



CITY OF DOWNS

Regular Council Meeting
September 3, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.
715 Railroad Street
Downs, Kansas 67437

Downs City Council met in regular session on Tuesday September 3, 2024, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Council members present: Heather Hancock, Devin Renken, Collin Jones, John Cordill, and John Bisnette. Others present: Sandy Wagner, Linda Remus, Lisa Schroeder, Janna Schmitt, 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 B. seconded, to approve regular meeting minutes from August 19, 2024. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

Staff Reports

Code Enforcement Harry Colburn reported that a few letters were sent to residents and the city crew will mow a couple properties.

In the water report, Harry Colburn stated he had an issue at the water plant as an alarm went off and the generator kicked on at the plant. The electricity was out so he contacted Prairieland Electric to come out and look. The transformer is putting out too much voltage so Colburn asked them to lower that, however the service person wasn't sure if that was possible. Colburn asked the council to allow the City Attorney to get involved if needed. Berkley stated he would need proof of the excessive voltage to the water plant before contacting Prairieland.

City Superintendent Harry Colburn reported he attended the last county commissioners meeting and they did waive the landfill fees for the fall city wide clean up September 20-23.

City Clerk Miranda Robinson reported the monthly financials were in her report. She received a request from Lakeside STUCCO for fees to be waived for use of Memorial Hall on October 4. Collin moved, Devin seconded, to waive fees for Lakeside STUCCO homecoming dance at Memorial Hall October 4, 2024. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

Permits

Heather moved, John C. seconded, to approve contractor's licenses 2024-48. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

Devin moved, Collin seconded, to approve a special use permit 2024-49. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

New Business

Janna Schmitt, Sandy Wagner, Linda Remus, and Lisa Schroeder were all present to discuss with the council as to what the next steps are for the clinic building and options to keep it open. Council needs to review the reports and bids before they decide how to move forward with remediation and construction. The council suggested that the first step is to find a temporary building to set up the clinic to get the staff out of the building.

At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Janis called the Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing to order and asked for any public comment. There were no objections, verbal or written. John B. moved, Devin seconded, to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate and adopt Resolution #2024-02, stating the intent to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate. Motion carried with 5 ayes. The roll call vote was recorded

and certified by Miranda Robinson, City Clerk. Mayor Janis declared the RNR public hearing closed at 6:05 p.m.

At 6:05 p.m., Mayor Janis called the 2025 Budget Hearing to order and asked for any public comment. There were no objections to the proposed budget, oral or written. Council held discussion on a few items. Heather moved, John C. seconded, to adopt the 2025 Budget as published. Motion carried with 5 ayes. Mayor Janis declared the public hearing closed at 6:12 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m. Heather moved, Devin seconded, to move into executive session to discuss a non-elected personnel matter exception K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1) with council, mayor, city clerk, city attorney, and Mary Daharsh present for 20 minutes. Motion carried with 5 ayes. The regular meeting will resume at the City Office at 6:50 p.m.

Old Business

Discussion was held with the council, city superintendent, and city clerk concerning the clinic environmental report from AMEI and the newly received bid from Lamunyon. No decisions were made at this time. Heather and John C. agreed to view two buildings as options for a temporary clinic the following morning with the City Superintendent and clinic staff.

Vouchers & Payroll

Devin moved, John B. seconded, to approve vouchers and payroll as presented. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

Executive Sessions

At 8:00 p.m. Heather moved, Collin seconded, to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss a non-elected personnel matter exception K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(1) with the mayor and council present. Motion carried with 5 ayes. The regular meeting will resume at 8:10 p.m.

Collin moved, Devin seconded, to approve giving Miranda Robinson and Mike White a \$2.00/hour wage increase effective September 1, 2024. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

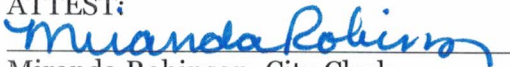
Collin moved, Devin seconded, to hire Mary Daharsh as City Utility Billing Clerk, after checking references, effective immediately at \$14/hour. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

With no further business, John B. moved, Collin seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with 5 ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Vienna Janis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Miranda Robinson, City Clerk



(seal)