



CITY OF DOWNS

Regular Council Meeting
January 21, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
715 Railroad Street
Downs, Kansas 67437

Downs City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Council members present: Joyce Hake, Collin Jones, John Cordill, and John Bisnette. Council not present: Heather Hancock. Others present: Eric Rose, Eric Rose II, Bruce Berkley, Brady Pound, Harry Colburn and Miranda Robinson. Mayor Vienna Janis called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

Minutes

Joyce moved, John C. seconded, to approve regular meeting minutes from January 6, 2025. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

Public Comment

Eric Rose and Eric Rose II were present to discuss rezoning his property to allow cattle. The Council and City Attorney stated that the planning commission needs to consider this matter. The City Clerk will put them on the planning commission meeting agenda for January 27.

Staff Reports

Animal Control Officer Collin Jones reported he has talked with the Downs Veterinary Clinic and a policy is being worked out together. Jones also stated he has started his online training.

In the water report, Harry Colburn stated there was a high consumption of water this morning due to a fire.

City Superintendent Brady Pound reported they are having power issues with the skid steer and would like to start getting bids on skid steers as the current lease is almost up. He is also trying to get a contract on fuel/diesel with Bob's Inc. He asked about quotes for brickwork at Memorial Hall, Berkley stated he is still needing to get in contact with contractors.

Superintendent Pound asked for permission for Mike White and himself to attend KRWA annual conference in Wichita at the end of March. They will both take the wastewater operator test while there. Joyce moved, John C. seconded, to allow them to go to the KRWA conference and take the wastewater test. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

City Clerk Miranda Robinson reported working on audit items. She has mailed out 1099s and W-2's. Robinson received the engagement letter for the 2026 budget from the Loyd Group. John B. moved, John C. seconded to allow the mayor to sign the letter from Loyd Group. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

Clerk Robinson asked for permission to attend CCMFOA training in Manhattan mid-March. John B. moved, John C. seconded, to allow City Clerk to attend. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

The Fire Department wants to thank Wayne Bowles for a food donation, Jim Keezer, and Brady Pound with the City for helping the department with the fire on Blunt Street. Berkley also stated that the department is looking for members to join. Jones reported that they held elections at

the last regular meeting. Joel Hardy was voted in as Chief, Collin Jones as Assistant Chief, Dalton Remus as First Captain, and David Hardy as Secretary/Treasurer.

Permits

Collin moved, John C. seconded, to approve contractor's licenses 25-29 to 25-30. Motion carried with 4 ayes. Joyce moved, Collin seconded, to approve special use permit 25-19. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

New Business

Discussion was held regarding the employee health insurance from Blue Cross Blue Shield. John C. moved, John B. seconded, to accept the 2025 BCBS renewal rates. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

A request to waive fees for use of the Memorial Hall was presented to the council from the Lakeside FFA and Cheer team to host a dance. Joyce moved, Collin seconded, to waive Memorial Hall fees for the LHS dance. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

Council & Mayor Reports

Mayor Janis appointed John Bisnette as council president. Mayor Janis appointed the following council members to committees: John Cordill and Joyce Hake to streets and alleys; Heather Hancock and John Bisnette to water and sewer; John Bisnette and Collin Jones to parks and pool; Heather Hancock and John Cordill to the Memorial Hall, cemetery, and ballfields; Collin Jones and Joyce Hake to the fire department and clinic. Mayor Janis appointed officers for 2025 as follows: Municipal Judge, Kenneth Lee; City Attorney, Bruce Berkley; City Clerk, Miranda Robinson; Assistant City Clerk, Mary Daharsh; Treasurer, Dave Draayer; Deputy Treasurer, Melanie Schreiner; Building/Zoning Administrator, Harry Colburn; Code Enforcement, Harry Colburn; City Superintendent Brady Pound; Housing Board member, Donna Brohman for four years. John B. moved, John C. seconded to approve the mayor appointments as stated. Motion carried with 4 ayes.

Vouchers & Payroll

Joyce moved, Collin seconded, to approve vouchers and payroll as presented. Motion carried with 4 ayes. With no further business, Collin moved, Joyce seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with 4 ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.



Vienna Janis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Miranda Robinson, City Clerk

