

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, May 18, 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 Commissioner **Kanyon Gingher**, Commissioner **Duane L. Oestmann** and Commissioner **Jay Warren**. Commissioner **Karen Welch** was absent while recovering from surgery.

City employees present at the meeting were City Manager **Randy Frazer**, City Attorney **Larry Schwartz**, Deputy City Clerk **Amanda Evinger**, Public Information Officer **Andrew Lawson**, Management Assistant **Mike Crandall**, Interim Police Chief **Eric Burr**, Public Services Superintendent **Tony Tapia**, Building Official **Mike Bellis** and IT Manager **Matthew Metzinger**.

Arkansas City Fire-EMS Department personnel in attendance were Interim Fire Chief **Les Parks**, EMS Director **Jeri Smith**, Capt. **Justin Parks**, Lt. **Jon Clawson**, Firefighter-Paramedic **Josh Bowker**, and Firefighter-Emergency Medical Technicians **Daniel Goubeaux** and **Brayden Krepps**.

Citizens in attendance or observing via GoToMeeting were **Ken Harader**, **Sue Lancaster**, **Harrison Taylor** and Cowley CourierTraveler reporter **John Shelman**.

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

Approval of the Agenda

At City Manager Frazer's request, Commissioner Oestmann made a motion to amend the agenda by adding a request for unpledged sales tax funds by **SCK Health** as **Item 2** under **New Business**.

Mayor Rogers seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the agenda **amended** as requested. Commissioner Gingher then made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Oestmann seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the agenda **approved** as amended.

Awards and Proclamations

Mayor Rogers issued a proclamation that **May 16-22, 2021**, is **National EMS Week** in Arkansas City. Interim Fire Chief **Les Parks** received a copy of the proclamation on behalf of the Arkansas City Fire-EMS Department. The commissioners shook hands with all the ACFD personnel present.

Consent Agenda

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

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1. Approving the **May 4, 2021**, regular meeting minutes as amended.
2. Approving **Resolution No. 2021-05-3409**, authorizing the City to accept a proposal submitted by Schmucker Lumber, of Inman, to purchase metal roofing material to replace the roof at the Public Services Department central shop, for an amount not to exceed **\$22,906.10**.

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

New Business

Right of First Refusal of Sale **Resolution No. 2021-05-3410**

Deputy City Clerk Evinger presented for discussion a resolution authorizing the City to waive right of first refusal on properties located at **509 W. Maple Ave., 1304 N. 12th St. and 1402 N. 15th St.**

City Manager Frazer said that back when these properties were transferred to Creative Community Living (CCL) of South Central Kansas, Inc., they were subject to the City's right of first refusal to purchase the properties prior to conveyance to a third party.

He said the City has no use for the properties as this time and stands no gain by exercising the right of first refusal and/or purchase of the properties, so he recommends waiving the City's right.

Commissioner Oestmann made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Mayor Rogers seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the resolution **approved** and given **Resolution No. 2021-05-3410**.

SCK Health Funds Request

Deputy City Clerk Evinger presented for discussion consideration of a request from SCK Health for release of funds from the **Unpledged Health Care Sales Tax Fund** in the amount of **\$287,704.26**.

Commissioner Gingher made a motion to approve the request, which will be used to offset the costs of charity care and a new piece of mammography equipment. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor. Mayor Rogers declared the request **approved**.

City Manager's Report on Upcoming Activities

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

- He passed out **South Central Kansas Housing Toolkit** copies for commissioners to review.

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- The League of Kansas Municipalities' (LKM) **Leadership Summit and Kansas Mayors Conference** is **June 18-19** in Lawrence. Interested commissioners can contact him about it.
- The City of Arkansas City and U.S. Census Bureau will be co-hosts to an **Ark City Chamber of Commerce coffee** at **10 a.m. May 20** in the Water Treatment Facility conference room.
- Following this coffee, the Census Bureau will offer **free 2020 Census data training sessions** at **11 a.m. and 2 p.m. May 20**, also in the Water Treatment Facility conference room.
- The next **City Commission study session** will be at **noon May 28** in the commission room.
- The **Cowley Outdoor Market** will return to Wilson Park from **9 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 29**.
- The seventh annual **Bobby Estus Memorial Bike Ride** will return to Memorial Day weekend from **9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 29** on the Hike-Bike Trail. Cyclists will depart **Veterans Memorial Lake**, located at 803 W. Taylor Ave., at **10 a.m.** and ride the trail to **Paris Park**, located at 210 S. Sixth St., where a free lunch will be served. Bikes, tricycles, wagons and strollers are welcome at this free event!
- City Hall and all other City offices will be closed **May 31** for **Memorial Day**. There will be no recycling available **May 28-29** at the Joint Recycling Operations Center in Strother Field.
- The **Arkansas City Farm and Art Market** will kick off its 2021 season from **4 to 7 p.m. June 1** at the Wilson Park rotunda. The season will continue each Tuesday through September.

Department Reports

Interim Police Chief Burr presented the Arkansas City Police Department's **annual report for 2020**.

He highlighted recent hires and promotions, changes to training due to the COVID-19 pandemic, calls for service and self-initiated activities such as traffic stops, follow-up investigations, decreases in crime rates and traffic accidents, uses of force, vehicle pursuits, budget trends, and mental health.

Commissioner Warren asked why ACPD's call volume is so high and Burr said Ark City's police are very motivated to self-initiate activity. Commissioner Warren asked if things are going better now with the dispatchers at Cowley County Emergency Communications. Burr said he thinks they are.

Management Assistant Crandall provided updates on the **Brad Meek/Hillside Additions Water Line Replacement Project**, and the planned replacement of the **South Summit railroad crossing**.

Executive Session

Mayor Rogers made a motion to recess into a **seven-minute executive session** to discuss **personnel matters of nonelected personnel** with City Attorney **Larry Schwartz** and City Manager **Randy Frazer**, pursuant to **K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1)**, to discuss the **Police Chief position**, with the open meeting set to resume at **6:32 p.m.**

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Commissioner Oestmann seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. The executive session began at **6:25 p.m.** and ended at **6:32 p.m.** Afterward, the commissioners reconvened in the Commission Room. No action was taken following the session.

Adjournment

Commissioner Oestmann 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 **6:32 p.m.**

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

Scott Rogers, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lesley Shook, City Clerk

Prepared by:

Andrew Lawson, Public Information Officer