

REGULAR SESSION

The Governing Body met in Regular Session in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Cody Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following presents: Councilmembers Rickee Maddox, Alan Moeder, Cory Urban, Kevyn Soupiset, Jolene Biggs, Davis Jimenez, Lindsey Krom-Craven and Tina Mingenback. Also in attendance were City Administrator Brandon Anderson, Assistant City Administrator Logan Burns, City Attorney Allen Glendenning, and Deputy City Clerk Alison Urban. Absent was City Clerk/Finance Director Shawna Schafer.

OPENING: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Minutes:** Minutes of the Regular Session held on February 20, 2024.
- b) **Claim's Warrant Register 3-4-24:** Covering 2024 bills to date in the amount of \$2,611,755.09.
- c) **Payroll Register P/R 2-23-24:** Covering payroll ending February 3, 2024, in the amount of \$529,894.54.
- d) **Appointments:** Mayor Schmidt made no appointments.
- e) **Fireworks Show at Great Bend Sports Complex:** Approval for the Great Bend Recreation to include a fireworks show on March 23, 2024 after the flashlight easter egg hunt event at the Sports Complex.
- f) **Tree Trimmers License:** David Villalpando, DBA Let's Mow It, LLC, out of Great Bend, Kansas, has applied for a tree trimmers license. All requirements of the ordinance have been completed and recommend approval.
- g) **Agenda:** Approval of agenda as submitted or amended.

Mr. Urban made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moeder and passed by a vote of 7-1, with Ms. Krom-Craven voting against.

B. OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

C. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no visitors or announcements.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Councilmember Reports:** There were no Councilmember reports.

2. **Administrators Update:** City Administrator Brandon Anderson presented an update on what is happening within the City organization.
3. **Economic Development Report:** Economic Development Inc. President Sara Arnberger presented her monthly report.
4. **Abatements:** There were no abatements.
5. **Public Hearing for Dangerous Building – 2421 12th Street:** Assistant City Administrator Logan Burns reported that an investigation was conducted from public right-of-way on the accessory structure. The building inspector's letter referencing the deficiencies is attached for your reference. Deficiencies include leaning walls due to braced wall conditions, deteriorating materials, and roof exposure. The first resolution that was passed January 15, 2024, was mailed certified to the owners/lien holders, however, the Certified Letter came back unclaimed. A letter was also sent via first class mail, and we also posted the resolution on the property. There was no answer at the door when we posted the resolution. The structure would need to be repaired or razed on April 5, 2024. Mayor Schmidt opened for public hearing. Mr. Biggs made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moeder and passed with all voting in favor. Mr. Soupiset then made a motion to approve Resolution 030424-A. The motion was seconded by Ms. Biggs and passed with all voting in favor.
6. **Public Hearing for Dangerous Building – 1622 19th Street:** Assistant City Administrator Logan Burns reported that this building has been torn down and no further action is needed.
7. **Request to the Planning Commission to Begin Work on Amending Zoning Regulations for Solar Farms and Battery Storage Facilities within the 3-mile Jurisdiction of Great Bend:** City Administrator Brandon Anderson reported that at our last meeting, we were given a presentation on a proposed Solar Farm and Battery Storage Project in which portions of the project lie within the 3-Mile Jurisdiction of the City of Great Bend. Barton County is currently working on its Zoning regulations and at the end of Mr. Stratton's presentation he asked that the City of Great Bend consider doing the same to get those regulations in place to allow them to decide if they would choose to move forward under the new rules. Mr. Urban made a motion to request Planning Commission to begin work on amending zoning to include solar farms and battery storage and when completed bring changes to the City Council for consideration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Biggs and passed by a vote of 7-1, with Mr. Moeder voting against.
8. **Economic Development Incentive Request:** City Administrator Brandon Anderson reported that an application for an extension of a property tax exemption was made by Fuller Industries, Inc on January 11, 2024. This had been a discussion ongoing since December of 2022. When the application was received, it was first referred to the Economic Development Incentive Committee for consideration and review. The Committee met on Tuesday, February 27th at 4:00 p.m. The finding of the committee was that the application is not worthy of further consideration under section 5 item #2 of the Tax Exemptions and Incentives Policy and Procedures. This is not a New Business as stated in the application. Joe Mann, CEO of Fuller Industries, was present and asked council to reconsider so that he could obtain more information for them to review and

consider. Mr. Urban made a motion to table this discussion for a period of 30 days to give Fuller Industries Inc. the opportunity to provide a more detailed application for extension of the property tax exemption for economic development purposes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Soupiset and passed by a vote of 5-1, with Ms. Krom-Craven voting against and Ms. Biggs and Ms. Mingenback abstaining.

9. **Executive Session:** An executive session has been requested to discuss personnel matters concerning non-elected personnel for the review of the executive team's performance evaluations. Ms. Krom-Craven made a motion to recess into executive session for a period of 30 minutes to discuss personnel matters concerning non-elected personnel for the review of the executive team's performance evaluations under K.S.A 75-4319(b)(1). The motion was seconded by Ms. Biggs and passed with all voting in favor. The regular meeting will resume at 7:53 p.m. The regular meeting resumed at 7:53 p.m. and no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Biggs made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Urban seconded the motion and passed with all voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.