



CITY OF DOWNS

Regular Council Meeting
October 20, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
715 Railroad Street
Downs, Kansas 67437

Downs City Council met in regular session on Monday October 20, 2025, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Council members present: Heather Hancock, Collin Jones, John Cordill, and John Bisnette. Council not present: Joyce Hake. Others present: Kip Thorson, Brady Pound, Harry Colburn and Miranda Robinson. Mayor Vienna Janis called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

Minutes

John C. moved, John B. seconded, to approve regular meeting minutes from October 6, 2025. Motion carried with 3 ayes, Heather abstained.

Staff Reports

Collin Jones, Animal Control, reported he received notice of multiple dogs running loose in the past week. He also received a report of bad conditions of a couple dogs, a formal complaint was to be filed by a resident but had not been done at the time of the meeting.

Code Enforcement Harry Colburn reported he needed to get with the city attorney on a couple issues but the attorney is away on vacation. He stated that there were three cars removed from properties that received letters concerning junked or abandoned vehicles.

City Attorney Bruce Berkley was not present but he made the council aware he sent a letter to a resident concerning not having running water.

In the water report, Colburn stated there was an alarm going off at the water plant and it turned out to be a surge protector. Generator alarm was going off stating low battery. He contacted Kaleb Jones who came out to look at it and will get a replacement battery installed. The circuit board surge protector was found to be obsolete; Jones will look for replacement parts. Colburn also mentioned he will be draining the pedisphere water tower tonight for maintenance, as they will be here in the morning to pressure wash inside and do inspection.

City Superintendent Brady Pound reported on a possible new water and sewer hookup at a building. Remus plumbing will do most of the work and the city crew will do the water meter pit. Pound also mentioned that a resident was checking into turning the tree stump at Circle Drive into a wood carving. Heather will reach out to the resident wanting to do this. Pound reported to council that the street sweeper is needing to be looked at by a mechanic.

Pound stated that the applicant who was to be hired said he is no longer interested as he is moving. City Council would like to run the maintenance help wanted ad for two weeks including the website and Facebook.

City Clerk Miranda Robinson reported her office mailed out 34 late notices for water and sewer utility payments not received. She also reported she received the sale sheet for grain from Scoular. John B. moved, Heather seconded, allowing the mayor to sign the sale purchase of soybeans from Scoular. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

Permits

Heather moved, John C. seconded, to approve building permit 25-31 and demolition permit 25-32. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

New Business

Heather moved, John C seconded to donate \$300 to Solomon Valley Transportation. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

Heather brought up the Chamber radio ad campaign. The mayor will do a thank you ad for the City of Downs.

Old Business

Kip Thorson was present as they rescinded their bids for the clinic due to the parking area not being included in the property that was up for sealed bid. Heather Hancock stated she thinks there was a misunderstanding on what was actually being bid on - the building only versus the building and parking lot. Thorson stated they would be willing to go through with the purchase if the parking lot was included in the sale.

Heather moved, John C. seconded, to sell the clinic building with parking lot to the high bidder, Auntie M Investments for \$25,305. Motion carried with 3 ayes, 1 nay.

Vouchers & Payroll

John B. moved, Heather seconded, to approve payroll and vouchers, except Downs Enterprises mill levy disbursement pending pickup at next council meeting. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

With no further business, John C. moved, John B. seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with 4 ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.



Vienna Janis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Miranda Robinson, City Clerk



(seal)