

GREAT BEND CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 5, 2026

5:30 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/cityofgreatbend/>.

AGENDA

Members present:

___ Mayor Alan Moeder	___ Councilmember Shelly Arnberger
___ Councilmember Kevyn Soupiset	___ Councilmember Gary Parr
___ Councilmember Rickee Maddox	___ Councilmember Tina Mingenback
___ Councilmember Shelly Peacock	___ Councilmember Davis Jimenez
___ Councilmember Jay Luerman	___ Attorney Allen Glendenning
___ Administrator Logan Burns	___ Clerk/Finance Director Shawna Schafer

OPENING: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Minutes:** Minutes of the Regular Session held on September 21, 2026.
- b) **Claim's Warrant Register 10-5-26:** Covering 2026 bills to date.
- c) **Payroll Register P/R 10-2-26:** Covering payroll ending September 12, 2026, in the amount of \$480,240.62.
- d) **Appointments:** Mayor Moeder will make appointments as appropriate.
- e) **Rescinding Resolution 083126-A:** The City is rescinding Resolution 083126-A to ensure all applicable SRF requirements and guidelines are properly followed and that the necessary documentation is on file. A new resolution will be presented for consideration.
- f) **Agenda:** Approval of agenda as submitted or amended.

B. OLD BUSINESS

C. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Members of the public are welcome to comment on items not listed on the agenda. **Please sign up prior to the meeting or contact City Hall in advance to be added to the speaker list.** When addressing the Council, please direct your comments to the City Council as a whole and be mindful of others wishing to speak by adhering to the three-minute time limit. If a large group is present on the same topic, the Mayor, at his discretion, may request that a single spokesperson be selected and may allow additional time for that individual to speak.*

D. NEW BUSINESS

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

Recommendation: Informational item.

2. **Administrators Update:** City Administrator Logan Burns will present an update on what is happening within the City organization.

Recommendation: Informational item.

3. **Economic Development Report:** Economic Development Inc. President Jason Kuilan will present his monthly report.

Recommendation: Informational item.

4. **Great Bend WWTP Public Hearing:** As part of the SRF application process city is required to have a public hearing. This allows the city to present city selected improvements for the funding application presented during the public meeting on 08-31-2026. The Public Hearing is focused on the proposed project, funding, and any rate impacts. The City of Great Bend's Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF), located on the southeast edge of town east of Kiowa Rd and 2nd Street, has components that have exceeded their design life. This has resulted in safety concerns and decreased system reliability in treating the influent wastewater. The City hired JEO Consulting Group to study the WWTP to analyze potential improvements to extend the life of the facility. Multiple options for repairs and replacements were reviewed to address the issues associated with the aging treatment facility. Priority 1 improvements include constructing a new headworks facility to replace the existing structure; rehabilitating the secondary clarifier mechanisms; rehabilitating the post-aeration system diffusers and blowers; upgrading the UV system with a new meter and gates to improve operational capabilities; rehabilitating the outfall line with a new cured-in-place liner; constructing a new sludge handling facility with new sludge presses and conveyance equipment for landfill disposal; updating the SCADA system; and digitizing records and maps. The total estimated cost for the Priority 1 improvements is \$20,301,800. Priority 2 improvements include rehabilitating the extended aeration basins, including repairs to the north basin so it can be placed back into service; installing a new diesel generator; and improving the administration building to provide a more functional work environment. The total opinion of cost for priority 2 improvements is estimated to be \$6,015,000. The City plans to fund the improvements through the low-interest State Revolving Loan Fund Program (SRF) through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The anticipated amount of the loan application request will be \$26,316,800. The City also plans to request \$1,000,000 in loan forgiveness through the SRF program to help offset project cost. The loan is anticipated to be a 20- or 30-year loan with an interest rate of 60% to 70% of the market interest rate as determined by SRF. The City plans to repay the loan by adjusting their sewer rates to generate

the funds needed to make the SRF loan payments. It is anticipated that the impact to the user rates will be between \$17 and \$23 per user per month on average. Utilities Director Darren Doonan will report.

Recommendation: Open public hearing. Motion to close public hearing. Motion to approve Resolution 100526-A.

- 5. Great Bend LSLR Public Hearing:** The proposed project will support the City of Great Bend's efforts to replace lead and lead-contaminated water service lines and meet applicable requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Lead and Copper Rule Improvements. The city is pursuing financial assistance through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to help fund eligible construction, administration, and related project costs. The project is intended to reduce potential lead exposure, protect public health, improve drinking water infrastructure, and support long-term compliance with federal and state drinking water requirements. The City has been working with JEO Consulting Group to complete an inventory of all water service line materials in the city system to identify potential lines for replacement. The City continues to review records and evaluate construction needs to benefit functionality and risk reduction to lead as replacements take place. The City has identified several requirements to pursue in order to comply with the Lead and Copper Rule, including the replacement of public service lines made of lead or lead-contaminated materials and the replacement of private service lines disturbed during the replacement of eligible public lines. The requirements also include engineering costs associated with identifying eligible lines, meeting funding requirements, providing construction management, and ensuring regulatory compliance. In addition, the City will need to develop an EPA-required Replacement Plan and Baseline Inventory, as well as conduct post-construction water quality testing. The total opinion of cost for the project is an estimated \$1,218,000. The City plans to fund the improvements through the low-interest State Revolving Loan Fund Program (SRF) through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The anticipated amount of the loan application request will be \$1,218,000. The City also plans to request \$609,000 in loan forgiveness through the SRF program to help offset project cost. The loan is anticipated to be a 20- or 30-year loan with an interest rate as determined by SRF. The City plans to repay the SRF loan by utilizing funds generated by the passing of the sales tax in November. Should that measure fail, the City plans to repay the loan by adjusting their water rates to generate the funds needed to make the SRF loan payments. It is anticipated that the impact to the user rates will be around \$0.50 per user per month on average. Utilities Director Darren Doonan will report.

Recommendation: Open public hearing. Motion to close public hearing. Motion to approve Resolution 100526-B.

- 6. Abatements:** City Administrator Logan Burns will present abatements.

Recommendation: Take action on abatements.

- 7. Zarah Lofts Loan Agreement:** At the last meeting, the Council approved Amendment #4 authorizing an additional \$90,482.96 in funding from the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC), increasing the total funding from \$1,425,000 to \$1,515,482.96. The next step is to approve the first amendment to the loan agreement between the City of Great Bend and Lofts at the Zarah, LLC, to reflect this increase. The proposed amendment makes the additional funding available for immediate disbursement upon approval. It also revises the requirements for the final \$142,500 disbursement, replacing the requirement for a Certificate of Final Occupancy with verification that at least 66% of the general construction contract value has been completed, based on payments to the general contractor, and that at least an additional \$142,500 in expenditures can be verified. All other terms of the loan agreement remain unchanged. City Administrator Logan Burns will report.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the first amendment to the loan agreement for additional funding of \$90,482.96 from KHRC.

- 8. Fire Department Drone Replacement:** The Great Bend Fire Department has maintained a drone program since 2018. At that time, the department purchased a DJI drone to assist with emergency response, incident assessment, and search and rescue. In 2025, the State of Kansas passed K.S.A. 75-3740h through Senate Bill 9, which prohibits governmental agencies from purchasing drones, drone parts, or drone services from designated “countries of concern”. As a result of this legislation, the Great Bend Fire Department is no longer able to purchase replacement batteries or software updates for our existing DJI drone, effectively limiting our ability to maintain and continue operating the current system. After extensive research we have determined that the Skydio X10 is the only platform that currently meets our needs while allowing us to continue and expand our existing drone program. The Skydio X10 will allow the department to maintain our current capabilities while providing additional capabilities that were not available with our existing drone. The X10 is designed to operate in stronger winds, providing greater flexibility during emergency incidents and adverse weather conditions. It also provides the capability to carry and deliver small items to individuals in need, such as a bottle of water or a life jacket, potentially providing assistance to a victim before ground personnel can safely reach them. This purchase is part of the GBFD capital outlay plan which is funded by the ½ cent infrastructure sales tax that was approved by the citizens of Great Bend in November of 2024. Fire Chief Brent Smith will report.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the purchase of the Skydio X10 drone for \$33,648.65 from Skydio Inc.

- 9. Mayors’ Comments:** Mayor Moeder will report.

ADJOURNMENT