

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, Alan Moeder, and Brock McPherson. Also in attendance were City Administrator Kendal Francis, City Attorney Robert Suelter and City Clerk/Finance Director Shawna Schafer. Absent was Kevyn Soupiset.

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 in the amount of \$1,352,531.28.
- 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 appointed Katy Schmidt to the Great Bend Public Library Board.
- 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:** Mayor Schmidt amended the agenda to add the acceptance of the FAA grant for the airport after item #6.

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

B. OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

C. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no visitors or 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. Kendal said the plan is to move Council meetings back to the City Building starting with on September 20th.
3. **Economic Development Report:** Economic Development Inc. President Sara Hayden was representing the City at an out of town conference but she provided Mayor Schmidt with some information that was handed out to Council.
4. **Abatements:** Code Enforcement Arthur Keffer presented abatements.
 - A. **1912 Williams St:** There is a white colored passenger car on the property that is not displaying current registration, and/or is not in operable condition located at 1912 Williams St constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 080221-A.
 - B. **1211 Taft:** There is trash and refuse on the property including, but not limited to: garden tools, indoor furniture, lumber and general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1211 Taft constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 080221-B.
 - C. **2624 24th:** There is trash and refuse on the property including, but not limited to: tires without rims that needs to be removed located at 2624 24th constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 080221-C.
 - D. **701 3rd St:** There is trash and refuse on the property including, but not limited to: fallen trees and branch piles that needs to be removed located at 701 3rd St constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 080221-D.
 - E. **2421 12th St:** There is trash and refuse on the property including, but not limited to trash bags, carpeting and other refuse that needs to be removed located at 2421 12th St. constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 080221-E.
 - F. **1445 2nd St:** There is trash and refuse on the property including, but not limited to a couch and other refuse that needs to be removed located at 1445 2nd St. constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 080221-F.
 - G. **221 Holland:** There is trash and refuse on the property including, but not limited to indoor furniture, appliances, water heaters and other refuse that needs to be removed located at 221 Holland constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 080221-G.
 - H. **1723 3rd St:** There is trash and refuse on the property including, but not limited to cabinets, cardboard boxes and other refuse that needs to be removed located at 1723 3rd St constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is the subject of Resolution Number 080221-H.

Mr. Urban made a motion to approve Resolution Numbers 080221A-H. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welsch and passed with all voting in favor.

5. **Kansas Street Lane Diet:** Public Works Director Jason Cauley reported that 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. Ms. Biggs made a motion to alter the paint on Kansas Street to make room for bike lanes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Urban and passed by a vote of 6-1, with Mr. McPherson voting no.

- 6. Easement at the Airport:** City Attorney Robert Suelter reported that 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. Mr. Moeder made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the easement document be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welsch with 6 voting in favor and Ms. Krom-Craven abstaining
- 7. Accept FAA Grant for Airport:** City Attorney Robert Suelter reported that the Federal Aviation Administration has informed the city of a grant for limited purposes in the amount of \$59,000. The grant, if accepted, will make funds available to the City for the purposes of preventing, preparing for and responding to the coronavirus pandemic. The city must accept the grant and notify the FAA not later than August 25, 2021. In order to qualify for the use of the funds, the City must authorize the Mayor to sign the acceptance of the grant. Ms. Biggs made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the grant document accepting the Airport Rescue Grant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moeder and passed with all voting in favor.
- 8. SRCA Dragstrip Discussion:** City Administrator Kendal Francis reported that 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. After much discussion by Aaron Suchy, Contractor, and Joel Kroschell, Engineer, the item will be brought back to council after final costs have been determined.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Welsch made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Biggs seconded this motion and passed by a vote of 6-1, with Mr. McPherson voting no. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm.