

City of Walnut
City Council Meeting Minutes
May 5th, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

Mayor: Brian Kirkpatrick City Attorney: Timothy L. Fielder
Council Members: Jonathan Westhoff, Melissa Smith, Loren Morse, Bobbie Norris, Cory Scott
Clerk: Saralyn Boyd Treasurer: Samantha Guy Superintendent: Craig Kirkpatrick

Call to Order

Mayor Brian Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order with Council Members Melissa Smith, Cory Scott, Jonathan Westhoff, Loren Morse and Bobbie Norris in attendance. Also in attendance were City Clerk Saralyn Boyd, City Treasurer Samantha Guy, and City Attorney Timothy Fielder. City Superintendent Craig Kirkpatrick was absent.

Approval of Agenda

Melissa Smith made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Cory Scott seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Approval of Minutes

Jonathan Westhoff motioned for approval of the minutes from the previous regular meeting. Loren Morse seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Approval of Bills

Cory Scott made a motion to approve the bills. Loren Morse seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Clerk's Report

The account balance as of May 5th was \$19,543.65. The savings account balance as of May 5th was \$121,946.01. As for delinquent utility accounts for April, all were collected.

Saralyn noted that the last tractor loan payment would be made in May.

Treasurer's Report

City Treasurer, Samantha Guy, reported all was accurate for the reports for April. She noted they would hopefully be hearing if they got the grant for the Mike Fox Memorial Park soon.

Old Business

The City Fire Department ISO Rating was discussed as the city is continuing to get calls from insurance providers and residents about the increase. Jamie Scott noted that she submitted paperwork and they didn't accept the paperwork the way it was filled out, so she is contacting the representative for advice on corrections on the documents.

New Business

Saralyn reminded the Council members of the upcoming November election. The seats up for

election are Seats #1, #3 & #5. Those wishing to be on the ballot will need to file with the County by June 1st.

Brian gave an update on the Water Tower Project. The work had been completed on the tower and they were filling the tower that evening. There had been a leak when they went to fill it a couple weeks prior and it had just been finished.

The Lease Purchase agreement for the Water Tower project was signed at the meeting by all council members, dated 5/5/2025, 5.25% interest rate on \$100,000.00 on a 5-year note. \$1,900 was the payment required each month but Melissa Smith motioned to pay \$3,000 per month on the note. Cory Scott seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Resolution 2025-1 was presented to the council in regards to the note. Melissa Smith motioned to approve Resolution 2025-1. Cory Scott seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Employee evaluations were discussed in executive session. Cory Scott motioned to have an executive session not longer than 10 minutes starting at 7:05pm. The meeting resumed at 7:10pm. Cory Scott motioned to give Brian Kirkpatrick, Craig Kirkpatrick, Saralyn Boyd and Dwight Crapson a 5% pay raise and Samantha Guy a 10% pay raise. Bobbie Norris seconded the motion. All were in favor, Jonathan Westhoff abstained.

Maintenance Report

Saralyn noted that the CCR hadn't been released yet as of the meeting date and that we would send those out as soon as they were available. The City had also received a RTCR Drinking Water Monitoring Violation that would have to be mailed out to all customers due to not enough samples making it to KDHE in April in the required time frame due to the postal service. This has since been remedied by courier out of Chanute taking the samples.

Brian Kirkpatrick noted to the council that Payton Norris had inquired about the city owned lots behind His & Hers Bar. There are two lots owned by the city and one lot owned by Richard McCabe. The council asked that an appraisal be done on the properties and Payton come with an offer for the lots.

Samantha noted there was a broken swing at the library park that was in need of replacement. Brian said they would order a few swings to have for replacements. There are also some other issues at the park including rotting wood, large holes and equipment in need of repainting. Samantha noted we could try to plan a volunteer day for the summer to encourage those to come help.

Librarian's Report

Librarian Jamie Scott did not have anything to report.

Councilmember Concerns

There were no council member concerns.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Call for Adjournment

Cory Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jonathan Westhoff seconded the motion. All were in favor.