



CITY OF DOWNS

Regular Council Meeting
November 4, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.
715 Railroad Street
Downs, Kansas 67437

Downs City Council met in regular session on Monday November 4, 2024, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Council members present: Heather Hancock, Collin Jones, John Cordill, Joyce Hake, and John Bisnette. Others present: Kenneth Lee, Michael White, Michael and Teresa Telesca, Bruce Berkley, Harry Colburn, and Miranda Robinson. Mayor Vienna Janis called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

Minutes

Heather moved, John C. seconded, to approve regular meeting minutes from October 21, 2024. Motion carried with 4 ayes; Joyce abstained.

Staff Reports

Code Enforcement Harry Colburn asked City Attorney Berkley to speak as he was the one who sent an email notification to the council of letters being sent to properties concerning water meter tampering; and illegal compost pile dumping.

City Attorney Bruce Berkley stated he spoke with Coe Weis concerning a septic system and being charged the city sewer rate. Kingsbury has been contacted but no estimates have been received yet. Colburn will contact Remus to get an estimate as well. Berkley also stated that one of the past letters sent out for a nuisance property will be issued a request to appear at municipal court for no activity or communication. There was a complaint concerning barking dogs and the number of dogs at a property location. The council discussed the dog limit and would like the owner to come to the next meeting so they can work on coming into compliance.

City Superintendent Harry Colburn reported he got an estimate for rock and oil for next year. He estimated it to be enough to chip seal 20 to 22 streets. CenCon of Kansas can get the 1/2" or 1/4" rock needed. No action was taken. Colburn also mentioned that the City needs to decide if they want to purchase new Christmas lights, garland, and bows for Roadside Park. The council suggested getting the footage and pricing for all before deciding. It was also stated that the volleyball court was taken from two courts to one, and the new sand has been placed. He ordered a new net but it will not be put up until spring. He suggested that new grass will need to be planted on one side.

City Clerk Miranda Robinson reported that the latest financials were in her report. She reminded the council and all in attendance to vote tomorrow; there will be a town hall hosted by the planning commission on November 14 at 5:30.

Permits

Collin moved, Joyce seconded, to approve building permits 2024-25 and 2024-26. Motion carried with 4 ayes. John B abstained.

New Business

Kenneth Lee was present to ask city council to waive the fees for use of the Memorial Hall for the All School Play on November 22 and 23, 2024. Heather moved, John C seconded, to waive the fees for the use of the Memorial Hall for the Lakeside All-School play. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

At 6:41 p.m., Collin moved recess into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with the City Council, Mayor, City Attorney, City Superintendent and Brady Pound to hold interview pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1). Heather seconded the motion; Motion carried with 5 ayes. Regular session will resume at 7:01 p.m. at City Hall. No action was taken.

At 7:00 p.m., John B. moved recess into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with the City Council, Mayor, City Attorney, City Superintendent and Michael White to hold interview pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1). Heather seconded the motion; Motion carried with 5 ayes. Regular session will resume at 7:20 p.m. at City Hall. No action was taken.

At 7:21 p.m., Joyce moved recess into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with the City Council, Mayor, City Attorney, City Superintendent and Justin Crawford to hold an interview pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1). John B. seconded the motion; Motion carried with 5 ayes. Regular session will resume at 7:40 p.m. at City Hall. No action was taken.

At 7:40 p.m., John C. moved recess into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with the City Council, Mayor, City Attorney, City Superintendent and Chuck Lowe to hold interview pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1). Collin seconded the motion; Motion carried with 5 ayes. Regular session will resume at 8:00 p.m. at City Hall. No action was taken.

Discussion was held on each applicant as well as rate of pay. Heather moved, John C. seconded, to allow Harry Colburn to offer the position of City Superintendent to Brady Pound at \$20 per hour, starting December 17, 2024. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

Old Business

Discussion was held concerning the Downs Clinic Building and the council reviewed minutes and a letter from Bruce McMillan and Tom Orazem, with a report to come later.

Vouchers & Payroll

Joyce moved, Heather seconded, to approve vouchers and payroll as presented. Motion carried with 5 ayes. With no further business, John B. moved, John C. seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with 5 ayes. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



Vienna Janis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Miranda Robinson, City Clerk

