



## MINUTES OF THE MISSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 17, 2023

The Mission City Council met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Mission City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Flora. The following councilmembers were in attendance: Hillary Thomas, Trent Boultinghouse, Mary Ryherd, Debbie Kring, Ken Davis and Ben Chocie. Councilmember Inman and Councilmember Loudon were absent.

Mayor Flora explained that 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. The Mayor requested that anyone commenting please state their name and city of residence as well as to be conscientious of others talking and to speak clearly and slowly.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

There were no Public Hearings.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

#### **National Police Week Proclamation**

Mayor Flora presented a proclamation to Deputy Chief Lane recognizing this week, May 14 – 20, 2023, as "National Police Week." She thanked Deputy Chief Lane and his team for their hard work and offered appreciation on behalf of herself and the Council for their dedication to the City.

#### **Gun Safety Proclamation**

The second proclamation issued by Mayor Flora recognized Friday, June 2, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day, and was presented to Connie Taylor from the League of Women Voters of Johnson County, Joan Jacobson from Grandparents for Gun Safety and Katie Mangelsdorf from Moms Demand Action.



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The proclamation encouraged residents to wear orange on June 2 to raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors.

Connie Taylor of the League of Women Voters of Johnson County thanked Mayor Flora and the Council for their commitment to reducing gun violence. She shared statistics related to gun violence that were specific to the state of Kansas.

Katie Mangelsdorf of Moms Demand Action thanked Mayor Flora and the Council for the proclamation. She explained the history behind wearing orange on National Gun Violence Day, in honor of a child killed by gun violence. She shared statistics about gun violence death and explained the work her organization does.

### **National Building Safety Month Proclamation**

Mayor Flora's third proclamation of the evening proclaimed May as Building Safety Month in Mission. Mayor Flora stated that Mission is pleased to observe Building Safety Month, asking our residents to consider the commitment to improve building safety and economic investments at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property. She presented the proclamation to Deputy City Administrator Brian Scott and thanked him and his team for their work to keep residents and businesses safe.

Mr. Scott thanked Mayor Flora and the Council for the resources they provide for his team, and for their recognition.

### **National Public Works Week Proclamation**



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Mayor Flora's fourth proclamation of the evening proclaimed May 21 – 27, 2023 as "National Public Works Week" in Mission. Mayor Flora thanked the Public Works team highlighted their dedication as professionals who are responsible for rebuilding, improving and protecting important infrastructure facilities essential for our community, and recognized the substantial contributions they make to protecting our health, safety, and quality of life. She presented the proclamation to Public Works Director Celia Duran and thanked her and her team for their work.

### **Kids to Parks Day Proclamation**

Mayor Flora's fifth proclamation of the evening proclaimed May 20th as "Kids to Parks Day", which empowers families to embrace what they can do outdoors at America's parks, public lands and waters while encouraging kids to lead a more active lifestyle. Mayor Flora emphasized that Parks and Recreation staff work hard throughout the year to promote the benefits and rewards of an active lifestyle. She presented the proclamation to Parks and Recreation Director Penn Almoney and thanked him and his staff for their work and dedication.

### **Recognition of Salsa Grill**

Mayor Flora's next presentation was recognition of the retirement of two long standing Mission businesses, Salsa Grill, which has been a part of our Mission community since 2001; and Mission Fresh Fashion, which has been a part of our Mission community since 2004. She wished the owners of both businesses' great success in their retirement and thank them for their commitment to the Mission Business District and to supporting and encouraging a thriving and vibrant business community in the City of Mission.



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Jon Lomshek of Salsa Grill thanked the Mayor and Council for their great partnership over the years and highlighted that the sense of community fostered in Mission is unique, as is its cultivation of small business owners.

### **If I Were Mayor Poster Contest 2023 Winners**

Mayor Flora's final presentation of the evening awarded the five winners of the "If I Were Mayor" poster contest. Winners were introduced by City Administrator Laura Smith, who highlighted each of the ideas presented by the winners. Winners included Cora Carlson, Lana Carlson, Claire Fulks, Henry Walker and George Walker, all of Mission. Winners were awarded a certificate and prizes from Mayor Flora.

### **ISSUANCE OF NOTES AND BONDS**

There were no items related to Issuance of Notes and Bonds.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

4a. Minutes of the April 19, 2023 City Council Meeting and April 20, 2023 Special City Council Meeting

4b. Purchase of CSO Vehicle

4c. 2023 Public Works Capital Equipment Purchases

4d. Resolution Ratifying the Emergency Expenditure of Funds to Perform Stormwater Repairs at 6100 W. 62nd Terrace, 5816 W. 62nd Terrace, and the Intersection of 57th Street and Riggs

4e. Fencing at Powell Community Center

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



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presented.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Thomas, Chociejj, Davis, Ryherd, and Kring.

**Motion Carried.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Joe Donoway of Mission, KS thanked the City for the Greenhouse Gas presentation earlier in the evening as he finds that to be an important issue. He then shared a concern about the purchase of the CSO vehicle on the consent agenda, he does not want to see dealerships taking advantage of the City for the type of vehicle being considered, and would like the City to consider purchasing a different type of vehicle to use for a handful of years until the type of vehicle that is in the bid, a Ford Maverick, may be less expensive and easier to obtain. Mr. Donoway then stated he would like to know some more information about surplus items he has seen in different City documents. He then moved on to discussing the character of the community in Mission. He finds Mission to have a specific character and community from his childhood here and praised the construction of the new Rushton Elementary School. He then addressed the Milhaus project and questioned their ability to do the project without incentives. He finds it to be a bad deal if they cannot, also mentioning the high interest rates for developers and his concern about the developer's ability to refinance. He also finds their affordable housing component to the plan to be inadequate. He believes that the pro forma numbers provided may not be accurate. He believes high density housing and an uncaring developer would create a poor housing situation. He would like to see a rent control component to help with affordable housing and believes that they should not use software to control the rent.

Mayor Flora gave Mr. Donoway a one-minute warning. Mr. Donoway's last comment addressed the land swap of Beverly Park and his dislike of the parking offered for the new park space and dislike of having to cross Martway to reach the new park land. Finally, he believes the funds allotted to the City for outfitting a new park are not sufficient.

The second public commenter of the night was Kim Donoway of Mission, Kansas. Ms. Donoway commented on the Milhaus Development and their request for incentives, as she believes those price people out of their homes in Mission. She does not believe that multi-family housing is in need of tax incentives as she believes it is secure type of development. She also referenced increased occupation of the apartments, which brings more people to the development than estimated vs. the amount of parking spaces allotted per unit. She also expressed dislike of the land swap for Beverly Park and the new land offered in



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trade. She feels like that idea is theft. She encouraged Councilmembers to speak to people in their wards about affordability of living in Mission and emphasized that giving money to corporations for incentives is unfair to small business owners. She thanked the Council for their time, and then highlighted some commercial businesses in the City who are not being responsible environmentally.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

There were no items from the Planning Commission.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Finance and Administration Committee**

Councilmember Boultinghouse reported that the Finance & Administration Committee met on May 3 and considered two items. The meeting minutes and purchase of a CSO vehicle were approved under the Consent Agenda. No items will be considered under the Regular Agenda tonight.

#### **Community Development Committee**

Councilmember Chociey reported that the Community Development Committee also met on May 3 and considered four items. The meeting minutes, 2023 Public Works Capital Equipment purchases, Resolution Ratifying the Emergency Expenditure of Funds to Perform Stormwater Repairs at 6100 W. 62nd Terrace, 5816 W. 62nd Terrace, and the Intersection of 57th Street and Riggs, and fencing repairs at Powell Community Center were approved under the Consent Agenda. No items will be considered under the Regular Agenda tonight.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mayor Flora explained that there was no unfinished business tonight.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Flora explained that there are two items of new business tonight, the election of the committee chairs and vice-chairs, and the approval of a carbon reduction program grant application. She first asked for nominations for Chairperson of the Community Development Committee.



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### **Election of Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs**

Councilmember Kring nominated Councilmember Loudon for the position of Community Development Committee Chairperson. There were no further nominations.

**Moved by Kring, seconded by Boultinghouse** to approve the nomination of Lea Loudon for the position of Community Development Committee Chairperson with a term expiring May 15, 2024.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Chociey, Ryherd, Davis, Thomas and Kring. **Motion Carried.**

Councilmember Boultinghouse nominated Councilmember Chociey for the position of Community Development Committee Vice-Chairperson. There were no further nominations.

**Moved by Boultinghouse, seconded by Kring** to approve the nomination of Ben Chociey for the position of Community Development Committee Vice-Chairperson with a term expiring May 15, 2024.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Chociey, Ryherd, Davis, Kring and Thomas. **Motion Carried.**

Councilmember Boultinghouse nominated Councilmember Ryherd for the position of Finance and Administration Committee Chairperson. There were no further nominations.

**Moved by Boultinghouse, seconded by Kring** to approve the nomination of Mary Ryherd for the position of Finance and Administration Committee Chairperson with a term expiring May 15, 2024.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Chociey, Ryherd, Davis, Kring and Thomas. **Motion Carried.**

Councilmember Boultinghouse nominated Councilmember Thomas for the position of Finance and Administration Committee Vice-Chairperson. There were

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no further nominations.

**Moved by Boultinghouse, seconded by Kring** to approve the nomination of Hillary Thomas for the position of Finance and Administration Committee Vice-Chairperson with a term expiring May 15, 2024.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Chociej, Ryherd, Davis, Kring and Thomas. **Motion Carried.**

### **Carbon Reduction Program Grant**

Mayor Flora introduced the second order of new business, consideration of authorization to submit grant applications for Carbon Reduction Program funding for bike share infrastructure, Operation Green Light traffic signal coordination infrastructure and the installation of electric vehicle charging stations. Mayor Flora welcomed Deputy City Administrator Emily Randel to introduce the item.

Ms. Randel introduced grant programs from the Federal Government related to carbon reduction programming, a \$5.6 million dollar grant through MARC on the Kansas side. The goal of the grant is to remove carbon from the transportation system, and many projects exist to reach those goals. Mission will be the lead application on three projects, the first of which is rideshare infrastructure. She explained that the project would bring electric bikeshare hubs to the City, similar to those that already exist in larger cities in the region. There are upfront costs for the City to consider, along with maintenance costs that will be ongoing. Those ongoing costs include bike maintenance and balancing of systems including returning bikes to the hubs. BikeWalk KC will take care of some of those ongoing matters. Ms. Randel reviewed costs both with and without the grant funding. She shared that the program is a nice fit for Mission, especially the downtown corridor. She also believes the Rock Creek Trail makes the program a good fit. Ms. Randel joined a call with other Northeast Johnson County cities, the County and BikeWalk KC recently to discuss a joint application for the grant. Bike hubs on the Plaza and in Kansas City, KS and Westwood, KS are the closest. Moving forward, Mission will be the primary applicant with Roeland Park joining in the application for two stations. She believes other communities may be interested to see how the process works for Mission and Roeland Park and joining in the future. Ms. Randel plans to propose three hubs



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in Mission along the Rockcreek Trail, with ten bikes per hub. A certain number of bikes is necessary to keep rider satisfaction high. Roeland Park is considering two hubs of ten bikes each, one at Price Chopper and one at either R Park or at the corner of Roe Blvd and Johnson Drive.

Ms. Randel reviewed the cost breakout provided in the City Council packet that shows the grants are 80/20 split with the local match being 20%. There are also upfront costs for the 30 bikes of \$23,000.00 plus ongoing maintenance costs of approximately \$48,000.00 to \$56,000.00, which will be needed after the five-year window of the grant expires. She also highlighted that the operation costs are included in the grant funding, which is not always the case with grant funding. She explained that the ride costs and potential sponsorship will help offset the maintenance costs of the bikes and hubs. She hopes to work with developers for sponsorship opportunities of the hubs and bikes in the future.

Councilmember Davis asked about the locations for the Mission hubs. Ms. Randel stated that the initial proposal is for hubs at the new Residence at Rock Creek, either at the Outlook parking lot or the Mission Market, and at Legacy Park on the west side of the City. She also stated that those are not set in stone, and that they can be moved based on studies to show where they would be most useful.

Ms. Randel provided information for other existing hubs that are close to Mission. One is at 47<sup>th</sup> Street and Mission Road in Kansas City, KS and one is at Woodside Health Club in Westwood, KS. There is also a hub on the Plaza. She is also hoping that Fairway and Prairie Village may be interested in joining in next year with the second round of funding. She explained that the bikes use Lock Two technology, which requires the bikes to be locked to a bike rack and will not be strewn around. She also hopes to look at bike parking in the future.

Ms. Randel next reviewed the Operation Green Light (OGL) proposal. The system is operated through MARC, to synchronize and coordinate traffic signals to reduce idling of vehicles, and therefore, emissions. Mission has OGL in place already at Shawnee Mission Parkway. Ms. Duran suggested adding Johnson Drive to the OGL system, which would improve user experience and reduce emissions. Ms. Randel reviewed that the numbers provided in the Council packet have been increased slightly, including to add the signal at Nall and Martway. Updated costs are estimated to be \$197,380.00, with a local match of

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\$39,476.00 initially plus ongoing costs of \$6,400.00.

Mayor Flora clarified that the program has the dual benefit of making traffic move more smoothly and helping with emissions reduction.

Public Works Director Celia Duran spoke to the Council about the advantages of OGL, including the ability to monitor signals and the ability to optimize the timing of the lights through the program. She finds that to be very beneficial.

Councilmember Chociej asked about seeing data of the amount of idling that is done now to see about improvements and impact. Ms. Duran provided that OGL is preparing that data and has done some idling and emissions calculations. Councilmember Chociej would be interested to see the cost effectiveness as he does want smooth traffic flow, however he worries about traffic flow in conjunction with pedestrian traffic on Johnson Drive. He wants to ensure that the data shows the program is doing what it proposes to do and is cost effective.

Ms. Randel's final item is a grant application for electric vehicle charging stations, something that Staff planned for already, with two charging stations proposed for the Powell Community Center. The grant will provide an opportunity for Climate Action KC and Johnson County to put stations at the proposed site, and at two other sites at Broadmoor Park. The location and estimated costs to connect power at the sites are listed in the packet. The local match is \$44,762.00 for the four sites. The packet also shows the proposed locations around the County, with ideal locations at the community center and park.

Mayor Flora asked for the amount of the local match again, which Ms. Randel stated is \$44,762.00 Mayor Flora then asked how much was allocated in the 2022 budget, which Ms. Randel stated was \$15,000.00.

Councilmember Thomas stated that she does not believe it is a conflict of interest, but she did want to make the Council aware that she does sit on the board of Climate Action KC who will be the entity submitting the grant for the EV charging station locations.

**Moved by Ryherd, seconded by Davis** to authorize staff and authorized agents to submit grant applications for Carbon Reduction Program funding for

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bike share infrastructure, Operation Green Light traffic signal coordination infrastructure and the installation of electric vehicle charging stations.

Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Thomas, Chociej, Davis, Ryherd, and Kring. **Motion Carried.**

### **COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL**

Councilmember Thomas shared that she and Councilmember Boultinghouse will host a Ward I meeting at 6:00 p.m. on May 25 at Rockcreek Brewery. All are welcome.

Councilmember Kring provided an update from the site council she sits on for Rushton Elementary School. Everyone is doing a great job of acclimating to their new temporary home, and the school social worker's therapy dog has been a big hit with the students. She also praised the school's PTA for their work at the school and commended City Clerk Robyn Fulks for her work at the school. Councilmember Kring also spoke about the Solid Waste Commission she sits on and some updates from Waste Management. They are putting a large amount of their budget funds toward robotics to help with recycling sorting. Staff currently adds about 50 items per minute while robotic technology will be able to do 1,000 items per minute. She also shared that a new gas plant is being built in Shawnee. Finally, she asked that trash collection along Johnson Drive and arterial roads be increased during summer and also a reminder go out to businesses to keep trash cleaned up.

Councilmember Davis expressed a thank you to the chairs and vice-chairs who are "retiring" and for their hard work at committee tasks.

Mayor Flora mentioned that she and Ms. Smith will be having meetings with the new leadership team in the near future after tonight's committee chairperson elections.

### **COUNCIL COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS**

#### **Sustainability Commission (Kring/Thomas)**

Councilmember Thomas shared that the Commission met earlier in the month and received a lot of updates on different things going on. The energy audit grant program, which will allow residents to receive energy audits and funds to make improvements, is moving forward. Ms. Randel also updated the Commission on the Greenhouse Gas Inventory process and also about MARC's

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Climate and Environment Council which she sits on. Subcommittees of the Commission also gave updates on their activities. Finally, a representative from Parks + Recreation gave an update on the progress at Mohawk Park.

Councilmember Kring mentioned the wonderful work the Commission is doing. Several other cities have come to their meetings to get examples of how they can build their own Sustainability groups, along with phone calls from additional cities to talk about the good work Mission's Sustainability Commission is doing.

### **Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission (Loudon/Ryherd)**

Councilmember Ryherd shared that the Commission met earlier in the week at Broadmoor Park. They noted improvements they would like to see changed around the park, and their two new members who were appointed last month joined the Commission for the first time. She also shared that some recommendations from the Commission will come to Council in the future. Additionally, they will have a table at the Mission Market on June 29 and will share materials about the Commission's work. Councilmember Ryherd provided some updates on Mohawk Park, sharing that the roofing is complete and the restroom pieces are being installed.

### **Mission Magazine Editorial Board (Boultinghouse)**

Councilmember Boultinghouse shared that the Board met earlier in the month and had the chance to meet the new writer, Kris Baker. He enjoyed meeting him and hearing his ideas. Story ideas for 2024 are now being discussed, and the most recent issue of the magazine will feature Councilmember Ryherd's husband and his beekeeping.

### **Family Adoption Committee (Chociej)**

Councilmember Chociej reported that the Family Adoption Committee has not met due to the time of the year.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

There was no Mayor's report tonight.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Smith shared that City Clerk Robyn Fulks will share a business update tonight, and also shared that an updated schedule for the 2024 budget process



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will be going out shortly. Department directors have started working on supplemental budget requests.

City Clerk Robyn Fulks shared business updates with the Council, including openings and closings for sites around the City. Updates included the following openings:

- Tacos El Gallo
- Casey's Retail Store
- Crumbl Cookies
- Triforce Chiropractic
- Campesino Mexican Grill and Cantina

And closings:

- Salsa Grill
- Mission Fresh Fashion
- Tuesday Morning
- Stroud's Express
- Brothers Toys and Music

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Flora explained that there was no need for an executive session tonight.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Moved by Boultinghouse, seconded by Kring** to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. All present voted AYE. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted by Robyn L. Fulks, City Clerk.

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Solana Flora, Mayor

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Robyn L. Fulks, City Clerk