



## CITY OF DOWNS

Regular Council Meeting  
March 2, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.  
715 Railroad Street  
Downs, Kansas 67437

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Downs City Council met in regular session on Monday March 2, 2026, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Council members present: Joyce Hake, Harry Colburn, Collin Jones, and John Bisnette. Council not present: Heather Hancock. Others present: Michael White, Bruce Berkley, Brady Pound, and Miranda Robinson. Mayor Vienna Janis called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

### Minutes

Joyce moved, Harry seconded, to approve regular meeting minutes from February 17, 2026. Motion carried with 3 ayes.

### Staff Reports

Code Enforcement Harry Colburn reported he reached out to Ron Schlaefli who stated he would be starting the second week of March to demolish structures at 1001 Blunt Street.

In the water report, Colburn stated Kruger Backhoe will be coming to help fix the original leak at the water plant. The blowout leak at the water plant last week was repaired. Also, the leak on Morgan Ave got fixed, the concrete will be poured this week.

In the sewer report, Colburn stated they met with Charlie about the lagoons. He will be using Meridian Laboratory to do the sewer testing next time to see if the results are similar as from Pace Laboratory. Colburn stated they contacted Drew Hoops with Wilson & Co. about drawing up plans for fourth cell lagoon. A fourth cell lagoon will make it a non-discharging lagoon and also will make the city not have to test.

City Superintendent Brady Pound reported he had a quote from MARC for pool chemicals for \$3,976.49 plus freight. Joyce moved, Harry seconded, to approve the quote for pool chemicals from MARC as quoted \$3,976.49 plus freight. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

Pound also mentioned that the skid steer attachment should be here by the end of this week and then they will begin work on the cemetery roads.

City Clerk Miranda Robinson reported that there were three shut offs for non-payment of water utility in February. The Osborne Rural Fire District paid the first half of the 2026 fire contract. Clerk Robinson also reminded council to be thinking about the upcoming budget. Clerk Robinson is still working with the CPAs on the audit items for 2025.

Clerk Robinson and Berkley mentioned to council that Osborne is having a few banners in honor of the USA 250 years printed by Schoen's Signs and Graphics. For our poles, the banners will cost \$122 each as the size is larger. Joyce moved, John seconded to order 4 banners celebrating the USA 250 from Schoen's Graphics. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

### Permits

Harry moved, John seconded, to approve contractor license 26-35. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

Harry moved, Collin seconded, to approve special use permits 26-31 and 26-32. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

### New Business

The City Council received a letter requesting fees be waived at the Memorial Hall for the American Red Cross blood drive on March 5. City Clerk stated that there is a deposit on file for the use of the hall from a local donor. Collin moved, Harry seconded, to waive half the fees for the use of the Memorial Hall on March 5, 2026 for the Red Cross blood drive. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

At 6:20 p.m., Harry moved, Collin seconded, to move into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with council, mayor, city attorney and Michael White present for 15 minutes per K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Motion carried with 4 ayes. The regular meeting will resume at 6:33 p.m.

### Old Business

The council discussed wages for the pool manager and lifeguards. Collin moved, John seconded, to approve a \$.50 raise to returning guards and pool managers (pool manager \$16/hr.; assistant manager \$14.50/hr.; fourth year guard at \$12.00/hr.; third year guard at \$11.50/hr.; second year guard \$11.00/hr.; first year guard at \$10.00/hr.) Motion carried with 4 ayes.

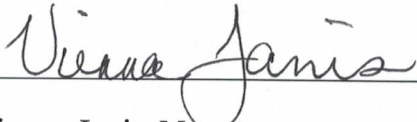
### Council & Mayor Reports

Mayor Janis reminded council she will attend the LKM City Leaders Academy in April.

### Vouchers & Payroll

John moved, Harry seconded, to approve vouchers and payroll as presented. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

With no further business, Joyce moved, Harry seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with 4 ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.



Vienna Janis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Miranda Robinson, City Clerk



(seal)