

# 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, August 17, 2021**, in the Commission Room at City Hall, located at 118 W. Central Ave. in Ark 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 were City Manager **Randy Frazer**, City Attorney **Larry Schwartz**, Deputy City Clerk **Amanda Evinger**, Public Information Officer **Andrew Lawson**, Management Assistant **Mike Crandall**, Environmental Services Superintendent **Rod Philo**, Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor **Tommy Bowman** and Fire-EMS Department Administrative Assistant **Kacie Gosselin**.

Arkansas City Police Department personnel in attendance were Police Chief **Eric Burr**, Sgt. **Travis Stroud**, Master Police Officer **Cori Tuxhorn** and Police Officer **Madeline Pegorsch**.

**Burns & McDonnell** was represented **Jeff Keller**. **Travis Stryker** represented **CAS Constructors**.

Citizens observing in person or via GoToMeeting were **Donna Kunkel, Diana Spielman, 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

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

## Awards and Proclamations

Mayor Rogers issued a proclamation that **September 2021** is **National Suicide Prevention Month** and **September 5-11, 2021**, is **National Suicide Prevention Week** in Arkansas City.

Police Chief Burr received a copy of the proclamation on behalf of the **Suicide Prevention of Cowley County** coalition. Also in attendance was coalition member Donna Kunkel, representing **Women In Search of Hope (WISH)**, a group of mothers whose children have committed suicide.

## Comments from the Audience

Harrison Taylor, **525 N. Fourth St.**, praised Commissioner Gingher for her town hall meetings on the 2022 budget. He encouraged more city commissioners and citizens to attend future meetings.

# City Commission of Arkansas City - Regular Meeting Minutes

## Consent Agenda

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

1. Approving the **August 3, 2021**, regular meeting minutes as written.
2. Approving **Resolution No. 2021-08-3428**, authorizing a public meeting of the Governing Body to attend a special Land Bank Board of Trustees meeting at **5 p.m. Tuesday, September 7, 2021**, in the Commission Room at City Hall, located at 118 W. Central Ave.

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

Mayor Rogers declared the consent agenda **approved** as presented.

## New Business

### Wastewater Treatment Plant Resolution No. 2021-08-3429

Deputy City Clerk Evinger presented for discussion a resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract agreement with **Burns & McDonnell / CAS Constructors** for design-build for the **2021 Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project**, for an amount not to exceed **\$12,058,118.00**.

City Manager Frazer said City staff, commissioners and the Joint Venture design team spent the last year studying the safety, reliability, and current and future regulatory compliance needs of the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The proposed project consists of six major items that address safety, plus five major items that address compliance and reliability.

By addressing those items, the reliability of the plant will be restored and the City can meet all of the current safety and regulatory compliance items through the next wastewater permitting cycle.

Also, with the addition of chemicals, the plant will be capable of meeting the future phosphorus regulations in future permit cycles. The proposed agreement lays out the scope of work and the general conditions of the project, and has been approved in form by the City Attorney.

Commissioner Welch made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, contingent on general scope consensus of the project by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and with the understanding that owner approval of the construction documents only will be provided after receipt of KDHE approval of said documents, per a friendly amendment from Mayor Rogers.

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

Mayor Rogers declared the resolution **approved** and given **Resolution No. 2021-08-3429**.

# City Commission of Arkansas City - Regular Meeting Minutes

## Water Master Plan Agreement Resolution No. 2021-08-3430

Deputy City Clerk Evinger presented for discussion a resolution authorizing the City to enter into an agreement with **Professional Engineering Consultants** (PEC), of Wichita, to develop a **Water Master Plan**, for an amount not to exceed **\$43,500.00**.

Environmental Services Superintendent Philo said the City's last two substantial water line replacements were determined and designed based solely on customer water quality complaints.

To identify current water system deficiencies (and future deficiencies, based on projected demands), Philo said PEC will develop a dynamic hydraulic water model of the City's water system.

Alternatives to address the deficiencies identified and provide water distribution service to growth areas over the next 20 years also will be identified, he added.

Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Gingher seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the resolution **approved** and given **Resolution No. 2021-08-3430**.

## Select LKM Delegates

Deputy City Clerk Evinger presented for discussion the selection of three voting delegates to the **League of Kansas Municipalities'** (LKM) 2021 annual conference and virtual business meeting on **October 9-11, 2021**.

Commissioner Warren made a motion to appoint **Commissioner Gingher, Commissioner Welch** and **City Manager Frazer** as voting delegates, with **Mayor Rogers, Commissioner Oestmann** and **Commissioner Warren** serving as the alternates. Commissioner Oestmann seconded the motion.

A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the motion **approved**.

## City Manager's Report on Upcoming Activities

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

- Frazer said he had just returned from the **"Upstairs Downtown" workshop**, presented by Kansas Main Street, on **August 16-17** in Hutchinson, which several other City staff also attended, as well as Chamber of Commerce and Cowley First officials. He said they learned more about implementing a Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID) to develop upper floors in downtown Arkansas City and staff are excited to try some of these new strategies.

## City Commission of Arkansas City - Regular Meeting Minutes

- The Arkansas City Fire-EMS and Police departments both will participate in the **Cowley County Job Fair** from **10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. August 18** at the Agri-Business Building.
- Creekstone Farms and the City-Cowley County Health Department will be host to a free **community COVID-19 vaccination clinic** from **11 a.m. to 2 p.m. August 21** at the Agri-Business Building, located at 712 W. Washington Ave. It is free and open to the public.
- Burford Theatre Arts will be host to a special concert by **Billy Bob Thornton and the Boxmasters** starting at **8 p.m. August 21** at the Burford Theatre, located at 118 S. Summit St.
- The **Arkansas City Farm and Art Market** will continue its 2021 season from **4 to 6:30 p.m. August 24, August 31 and September 7** at the Wilson Park rotunda.
- The monthly **Cowley Indoor Market** will have its next event from **5 to 8 p.m. August 25** at Burford Theatre Arts, located at 118 S. Summit St. in downtown Arkansas City.
- The annual **Arkansas City Relay for Life** will take place from **6 p.m. to midnight August 28** at Wilson Park, located at 701 N. Summit St. Luminaries will be placed throughout the park and maybe around the vacant north (old hospital) lot. It is free and open to the public.
- Burford Theatre Arts will be host to a special concert by **Wichita Yacht Club** starting at **7 p.m. August 28** at the Burford Theatre, located at 118 S. Summit St. in downtown Ark City.
- William Newton Hospital, the City-Cowley County Health Department and the Community Health Center in Cowley County will be host to a **town hall meeting** for the 2021 **Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)** for Cowley County from **11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. August 31** at the Baden Square Community Center, located at 700 Gary St. in Winfield. *(This event was later converted into a virtual ZOOM meeting due to the spread of COVID-19.)*
- The next **City Commission study session**, which was scheduled at **noon September 3** in Frazer's office at City Hall, was canceled by the City Commission. *(It was later replaced by a special study session from noon to 2 p.m. August 30 in the city manager's office.)*
- City Hall and other City offices will be closed **September 6** in observance of **Labor Day**.
- City commissioners will convene as the Land Bank Board of Trustees at **5 p.m. September 7** in the commission room at City Hall, prior to their next regular meeting at **5:30 p.m.**

### 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 **6:06 p.m.**

# City Commission of Arkansas City - Regular Meeting Minutes

## THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Rogers, Mayor

### ATTEST:

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Lesley Shook, City Clerk

### Prepared by:

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Andrew Lawson, Public Information Officer