

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, July 6, 2021**, in the Commission Room at City Hall, located at 118 W. Central Ave. in Arkansas City.

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

City employees present at the meeting were City Manager **Randy Frazer**, City Attorney **Larry Schwartz**, City Clerk **Lesley Shook**, Public Information Officer **Andrew Lawson**, Management Assistant **Mike Crandall**, Accountant **Amy Roberts**, Interim Fire Chief **Les Parks**, Public Services Superintendent **Tony Tapia**, Building Official **Mike Bellis**, Principal Planner **Josh White** and Administrative Assistant **Terice Watts**.

Arkansas City Police Department personnel in attendance were Interim Police Chief **Eric Burr**; Captain **Jim Holloway**; Lieutenants **Jason Legleiter** and **Kevyn Ternes**; Sergeants **Nelson Douglas, Chase Hobart** and **Travis Stroud**; Master Police Officers **Corey Combs, Matt Mayo, Jeremy Samson, Cori Tuxhorn** and **Ivan Velazquez**; Police Officers **Rick Bennett, Madison Pickett** and **Jeff Wilson**; Public Service Officer **Eric Gross**; Administrative Assistant **Jeni McGee**; and Records Specialist **Shanelle Parks**.

Citizens attending in person or observing via GoToMeeting were **Jeff Bowman, Linda Bradley, Kelsie Burr, Mason Burr, Rebecca Burr, Brittany Carder, Pam Crain, Christian Fazel, Chad Giles, Ken Harader, Paisley Howerton, Shayla McDonald, Bill Rhiley, Arleta Rice, Diana Spielman, Amber Samson, Harrison Taylor, Shona Turner** and CourierTraveler reporter **John Shelman**.

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

Approval of the Agenda

At Commissioner Oestmann's request, Mayor Rogers made a motion to amend the agenda by removing **Item 6** from the **Consent Agenda** and making it the new **Item 1** under **New Business**.

Commissioner Oestmann seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the agenda **amended** as requested and **approved** as amended.

Recognition of Visitors

City Manager Frazer addressed the commissioners, praising and officially promoting Interim **Police Chief Eric Burr** to become the newest Police Chief of the Arkansas City Police Department.

Following his promotion, Burr's children, Kelsie and Mason Burr, pinned his new chief's pins on his uniform and City Clerk Shook administered his chief's oath of honor in front of the commissioners.

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Burr thanked the commissioners for their confidence in him, credited former police chief Dan Ward for setting the department on an excellent path and pledged to maintain that momentum forward.

Consent Agenda

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

1. Approving the **June 15, 2021**, regular meeting minutes as amended.
2. Approving **Resolution No. 2021-07-3416**, authorizing a public meeting of the Governing Body to attend a Land Bank Board of Trustees meeting at **5 p.m. Tuesday, July 20, 2021**, in the Commission Room at City Hall, located at 118 W. Central Ave. in Arkansas City.
3. Approving **Resolution No. 2021-07-3417**, authorizing a **Resolution of Support** by the City Commission for expansion of Amtrak passenger rail service in Kansas and Oklahoma.
4. Approving **Resolution No. 2021-07-3418**, authorizing the City to accept a proposal submitted by Smith Construction, of Wichita, to purchase exterior metal wall panel installation material to replace Central Shop siding, for an amount not to exceed **\$17,202.00**.
5. Ratifying Mayor Rogers' appointment of **Joni Curl** to the **Community Spirit Award Committee**.

Commissioner Gingher seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the consent agenda **approved** as presented.

New Business

SCKMC Board Appointments

Mayor Rogers presented for discussion SCK Health's recommended appointments of **Brittany Carder** and **Bob Mathews** to the **South Central Kansas Medical Center Board of Trustees**.

Commissioner Oestmann said he resigned from the SCKMC board on **June 24** due his concerns over the availability of public information and how long it was taking to rotate commissioners off.

He said he was OK with the recommendation of Carder, but expressed concerns about how effective Mathews might be as a trustee. He asked City Attorney Schwartz for his recommendation.

Schwartz said the proposed action tonight would bring the board into compliance with **Charter Ordinance No. 35**, which limits the board to no more than two city commissioners as members.

Commissioner Warren disagreed with Oestmann and said he supported both recommendations. He accepted one-quarter of the responsibility for the membership change's not occurring until now.

Commissioner Warren made a motion to appoint Brittany Carder and Bob Mathews to the South Central Kansas Medical Center Board of Trustees. Commissioner Gingher seconded the motion.

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A voice vote resulted in **four yea votes** and **one nay vote**, with Commissioner Oestmann casting the lone dissenting vote. Mayor Rogers declared the motion **approved**.

Old Business

Multimodal Transportation Master Plan Resolution No. 2021-07-3419

City Clerk Shook presented for discussion a second reading of a resolution approving an agreement between the City and **TranSystems Corporation**, of Wichita, for Professional Services to design and construct a **Multimodal Transportation Master Plan** for the City, utilizing Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas Pathways to a Healthy Kansas grant funds, for an amount not to exceed **\$25,000.00**.

Public Information Officer Lawson said the Traffic Safety Committee meeting had a special virtual meeting on July 28 to work through the agreement and make adjustments to the scope.

He passed out a summary of the changes and said the agreement would be amended to include them. Based on this, Lawson said he was confident the revised scope would address all concerns.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas and its technical advisors are both comfortable with the revisions.

If the revised agreement is approved, Lawson said the work would kick off at the Traffic Safety Committee meeting on **July 16**. While TranSystems gathers, collects and analyzes data, the City will be responsible for surveying citizens, convening public meetings and collecting other forms of community engagement to go into this plan. He emphasized this is the first step in a long process.

Commissioner Welch said she agreed that the revised scope agreement will work well for the City.

Commissioner Oestmann made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Welch seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the resolution **approved** and given **Resolution No. 2021-07-3419**.

New Business (cont.)

Budgeted Pay Plan for 2021 Ordinance No. 2021-07-4535

City Clerk Shook presented for discussion a first reading of an ordinance adopting the budgeted pay plan for **2021**, fixing the compensation of employees of the City pursuant to the provision of **K.S.A. 14-1501 et seq.**, and repealing **Ordinance No. 2021-06-4532**.

City Manager Frazer said the pay ordinance needs to be amended to add a Fire-EMS Department job title and position of **Part-Time Firefighter/Paramedic**, which will be in **Pay Range 26F**.

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Interim Fire Chief Parks said this will improve ACFD's flexibility in hiring part-time employees.

Commissioner Gingher made a motion to approve the ordinance as presented. Mayor Rogers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the ordinance **approved** and given **Ordinance No. 2021-07-4535**.

Other Business

Mayor Rogers suggested a special joint study session on Paris Park Pool with the Arkansas City Recreation Commission. The commissioners picked **noon July 27** at the Water Treatment Facility.

Mayor Rogers then thanked City staff for their hard work over the past couple of weeks to repair West Washington Avenue and provide a safe Fourth of July weekend for the community.

City Manager's Report on Upcoming Activities

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

- He asked for a special call budget meeting to get more direction on the 2022 budget. The commissioners decided to schedule this special call meeting at **8 a.m. July 9** in his office.
- Frazer passed out copies of the final Housing Assessment Tool (HAT) report and said the City's Housing Inter-Agency Committee (HIAC) meeting would be a virtual meeting from **1 to 2:30 p.m. July 21**. Commissioner Warren asked about the 2020 Census and Public Information Officer Lawson said the data will not be released until **August 16** at the earliest.
- Frazer updated commissioners on the stormwater culvert failure on Washington Avenue.
- The **Ark City Community Band** will finish its historic 150th consecutive season with concerts starting at **7:30 p.m. July 8** and **7 p.m. July 15** under the rotunda at Wilson Park. The **July 15** concert will be a special 150th anniversary event featuring two 312th Army Band ensembles; former conductor Gary Gackstatter, who will debut and conduct an original piece composed specifically for this occasion; free hot dogs and dessert for concert-goers, sponsored by the Arkansas City Area Chamber of Commerce; and free fireworks following the concert, thanks to a special V.J. Wilkins Foundation grant. (**NOTE: This concert was later moved to Arkansas City High School due to the weather and fireworks were postponed.**)
- The Arkansas City Police Department, Arkansas City Recreation Center, RISE Cowley and Safe Kids Cowley County will be host to the inaugural "**Light Up the Night Family Bike Ride**" from **8 to 9 p.m. July 9** at Poplar Trail, located at 925 E. Poplar Ave. This event is free and open to the public. Police Chief Burr talked a little about ACPD's plans for the event.
- The **Arkansas City Farm and Art Market** will continue its 2021 season from **4 to 6:30 p.m. July 13 and July 20** at Wilson Park. Its season will continue Tuesdays through September.
- The next **RISE Cowley quarterly coalition meeting** will be at **10 a.m. July 13** at the Water Treatment Facility, located at 400 W. Madison Ave. The City will be hosting this meeting.

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- The next monthly Cowley County Legislative Committee meeting is at **noon July 13** at the Winfield Area Chamber of Commerce office, located at 123 E. Ninth Ave.
- The City's **150th Celebration** (*sesquicentennial*) will kick off with a downtown block party from **5 to 10 p.m. July 14** in the 100 block of South Summit Street in downtown Ark City.
- The monthly **Cowley Indoor Market** will have a special 150th Celebration event from **5 to 8 p.m. July 14** at Burford Theatre Arts, located at 118 S. Summit St. in downtown Ark City.
- The next quarterly **Traffic Safety Committee meeting** will be at **10 a.m. July 16** at USD 470's Avery Learning Center, 2500 N. 15th St. This meeting will kick off the City's Multimodal Transportation Master Planning process.
- The next City Commission study session will be at **noon July 16** in the city manager's office.
- The 150th Celebration will continue with a special **1976 Bicentennial time capsule opening and dedication event** at **1 p.m. July 16** on the front lawn of City Hall.
- The 150th action then will migrate back north to Wilson Park with a **7 p.m. concert** by Bad Mechanix and BackRhodes, presented by Burford Theatre Arts, which will operate a beer garden from **6 to 11 p.m. July 16**.
- The **2021 Tacolalah Festival** presented by United Agency will be from **10 a.m. to 10 p.m. July 17** at Wilson Park, including a Color Run at **9 a.m.**, the Cowley Indoor Market from **9 a.m. to 6 p.m.**, a beer and margarita garden from **4 to 10 p.m.**, and food vendors, musical entertainment, dancers, arts and crafts, and games and activities all day!
- The **2020 Joe B. Avery Community Spirit Award** will be presented around **12:15 p.m. July 17** on the Tacolalah stage under the Wilson Park rotunda.
- The 150th Celebration concludes with a community praise and worship service at **11 a.m. July 18** at Wilson Park, followed by free hamburgers from Creekstone and Visit Ark City.
- The City Commission will convene as the Land Bank Board of Trustees at **5 p.m. July 20** in the commission room at City Hall, prior to its next regular meeting at **5:30 p.m. July 20**.

Adjournment

Commissioner Warren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Rogers seconded the motion.

A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the meeting adjourned at **6:15 p.m.**

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THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS

Scott Rogers, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lesley Shook, City Clerk

Prepared by:

Andrew Lawson, Public Information Officer