kathryn Schaffner addressed the Governing Body about backyard chickens.
- 4.) Brent Cox addressed the Governing Body about backyard chickens.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Councilmember Reports:** There were no Councilmember reports.
2. **Interim Administrators Update:** Interim City Administrator Logan Burns presented an update on what is happening within the City organization.
3. **Economic Development Report:** Economic Development Inc. President Sara Arnberger presented her monthly report.
4. **Abatements:** Code Enforcement Art Keffer presented the following abatements.
 - A. **1114 Holland St:** There is trash and refuse on the property including, but not limited to: bikes, tires, pieces of metal, pallets, tree branches, and other refuse and that said Unlawful Accumulation constitutes a nuisance pursuant to Section 8.08.110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Great Bend, Kansas. This real estate is located at 1114 Holland St. and is the subject of Resolution Number 070323-A.

Mr. Soupiset made a motion to approve Resolutions 070323A. Ms. Krom-Craven seconded the motion and passed with all voting in favor.

Mr. Moeder and other councilmembers addressed Art Keffer about concerns about the abatement process.

5. **Unsafe & Dangerous Structure – 301 Chestnut:** Assistant City Administrator Logan Burns reported that an investigation was conducted among several entities on June 26, 2023 at 301 Chestnut. During the investigation, the Health Department noted rubbish/trash, feces and large number of roaches throughout the inside of the property along with several dogs and cats that were taken from the property by the Barton County Humane Society. The conclusion of the BCHD was that the condition of the residence was found to be a threat to the health of the public and may be injurious to the health of any inhabitation. The building inspector noted in his letter multiple violations of the Uniform Housing Code that include lack of bathroom facilities, lack of kitchen sink, lack of hot and cold running water to plumbing fixtures and infestation of

insects. Both of these letters are attached for your reference. This resolution sets a public hearing date of August 21, 2023 at 6:30 PM at the City Council Chambers. Ms. Biggs made a motion to approve Resolution 070323-B, setting the public hearing for an unsafe & dangerous structure at 301 Chestnut. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moeder and passed with all voting in favor.

- 6. Wayfinding Signs:** Community Coordinator Christina Hayes reported that one of the City's Strategic Plan goals was to replace all the wayfinding signs in town so that they look cohesive with our welcome signs and create inviting directional signage to the points of interest and city locations. The CVB Advisory Board was instructed to make a plan and \$50,000 was saved last year to pay for them. Included in the packet are the sample signs, estimate from Marks Custom Signs for \$44,950 and locations picked for each of the signs. This signage plan still includes the other entrances to the town – therefore we will continue to save to pay for signs that match at all the entrances. We choose locations based off car counts provided by KDOT. Mr. Soupiset made a motion to approve the estimate from Marks Custom Signs for \$44,950 for the Wayfinding Signs throughout the City. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jimenez and passed with all voting in favor.

- 7. Waterline Improvement at the Airport:** Public Works Director Jason Cauley reported that the Armory has been in the process of getting bids and working with city representatives to develop a plan to improve the water service to its facilities to allow for an expansion and addition of the current building. We will incur no cost for this improvement with the Federal Government paying for the upgrade. Once the waterline is finished it will be handed over to the city and become part of our system. We are seeking approval to allow the Armory to make additions to our system that would be beneficial for both us and the Armory. It will help with circulation of the system and improve water flow in the farthest part of the water system. Mr. Moeder made a motion to allow the improvements to the water system at the airport. The motion was seconded by Mr. Soupiset and passed with all voting in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Soupiset made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Biggs seconded the motion and passed with all voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.