

Downs City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 18, 2024, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Council members present: John Bisnette, Collin Jones, John Cordill, Heather Hancock. Councilman Devin Renken and Mayor Vienna Janis were absent. Others present: Jeri Lee, Sherry Knouf, Christinna Hensen, Bruce Berkley, Harry Colburn, and Miranda Robinson. Council president John Bisnette called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

John C. moved, Collin seconded, to approve regular meeting minutes from March 4, 2024. 3 ayes carried the motion. Heather abstained

Heather moved, John C. seconded, to approve special meeting minutes from March 8, 2024. 4 ayes carried the motion.

Librarian Sherry Knouf presented council with the monthly report stating that numbers are down but regularly 4-5 kids helping the librarians and doing crafts. Knouf mentioned that the summer reading program is being planned. She also stated that the library roof southside has several shingles missing. City Clerk Robinson stated she would get in touch with a contractor.

City Attorney Bruce Berkley reported that he has sent letters on a couple properties that are nuisance.

City Superintendent Harry Colburn reported he had someone interested in buying the water trailer that is 1,000 gallon tank stainless steel. Heather moved, John C. seconded, to accept sealed bids on the 1,000 gal water tank/trailer due by April 1, 2024. 4 ayes carried.

Colburn stated the roof on the whiteway stage is on his list to fix due to the wind. New tin would need to be purchased and installed.

City Clerk Miranda Robinson reported that Sheri Naasz with Cushing Insurance Agency will be at the next council meeting with the EMC insurance renewal and policy.

Heather moved, Collin seconded, to pay the City Clerk Miranda Robinson \$750 for work completed on the HAT; out of the OCCF Grant funds. 4 ayes carried the motion.

Heather moved, John C. seconded, to approve the pool fees as presented. \$3 daily entry, with 3 and under free; Season passes: \$40 for individual student pass (includes college age); \$40 for senior pass (60+); \$100 for a family pass (persons living in same household); \$60 adult pass. Pool parties will be \$50 plus \$10/hr per lifeguard. Swim lessons will be \$35 per student. 4 ayes carried the motion.

In new business, Christinna Hensen, CPA with the Loyd Group, LLC was in attendance to present the council with the 2023 audit report and financials. She reviewed the management letter with the council and went over important topics in the audit.

Downs Arts Council members Sherry Knouf and Jeri Lee were present to ask that picnic tables and trash cans be set out during the Storytelling Festival weekend at the whiteway since there will be a couple food trucks in town. They were also requesting that the public restrooms at the pool be opened up.

Downs Lions Club member Jeri Lee was present to ask council to waive the fees for the use of the Memorial Hall for the Lions Club White Elephant sale on April 19, 2024. Heather moved, John C. seconded to waive the fees for the Lions Club White Elephant Sale April 19. 4 ayes carried the motion.

Heather moved, John C. seconded, to approve building permits 2024-04 and 2024-07. 4 ayes carried the motion.


Heather moved, John C. seconded, to approve special use permits 2024-31 to 2024-35. 4 ayes carried the motion.

In old business, the council addressed the resident letter that requested help with paying on sewer connection. Heather moved, Collin seconded, to reimburse half of the sewer connection for 604 Division Street. 4 ayes carried the motion

John C. moved, Heather seconded, to submit an application to the Kansas Department of Transportation for City Connecting Link Improvement Program (CCLIP) for fiscal year 2027. 4 ayes carried the motion.

Heather moved, John C. seconded, to approve vouchers and payroll as presented. 4 ayes carried the motion.

Heather moved, John C. seconded, to adjourn the meeting. 4 ayes carried the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

  
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Vienna Janis, Mayor



ATTEST:

  
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Miranda Robinson, City Clerk