

GREAT BEND CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 2, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Location – City Hall Council Chambers

The Council meeting will be livestreamed for public to view on our city council Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/gbcitycouncil/>.

AGENDA

Members present:

___ Mayor Cody Schmidt	___ Councilmember Cory Urban
___ Councilmember Kevyn Soupiset	___ Councilmember Lindsey Krom-Craven
___ Councilmember Rickee Maddox	___ Councilmember Natalie Towns
___ Councilmember Alan Moeder	___ Councilmember Davis Jimenez
___ Councilmember Jolene Biggs	___ Attorney Allen Glendenning
___ Administrator Brandon Anderson	___ Clerk/Finance Director Shawna Schafer
___ Assistant Administrator Logan Burns	

OPENING: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Minutes:** Minutes of the Regular Session held on December 18, 2023.
- b) **Claim's Warrant Register 1-2-24:** Covering 2023 bills to date.
- c) **Payroll Register P/R 12-29-23:** Covering payroll ending December 23, 2023, in the amount of \$359,654.20.
- d) **Appointments:** Mayor Schmidt will make appointments as appropriate.
- e) **Agenda:** Approval of agenda as submitted or amended.

B. OLD BUSINESS

C. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The public is free to comment on items not listed on the agenda. Please address comments to the City Council as a body and be mindful of others who may wish to speak by abiding by the 3-minute limit. If a large group is present for the same topic, the mayor, in his discretion, may ask that you elect 1 spokesperson, and he could allow a longer time for that individual to speak.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Oath of Office:** Elected councilmembers will be sworn in by City Clerk Shawna Schafer.

Recommendation: City Clerk will administer Oath of Office to Elected Officials.

2. **Elect President of the Council:** The council president is a serving council member elected by the members of the City Council to serve in the temporary absence of the Mayor.

Recommendation: Elect new council president.

3. **Councilmember Reports:** Councilmembers will report on the boards and commissions that they serve on.

Recommendation: Informational item.

4. **Administrators Update:** City Administrator Brandon Anderson will present an update on what is happening within the City organization.

Recommendation: Informational item.

5. **Kestrel Lease:** As previously discussed in an earlier meeting with the City Council, we present the Kestrel Lease for consideration by the city council. Mr. Chase has approved and signed and with council approval and authority of the Mayor to sign we can fully execute the negotiated lease with Kestrel, Inc. He is finalizing his sub-lease with Eagle Med and when completed will be required to submit a copy to the city as a stipulation of the lease. The escalator clause has been exercised and his new lease rate will be \$1125 per year for the remaining 4 more years on the lease. City Administrator Brandon Anderson will report.

Recommendation: Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Kestrel Inc Lease agreement.

6. **John Deere Motor Grader:** Earlier this year our 1997 770 CH went down with transmission issues that are in the neighborhood of \$70,000 to fix. As such the grader sat out at Murphy Tractor while waiting until the end of the year to see our financial situation. City Clerk/Finance Director Shawna Schafer was able to pull the funds together with us utilizing funds from 2022 levee truck in the amount of \$50,000 that we decided to wait on as this purchase is more crucial, the last 3 years of saving up for a levee tractor in the amount of \$82,554 that was purchased in 2023 from a USDA grant that was for the levee, and 2023 year-end transfers in the amount of \$50,000. Through the available funds we have \$182,554. Luke Fanshier with Murphy Tractor was able to find us a used

grader with the same specifications as the one purchased last year. A 2017 John Deere 672G with 5000 hours and the warranty still intact until May 2024 for \$181,500. They were able to give us \$25,000 for trade-in on our 770CH bringing the total for the grader to \$155,500. Public Works Director Jason Cauley will report.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the purchase of a 2017 John Deere Motor Grader from Murphy Tractor for \$155,500.

7. **Property Insurance General Contractor:** From the July 16, 2023, hailstorm, the City of Great Bend sustained substantial damage to not only our vehicles but as well as our property. We began the process with Traveler's Insurance to submit our claim and Traveler's in turn hired JS Held (building consultant) to come up with scoping and pricing for our loss. JS Held then consulted the services of Roofmaster's Roofing to better aid in scope and pricing. Roofmaster's went along with JS Held on the assessment of properties and conducted Hover reports and Xactimate reports. During that time, we realized how in depth Roofmaster's has been involved in the project and how much City time they have saved, we engaged in talks with them and to partner with Brentwood Builders to general contract the property insurance losses. Given the extenuating circumstances of bidding this project out, we realized we would not get an apples-to-apples comparison by doing so and would also save multiple tours of all properties with City staff. Roofmaster's Roofing and Brentwood Builders are both local contractors and can provide payment and performance bonds for this size of project and conduct the work in a reasonable time as required by FEMA deadlines. Assistant City Administrator Logan Burns will report.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the contract with Roofmaster's Roofing as the General Contractor in partnership with Brentwood Builders for the repairs to city properties from the hailstorm in the amount authorized and paid by Travelers Insurance Company on the project plus the owner's deductible.

8. **SRCA Loan Payment Deferment:** On April 5, 2021 the Council approved a loan to the SRCA to assist it with the costs of building retaining walls and installing new timing systems at the dragstrip in connection with the City's' rebuild of the track. The terms call for annual payments due on December 31. Since the dragstrip is not operating, the SRCA's ability to generate the funds to make the 2023 payment has been impaired. The SRCA is asking that the council agree to defer this payment during the pendency of the legal actions concerning the dragstrip. City Attorney Allen Glendenning will report.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the request and defer the SRCA's loan payments during the pendency of the legal actions related to the lawsuit.

9. **Executive Session:** It is recommended that the Governing Body recess to an executive session for the purpose of a six-month evaluation on City Administrator Brandon Anderson.

Recommendation: A motion to recess to executive session for a period of ____ minutes to discuss personnel matters relating to non-elected personnel to conduct the performance review of the City Administrator Brandon Anderson. The regular meeting will resume at __:__p.m.

10. Recess to Old Police Department Building: The Governing Body will recess and reconvene over at the old Police Department Building at 1217 Williams to take a tour of the building. This will be a part of the open meeting and open to the public if anyone wishes to join the council there. Following the tour, the regular city council meeting will adjourn at the old Police Department Building.

ADJOURNMENT