

City Commission of Arkansas City - Regular Meeting Minutes

The Arkansas City Board of City Commissioners met in regular session at **5:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 2, 2021**, in the Commission Room at City Hall, located at 118 W. Central Ave.

Vice Mayor **Kanyon Gingher** called the meeting to order. Commissioners also present at roll call were Commissioner **Duane L. Oestmann**, Commissioner **Jay Warren** and Commissioner **Karen Welch**. Mayor **Scott Rogers** was absent.

City employees present were City Manager **Randy Frazer**, City Attorney **Larry Schwartz**, City Clerk **Lesley Shook**, Public Information Officer **Andrew Lawson**, Management Assistant **Mike Crandall** and Police Chief **Eric Burr**.

Citizens observing in person were **Candace Hendricks, Paisley Howerton, Molly Kuhn, Diana Spielman** and **Harrison Taylor**.

Commissioner Warren offered the opening prayer. Vice Mayor Gingher led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Welch made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Oestmann seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion.

Vice Mayor Gingher declared the agenda **approved** as presented.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Oestmann made a motion to approve the consent agenda, consisting of the following:

1. Approving the **October 19, 2021**, regular meeting minutes as written.

Commissioner Welch seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion.

Vice Mayor Gingher declared the consent agenda **approved** as presented.

City Manager's Report on Upcoming Activities

City Manager Frazer provided the commissioners with the following reminders and updates:

- 4 Friends Events, LLC will be host to a **Craft & Country Holiday Show** from **10 a.m. to 3 p.m. November 6** at the Agri-Business Building, located at 712 W. Washington Ave.
- The next **RISE Cowley** quarterly coalition meeting will be at **10 a.m. November 9** in the conference room at Four County Mental Health, located at 22214 D St. in Strother Field.

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- The next monthly **Cowley County Legislative Committee** meeting will be at **noon November 9** at the Winfield Area Chamber of Commerce office, located at 123 E. Ninth Ave.
- The League of Kansas Municipalities will offer a **Municipal Training Institute** course on **November 9**. Frazer said this training would be good for any newly elected commissioner.
- The League of Kansas Municipalities' **2021 League Legislative Dinner** is **November 10** in South Hutchinson. Frazer said interested commissioners should sign up through the City.
- City Hall and other City offices will be closed **November 11** in observance of **Veterans Day**.
- The next **City Commission** study session is at **noon November 12** in his office at City Hall.
- There will be a **Veterans Day parade** at **11 a.m. November 13** in downtown Arkansas City.
- **Community Development Block Grant** representatives will visit Arkansas City on **November 23** as part of the last steps for the City's housing rehabilitation grant application.
- The **Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce** will be host to a reception for area elected officials from **5:30 to 7:30 p.m. November 22** at Mark Arts, located at 1307 N. Rock Road.

Other Business

Public Information Officer Lawson reported on recent staff conversations with the **Arkansas City High School FFA** chapter regarding their plans to raise funds to construct a new sidewalk at ACHS.

City Manager Frazer presented information about the **Kansas Main Street** program and led a discussion with the commissioners about the possible merits of supporting the program locally.

He said the Main Street approach is a preservation-based economic development tool that is comprehensive and incremental. It is based on assets and utilizing existing resources, such as architecture, personal service offered by local businesses, and a sense of place/traditional values.

The four main points are **organization, design, promotion** and **economic vitality**. It establishes consensus and cooperation between the public and private sectors, helps to develop volunteers, makes sure the local organization is solvent, and provides communication and public relations.

The promotional goal is re-establishing downtown as a compelling place to shop, visit and invest, while also marketing downtown's unique characteristics through retail promotional activities, special events and image development. Design-wise, the goal is enhancing downtown's visual quality and appeal, including buildings and storefronts, signage, window displays, and Streetscape.

For economic vitality, the goal is to sharpen the overall competitiveness of downtown through market-based business retention and recruitment efforts, entrepreneurial development, business planning and succession planning, and various financial incentives and capital for development.

Also participating in the discussion were Arkansas City Area Chamber of Commerce CEO **Paisley Howerton**, plus Main Street planning committee members **Candace Hendricks** and **Molly Kuhn**.

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Adjournment

Commissioner Warren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Oestmann seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion.

Vice Mayor Gingher declared the meeting adjourned at **6:02 p.m.**

**THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS**

Kanyon Gingher, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

Lesley Shook, City Clerk

Prepared by:

Andrew Lawson, Public Information Officer