



MINUTES OF THE MISSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 21, 2021

The Mission City Council met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ron Appletoft. The following councilmembers were in attendance: Ken Davis, Sollie Flora, Debbie Kring, Arcie Rothrock, Nick Schlossmacher, Kristin Inman, Hillary Thomas and Trent Boultinghouse.

The Mayor explained that in consideration of on-going COVID-19 health concerns, the meeting was also offered virtually through Zoom if preferred. The public was invited to participate in the meeting by using the instructions included in the City Calendar item listed on the front page of the website. For those participating virtually, they had the option of utilizing the "chat" feature to voice their comments which would be read aloud. The members of the public in-person, were encouraged to raise their hand and stay at their seats to be called on. Mayor Appletoft requested that anyone commenting to state their name and city of residence as well as to be conscientious of others talking and to speak clearly and slowly.

Revised Agenda

The Council considered a revised agenda to include an Executive Session. **Moved by Davis, seconded by Kring** to approve the July 21, 2021 City Council meeting Agenda as revised. Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Davis, Flora, Kring, Rothrock, Thomas, Inman, Schlossmacher. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no Public Hearings.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Legislative Update from Little Government Relations

Stuart Little and Mallory Lutz provided a report on the 2021 legislative session which concluded on May 26, 2021. The summary included major legislation on the state level such as the 2021 K-12 school budget, property tax



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transparency measures, conceal carry weapon age change as well as modifications to the State's Emergency Management Act in response to COVID-19 related restrictions. These concluded with the Governor signing 108 bills into law and vetoing 11 other bills, with Legislature ultimately overriding five of those vetoed.

Next, they addressed local government legislation including two bills which would have had a significant impact on local governments and their ability to manage their federal ARPA dollars. Senate Bill 273 would require 35% of funds to be set aside to reimburse businesses affected by local health orders. This bill was vetoed with no override. Whereas, House Bill 2313, provides support for reimbursement of property taxes for certain business shutdowns or restrictions during a state of emergency. This bill will take effect January 1, 2022.

Other issues discussed included passed Senate Bill 24 which will prohibit municipalities from imposing restrictions on a customer's use of energy based upon energy source. House Bill 2079 addresses opioid settlement funds and Senate Bill 118 provides for the dissolution of special districts and the assumption of responsibilities by a city or county. There will be several anticipated interim session activities such as the SPARK Task Force which will discuss distribution of ARPA dollars as well as various groups with focuses on criminal justice reform. There will be no interim studies of particular interest to local governments.

Councilmember Boultinghouse asked for details on the changes in election law. Ms. Lutz replied that House Bill 2183 prohibits a person from delivering anybody's advanced ballot without written permission from the voter while preventing the secretary of state from extending the receiving deadline. Additionally, House Bill 2332 prohibits the governor as well as the executive and judicial branches from altering any election laws.

Councilmember Davis asked if the Kansas Association of Counties and the League of Kansas Municipalities were in agreement with Senate Bill 87 which would discontinue apportionment of the county wide retailers' sales tax



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imposed for general purposes between the county and cities. Dr. Little replied that he did not recall either organization supporting this legislation.

Councilmember Flora asked if the post-audit report being conducted on CARES Act expenditures was aimed as assessing spending concerns or just a general collection of how the funds were utilized. Ms. Lutz explained that there were not any red flags and it was just to establish how the money was spent. Discussion continued on funding expenditures.

Councilmember Schlossmacher asked if LGR had worked specifically on any legislation related to unique interests of the City of Mission or where the City was in opposition to legislation generally supported by other municipalities. Dr. Little replied that there have been no issues in relation to the City that have materialized.

Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation

Mayor Appletoft reported that July is Parks and Recreation Month which recognizes the integral work that staff does to create and maintain programs that are vitally important to the quality of life in our Community, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of the region. He thanked the Parks and Recreation Director, Penn Almoney and his staff, for the hard work they do so that everyone has the opportunities to enjoy the Parks and Recreation facilities. He added that the creativity and continued commitment to serving our residents through these challenging times has been especially appreciated. Mr. Almoney accepted the proclamation on behalf of his department.

Betty Benson Day Proclamation

Mayor Appletoft recognized long-time Mission resident and business owner Betty Benson who celebrated her 100th Birthday on July 24th. Betty has been a fixture of the community and a steadfast supporter of her Milhaven neighborhood, the City of Mission and all of Northeast Johnson County. Betty



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has taught and inspired so many at the Tole House while building a reputation as a caring teacher and talented artist throughout Kansas City and beyond. Betty's passion for art has brought beauty to our World not only through her artwork but also through the talents of her many students. Mayor Appletoft wished Betty a happy birthday and thanked her for all her contributions to Mission.

Community Dialogue – 2022 Budget

Ms. Smith led a discussion on the 2022 Proposed Budget which provided the opportunity for the community to receive the information and give input before the budget moves into the final development stages. She first explained the reasoning for the budget is to prioritize the City's goals and objectives in an effort to balance the revenues and expenditures necessary to support daily operations, service delivery and larger scale infrastructure investment.

General Fund

The General Fund is 53% of the total annual City budget and covers all operating departments and services. It is developed conservatively because of the time before the next fiscal year arrives in order to allow Staff to monitor any changes or modifications.

The City's largest revenue stream is Sales and Use Tax (42% when City and County sales taxes are combined). Performance remains strong, assisting with revenue declines throughout the pandemic. The largest expenditure is Public Safety at 36% and Public Works follows closely behind at 26%.

There continues to be some recovery in Community Center revenues. Overall, the estimate for the 2022 General Fund is 4% revenue growth and a 1% increase in expenses over the 2021 budget. The City anticipates receiving approximately \$751,000 in ARPA funding in 2021 and again in 2022. Tentatively, ARPA funds will be earmarked to replace revenues lost as a result of the pandemic. The City's fund balance, or reserve position, not only meets. Finally, the City has accounted for three months of reserves in operating expenses which is over the recommendation from the GFOA.



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2022 – 2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Currently, the formal CIP is built out over a five-year horizon, however, internally staff is generally considering projects on a seven to ten year timeline. This CIP includes capital projects such as streets, stormwater, Parks and Recreation, public buildings and facilities, technology, vehicles and equipment. Capital projects tend to be substantial projects, often requiring debt financing or taking multiple years to construct.

The three primary program areas are currently focused on streets, stormwater, and parks and recreation. The stormwater utility fee is set at \$28/ERU/month, with no anticipated adjustment. The street program will be affected by the outcome of the September ballot election where voters will consider renewal and increasing the dedicated street sales tax from ¼-cent to 3/8-cent. The five year program will include smaller scale maintenance projects, a curb and gutter replacement program and bridge inspections. Parks and Recreation will also continue to develop and renew plans for projects to be presented for potential renewal of the 3/8-cent Parks and Recreation sales tax revenues via mail ballot in the Spring of 2022.

Funds

There are several miscellaneous funds which contribute to the 2022 Proposed Budget. These include the Special Alcohol Fund which allocates reserves for the treatment and prevention of drug and alcohol abuse with an estimate of \$90k generated for 2022. The Solid Waste Utility Fund accounts for trash, recycling and yard waste with a 3% anticipated increase for the fees collected from single-family residences. The Mission Convention and Visitors Bureau Fund assists in the revitalization and redevelopment of the Mission business district and is considering funding improvement to the Mission Market site as well as dockless e-bike stations and banners. The City also receives funds from various development and redevelopment projects (TIF/CID) which are distributed to the City through Johnson County.

At the July 7th Finance and Administration Committee meeting, the Council expressed interest in exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate in accordance with



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Senate Bill 13. This will generate an additional \$135,000 in revenue for the 2022 Budget.

Councilmember Davis asked for clarification about the dog park and if there would be additional debate or discussion by the Parks and Recreation Committee about the findings or a response from the community. Ms. Smith replied that there would be further discussion and Mayor Appletoft confirmed that there was no money committed, just an amount considered in the budget and that there would be continued meetings on this topic.

Councilmember Davis commented that it was important for the PRT Committee to have a review of this concept. Councilmember Schlossmacher added that this has been ongoing for about six years and they have not received alternative feedback from people who oppose the dog park, and reiterating that the plans had been seen and discussed by the PRT Committee.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Kring, seconded by Davis to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

- 4a. Minutes of the June 16, 2021 City Council Meeting and the June 23, 2021 Special City Council Meeting
- 4b. Approve purchase of a portable incinerator for evidence destruction using funds from the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund
- 4c. Resolution Ratifying Emergency Expenditures – 55th and Woodson Sinkhole

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Davis, Flora, Kring, Rothrock, Schlossmacher, Thomas, Inman. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anne O’Leary, member of the Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission, spoke in her personal capacity on the challenges of providing the amenity of the dog



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park and asked to work with the Council to find an agreeable solution.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Appletoft explained that all of the items considered by the Committees this month were placed on the Consent Agenda for approval. As a result, neither Councilmember Kring nor Councilmember Boultinghouse needed to provide their reports.

NEW BUSINESS

Milhaven HOA Picnic - Mohawk Park

Ms. McClanahan explained that Milhaven resident, Chris Linnane, reached out to the City regarding a picnic hosted by the Milhaven Homeowners Association at Mohawk Park. The event is scheduled for August 7, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. There will be an ice cream social and residents can bring their own food and drink to listen to a live band. They would also like to offer residents the option to bring their own alcohol if preferred. Staff has confirmed with the Kansas Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control, that since there will be no exchange of money, including purchasing tickets, they do not require a State license. However, because the event includes consumption of alcohol on public property (Mohawk Park), according to Section 600.040 (b) of the City Municipal Code, the Council must waive this prohibition for the event to allow the alcohol.

Councilmember Davis asked and Ms. Smith confirmed that the City does not have any liability in relation to this event.

Moved by Boultinghouse, seconded by Davis to approve an exception to allow residents to bring their own alcoholic beverages to Mohawk Park for the Milhaven Family Picnic hosted by the Milhaven Homeowners Association. Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Davis, Flora, Kring, Rothrock, Schlossmacher, Thomas, Inman. **Motion Carried.**



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COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Kring commented that there was a Ward III meeting last night and she had a letter from a Broadmoor Park neighbor that she wanted to submit to the Parks and Recreation Department and make it part of public record.

Councilmember Boultinghouse reminded the public of a Ward I meeting on July 22nd at The Bar.

Councilmember Flora thanked Chief Madden, Officer Eddings and the Mental Health Co-Responder for their attention and care to a resident that needed extra support over the weekend connecting to the appropriate services.

Councilmember Davis announced a Ward IV meeting on August 10th which will be via Zoom. He also commented that he appreciates the services of the Boards and Commissions and it's important for the Council to be mindful in the processes and responsibilities of the appointed groups. He said he had experienced some confusion regarding how the request to earmark funds for a dog park came forward from Councilmembers Schlossmacher and Thomas, believing they were representing their positions as liaisons to the PRT. Councilmember Davis indicated he had heard that the PRT might not have been aware of the dog park amenity being included in the Broadmoor Park conceptual plans.

Councilmmember Councilmember Schlossmacher clarified that the dog park concept in Broadmoor Park had been reviewed by the PRT in December 2020.

Councilmember Thomas commented that at the work session both she and Councilmember Schloslacher made it clear that they brought the recommendation out of process because they felt it was not moving quickly enough through the regular processes, and this would allow for continued discussion in the 2022budget process.



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Councilmember Rothrock reminded the public of the upcoming Mission Community Food Pantry and the Harvesters Mobile Food Pantry.

MAYOR'S REPORT

There was no Mayor's report.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Smith reported the following items:

- August 4th, Finance and Administration Committee, a representative from ETC will present on the results of the DirectionFinder Survey which concluded with 560 responses.
- There was a recent kickoff with the FCIP projects with the CTS team and they have begun vetting submitted proposals with the plan to bring the Council more details about the timelines and implementation strategies. This will help with understanding the communication plan for the public, especially in relation to the upgrade of the street network.
- The reschedule of the Mission Summer Family Picnic is still in progress.
- The City is working with The Gateway developers as they prepare to bring back an updated report to the Council.
- Officer Fleer will be retiring, effective September 1st - Ms. Smith added it will be a tremendous loss for the community but that the City is excited for his next adventure.
- Chief Madden has hired a police officer, who is currently at the academy, and is continuing to work at bringing staff to full capacity.
- Kaitlyn Service, City Planner, has accepted another position in St. Louis – Ms. Smith commented that while she has only been with the City for a short time, she had made important and wonderful contributions.
- The Street Sales Tax renewal page will be active on the website which will provide valuable information as this item goes to the September ballot election. There will be a town hall meeting on this topic, at the Community Center, on August 17th at 7:00pm.



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Councilmember Rothrock asked for whether exit interviews were regularly conducted. Ms. Smith explained that exit interviews were conducted, regardless of position level, and there has not been any major issues but if something does present a concern then it will be brought before the Council. Councilmember Rothrock indicated she believed it was important not only to conduct exit interviews, but to conduct periodic, general employee satisfaction surveys.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Appletoft explained that there was a need for an Executive Session which was regarding a personnel matter of a non-elected personnel. The Governing Body and those individuals named in the motion adjourned to Executive Session for the allotted time. Mayor Appletoft reminded the public that the Governing Body may take no binding action in an Executive Session.

Moved by Schlossmacher, seconded by Kring to recess to executive session under the personnel matter of non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1). Also attending the meeting will be City Attorney Dave Martin. The open meeting will resume in the Conference Room at 9:15 p.m. (30 minutes). Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Davis, Flora, Kring, Rothrock, Thomas, Inman, Schlossmacher. **Motion Carried.**

The legislative meeting resumed at 9:15p.m. and there was no need for an extension in time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Appletoft announced that the public video from tonight's meeting will be available through a link on the City's website - missionks.org.

Moved by Davis, seconded by Rothrock to adjourn the meeting at 9:15p.m. All present voted AYE. **Motion carried.**



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Respectfully submitted by Audrey McClanahan, City Clerk.

Ronald E. Appletoft, Mayor

Audrey M. McClanahan, City Clerk