

# 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, March 16, 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 at the meeting were City Manager **Randy Frazer**, City Attorney **Larry Schwartz**, City Clerk **Lesley Shook**, Public Information Officer **Andrew Lawson** and Management Assistant **Mike Crandall**. Arkansas City Police Department personnel in attendance were Interim Police Chief **Eric Burr**, Capt. **Jim Holloway**, Lt. **Jason Legleiter**, Sgt. **Nelson Douglas**, Sgt. **Chase Hobart**, Sgt. **Travis Stroud**, Master Police Officers **Kelsey Horinek** and **Ivan Velazquez**, Police Officer **Madeline Pegorsch** and **Spencer Warren**, and Administrative Assistant **Jeni McGee**.

Beautification and Tree Advisory Board members observing via GoToMeeting were chairwoman **Robin Henderson** and vice chair **Paisley Howerton**. Ranson Financial Consultants was represented by **Rose Mary Saunders** and **Crystal Minnen**.

Citizens in attendance or observing via GoToMeeting were **Charlie Cravens, James Fry, Arty Hicks, Vance Hill, Krysta Hobart, Kevin Horinek, Kevin Lamdin, Gareth McGee, Darren Mora, Robert Nichols, Terry Nichols, Michael Ptaszynski, John Shelman** and **Harrison Taylor**.

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

## Agenda Approval

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

## Awards and Proclamations

The commissioners witnessed the presentation of both local and state Officer of the Year awards from Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 1254 to Master Police Officer **Kelsey Horinek**. VFW officers Charlie Cravens and Vance Hill praised Horinek's accomplishments. ACPD Sgt. **Nelson Douglas** and Master Police Officer **Cori Tuxhorn** also were recognized as award nominees.

Interim Chief Burr then presented Master Police Officer **Kelsey Horinek** with the ACPD's Officer of the Year Award and Sgt. **Nelson Douglas** with the department's Supervisor of the Year Award.

The commissioners recognized and congratulated the Arkansas City Police Department's newest Sergeant, **Chase Hobart**, who was promoted in March. His wife, Krysta, pinned on his new rank.

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Finally, Mayor Rogers presented the Beautification and Tree Advisory Board's **Good Neighbor Award** to **James Fry** and the **Cowley College ACES Program**, who helped to move numerous tree limbs and branches, pieces of furniture, and bags of refuse to curbs for several disabled and/or elderly residents so they could take advantage of Citywide Pickup Week in **October 2020**.

## Consent Agenda

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

1. Approving the **February 16, 2021**, regular meeting minutes as amended.
2. Authorizing Mayor Rogers to sign the annual **Statement of Assurance** from the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, regarding continuing use of recreational facilities funded by **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** grant funds.
3. Approving **Resolution No. 2021-03-3391**, canceling a public meeting of the Governing Body at **noon Friday, April 2, 2021**, in the city manager's office at City Hall, 118 W. Central Ave.
4. Ratifying Mayor Rogers' reappointment of **Bob Baker** to the **Equal Opportunity and Accessibility Advisory Board**.

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

### **CDBG Grant Agreement** **Resolution No. 2021-03-3392**

City Clerk Shook presented for discussion a resolution authorizing the City to enter into **State of Kansas Grant Agreement No. 21-PF-002** between the City and Kansas Department of Commerce.

Rose Mary Saunders said this was for **\$450,000** in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the North Summit Street Resurfacing Project, for a total project cost of **\$910,000.00**.

Commissioner Welch made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Oestmann seconded the motion. A voice vote was **unanimous** in favor of the motion. Mayor Rogers declared the resolution **approved** and given **Resolution No. 2021-03-3392**.

### **Knebler Pond Adoption Contract** **Resolution No. 2021-03-3393**

City Clerk Shook presented for discussion a resolution approving a recommendation of the Arkansas City Beautification and Tree Advisory Board to initiate an adoption contract for one year with the **Walnut Valley Disc Golf Association (WVDGA)** for **Knebler Pond/Prairie Passage Recreation Area**, located at 28674 71<sup>st</sup> Road in Arkansas City.

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Public Information Officer Lawson said the adopting party has already raised funds that will be used to construct 18 new disc golf baskets, with the assistance of a professional, nationally renowned course designer who will lay out the new course.

WVDGA representative Arty Hicks said it will be an 18-hole “advanced” course, maintained by WVDGA, which plans to organize and play monthly events at the park, which might attract out-of-town visitors, as well as host larger tournaments.

WVDGA will help with the clearing of the area as needed. The group also will assist with post-event cleanup. WVDGA will be responsible for removing baskets due to flooding or other events.

City staff will remain responsible for mowing, removing large limbs and trees, emptying trash receptacles, and other routine, ongoing park maintenance duties. City staff also might need to assist with the initial installation of tee pads, which initially can consist of mulch, and baskets.

At a later date, WVDGA will provide funds for the installation of appropriate signage, with the permission of the City and the Beautification and Tree Advisory Board, which voted 4-0 during a regular meeting on **January 28** to recommend that the Commission approve the park’s adoption.

Commissioner Welch raised concerns about the area’s proximity to the Etzanoa historic site. Hicks and Commissioner Warren said Etzanoa will work with WVDGA to perform LIDAR scans of the area.

Robert and Terry Nichols, **28395 71<sup>st</sup> Road**, testified in opposition to the proposal. As owners of the house just east of the area, they are concerned about parking, traffic and trash stemming from this.

Commissioner Welch encouraged the Nicholoses to contact Hicks with any issues that might arise and promised that he will work with them to be a good neighbor. Mayor Rogers said the adoption is only for one year, so if those problems do materialize, the contract can be allowed to lapse then.

Mayor Rogers 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. 2021-03-3393**.

### **Mayor’s Monarch Pledge**

City Clerk Shook presented for discussion a motion reauthorizing the City’s participation in the **Mayor’s Monarch Pledge**, and authorizing Mayor Rogers to sign any and all necessary documents.

Public Information Officer Lawson said this year, the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge program – an initiative of the National Wildlife Foundation to encourage cities to create new habitat for the monarch butterfly and pollinators, as well as educate residents about how they can make a difference at home and in their community – has transitioned to an annual authorization process.

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He said that following the “Monarchs & Milkweed” event in 2019, most of the Beautification and Tree Advisory Board’s other plans ground to a halt last year due to COVID-19, but in anticipation of a future relaxation of restrictions, the Board is eager to reconnect with existing Pollinator Project partners, plus connect with new partners such as Cowley College and Chaplin Nature Center.

Board vice chair Paisley Howerton said the high school still has milkweed seeds. Management Assistant Crandall said Orscheln donated seeds that can be picked up at the Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Oestmann made a motion to reauthorize the City’s participation in the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge, and authorize Mayor Rogers to sign any and all documents necessary to execute.

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

## Other Business

Public Information Officer Lawson provided an updated on the **Wilson Park Phase 1 Upgrades**.

## City Manager Updates

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

- City Hall and all other City offices will be closed **April 2** for Good Friday (*floating holiday*). (The City Commission study session previously scheduled for this day has been canceled.)
- The annual Gone Junkin’ and Spring Outdoor Show will move this year from Chestnut Avenue Venue to the Agri-Business Building, located at 712 W. Washington Ave. It will be from **9 a.m. to 7 p.m. April 3** and admission is free.
- This year, due to COVID-19, the Outstanding Student Award nominees’ reception will be held virtually at **6 p.m. April 5**. GoToMeeting login information will be provided to all of the commissioners. There will not be an in-person student reception or banquet this year.
- He said the City is in the early stages of developing a **Housing Assessment Tool** (HAT).
- Frazer said Capt. Eric Burr has transitioned to serving as **Interim Police Chief** of ACPD.

## 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.

Mayor Rogers declared the meeting adjourned at **6:28 p.m.**

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## THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS

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Scott Rogers, Mayor

### ATTEST:

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Lesley Shook, City Clerk

### Prepared by:

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Andrew Lawson, Public Information Officer

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