



CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 5:30 PM — Commission Room, City Hall — 118 W. Central Ave

Routine Business

1. Roll Call

PRESENT:

Mayor Chad Beeson
Vice-Mayor Tad Stover
Commissioner Diana Spielman
Commissioner Charles Tweedy III
Commissioner Jay Warren

ABSENT:

City staff present: City Attorney Larry Schwartz, City Clerk Tiffany Parsons, Communication Director Shana Adkisson, Environmental Services Superintendent Kyle Blubaugh, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Jess Helphingstine, and Police Chief Jim Halloway.

2. Opening Prayer led by City Attorney Larry Schwartz and Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Beeson.

3. Addition or Deletions to the agenda.

City Manager Frazer stated that there were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

4. Approval of the Agenda.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Stover, seconded by Commissioner Tweedy III, to approve the agenda.

Voice Voting Aye: Mayor Beeson, Vice-Mayor Stover, Commissioner Spielman, Commissioner Tweedy III, and Commissioner Warren. Mayor Beeson declared the motion approved.

City Clerk Parsons offered the following items for consideration.

Recognition of Visitors/Staff

1. Recognize Jess Helphingstine in earning his Class IV Wastewater Certification from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Environmental Services Superintendent Blubaugh recognized Wastewater Division employee Jess Helphingstine for earning his Class IV Wastewater Certification from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). Only around 250 individuals in Kansas currently hold a Class IV Wastewater Certification. Helphingstine is also seeking to obtain his Class IV Water Certification as well, with less than 50 individuals statewide holding both certifications. This certification is the highest level attainable in the state and represents exceptional technical skill, dedication, and professionalism.

Consent Agenda

Note: All matters listed below on the Consent Agenda are considered under one motion and enacted by one motion. There should be no separate discussion. If such discussion is desired, any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and then considered separately under Section VI: New Business.

1. Approve September 12, 2025 special meeting minutes, and September 16, 2025 regular meeting minutes as written.

2. Approve a Resolution authorizing the City of Arkansas City to accept a quote submitted by Hach Company to purchase materials and service equipment at the Water Treatment Facility, for an amount not to exceed \$13,969.00.
3. A Resolution authorizing the City of Arkansas City to approve a temporary extension of license premises at Gloria's Bar, located at 1121 S. Summit St., to allow the sale and consumption of alcoholic liquor on public property pursuant to K.S.A. 45-2608, during Gloria's Cornhole Tournament Event on Saturday, October 18, 2025.
4. A Resolution authorizing the City of Arkansas City to approve a temporary extension of license premises at Gloria's Bar, located at 1121 S. Summit St., to allow the sale and consumption of alcoholic liquor on public property pursuant to K.S.A. 45-2608, during Gloria's Cornhole Tournament Event on Saturday, March 14, 2026.

Motion made by Commissioner Warren, seconded by Vice-Mayor Stover, to approve the Consent Agenda.

*Voice Voting Aye: Mayor Beeson, Vice-Mayor Stover, Commissioner Spielman, Commissioner Tweedy III, and Commissioner Warren. Mayor Beeson declared the motion approved; given **Resolution No. 2025-10-3758, Resolution No. 2025-10-3759, and Resolution No. 2025-10-3760.***

New Business

City Manager Department

1. An Ordinance exempting the application of K.S.A. 41-719(d), to allow the sale and consumption of alcoholic liquor at a designated area of Ben Givens Center City Park during Arkalalah, October 22-25, 2025.

City Clerk Parsons noted that Gypsy Bev. Co., a dually licensed caterer with the State of Kansas ABC and the City of Arkansas City, has provided reasonable assurances that it will take all necessary precautions to ensure the property is used in full compliance with applicable state and local law.

Motion made by Commissioner Warren, seconded by Commissioner Tweedy III, to approve the item as written.

*Roll Call Voting Aye: Mayor Beeson, Vice-Mayor Stover, Commissioner Spielman, Commissioner Tweedy III, and Commissioner Warren. Mayor Beeson declared the motion approved; given **Ordinance No. 2025-10-4644.***

2. A Resolution authorizing the City of Arkansas City to enter into a Design-Build Agreement with Burns & McDonnell / CAS Arkansas City WTP Joint Venture for Phase 1 of the Water Treatment Facility Greensand Filter KDHE SRF Loan Project No. 1056, for an amount not to exceed \$112,000.

City Manager Frazer explained that this item is the next step in the Green Sand Filter Project, funded through a KDHE SRF loan with \$285,000 in forgiveness. The city selected PEC as the representative engineer and Burns & McDonnell/CAS Constructors for project design. Brian Myers with Burns & McDonnell explained that Phase I of the project includes design and preparation for construction bids. The project will increase water treatment capacity, improve system reliability, and protect the reverse osmosis system by removing iron and manganese.

Motion made by Mayor Beeson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Stover, to approve the item as written.

*Voice Voting Aye: Mayor Beeson, Vice-Mayor Stover, Commissioner Spielman, Commissioner Tweedy III, and Commissioner Warren. Mayor Beeson declared the motion approved; given **Resolution No. 2025-10-3761.***

3. A Resolution approving a revised Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Arkansas City and Cowley County, Kansas regarding the use, activation, maintenance, and operation of Outdoor Warning Sirens, therefore repealing Resolution No. 2024-08-3628.

The revision returns the responsibility for activating the sirens to the county, in accordance with state statute, while the City continues to handle maintenance and associated costs, as explained by City Manager Frazer. This update addresses prior concerns and ensures proper management of the warning system.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Stover, seconded by Commissioner Warren, to approve the item as written.

*Voice Voting Aye: Mayor Beeson, Vice-Mayor Stover, Commissioner Spielman, Commissioner Tweedy III, and Commissioner Warren. Mayor Beeson declared the motion approved; given **Resolution No. 2025-10-3762.***

4. Provide an update on signed roofing replacement contracts for City-owned properties damaged during the June 17, 2025 hailstorm.

City Manager Frazer provided an update, noting that most roofs were covered by insurance, with a \$50,000 city-wide deductible applied. The City Hall roof required additional funding of just under \$200,000, partially covered by insurance. At the Humane Society building, insurance covered the roof, while skylight replacements were shared with Winfield. The majority of city roofs have been repaired to date with the Agri-Business building roof repairs beginning in the spring.

Police Department

1. A Resolution authorizing the purchase of a 2025 Dodge Durango Pursuit Vehicle for the Arkansas City Police Department from Superior Emergency Response Vehicles and additional required wiring system, utility car camera package, and vinyl decals from various suppliers, for an amount not to exceed \$56,456.31.

This vehicle will replace an existing patrol unit previously damaged in an accident, and the purchase includes installation of all equipment and decal work by selected vendors. Chief Holloway noted that the officer involved in the prior incident was reported uninjured.

Motion made by Commissioner Spielman, seconded by Vice-Mayor Stover, to approve the item as written.

*Voice Voting Aye: Mayor Beeson, Vice-Mayor Stover, Commissioner Spielman, Commissioner Tweedy III, and Commissioner Warren. Mayor Beeson declared the motion approved; given **Resolution No. 2025-10-3763**.*

City Manager Updates & Reminders

- **Flood Risk Mapping:** Staff attended a meeting on preliminary floodplain maps; most areas are accurate, though some interior drainage areas may need adjustment. Levee protections are in place, and final maps are expected in about a year.
- **Fire Station:** RFPs for a new fire station have been issued, with a pre-conference on October 20th and proposals due November 10th. The proposed site is near East Kansas and the bypass.
- **Splash Pad:** Project scope and preliminary cost of \$335,000 have been established; additional bids are being sought with a goal of project completion by spring.
- **Water Well No. 16:** Construction is nearly complete, with KDHE inspection scheduled for October 16th.
- **East Pressure Zone:** Preliminary plans and specifications expected mid-October for staff review and KDHE approval before bidding.
- **Water Treatment Plant:** Draft stormwater prevention plan completed in response to EPA inspection; city review pending.
- **CCLIP Projects:** Plans and estimates for mill and overlay from 8th Street to the bridge are expected soon. Utility relocation from Strother Field wastewater treatment plant to Patterson Park is in progress, with easements being secured.
- **KDOT Cost Share Program:** Application submitted for mill overlay in the Skyline/Radio Lane area; award expected this fall.
- **F Street Bridge:** Project progressing slowly due to railroad permitting; construction expected to start next year.

Items for Discussion by City Commissioners

Commissioner Warren updated the commission, thanking the police department, Police Chief and volunteers for a successful National Night Out event, further noting the large turnout despite the heavy rain during the evening.

Comments from the Audience for Items not on the Agenda

The public will be allowed to speak on issues or items that are not scheduled for discussion on the agenda. Individuals should address all comments and questions to the Commission. Comments should be limited to issues and items relevant to the business of the Governing Body. The Commission will not discuss or debate these items, nor will the Commission make decisions on items presented during this time. Each person will be limited to five (5) minutes.

Lloyd Colston, 1825 N 8th, expressed concerns about low voter turnout, advocated for increased civic participation, and emphasized the importance of city support for community resources and youth engagement.

Mickie Schmith, 426 N C St., addressed the commission and staff, stating his plan to independently organize public discussions and rent the Northwest Community Center, but when reminded of his ban from the facility, he instead urged local involvement and criticized the commission's past actions.

Amended: During the October 21, 2025 City Commission Meeting.

Mayor Beeson requested City Clerk Parsons conduct an amendment to the October 7, 2025, regular meeting minutes to include that, "after the meeting was adjourned, we had a citizen offer to fight an elected official outside". The Mayor further stated that "any future behavior of this nature will be considered a threat and police action will be taken against them". This event took place after Mickie Schmith spoke before the City Commission and he himself displayed this behavior, words toward the mayor and actions upon leaving the meeting post adjournment. The motion to approve the Consent Agenda, including amendments to be made to the regular meeting minutes of October 7, 2025, was moved and seconded for approval during the October 21, 2025, meeting by the commission.

Adjournment

Motion made by Mayor Beeson, seconded by Commissioner Warren to adjourn the meeting.

Voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Beeson declared the motion approved and meeting adjourned.

THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS

(Seal)

Chad D. Beeson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tiffany Parsons, City Clerk

Prepared by: Tiffany Parsons, City Clerk