

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
SOLOMON KS 67480
February 3, 2025 at 6:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Shawn Kirby called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Council Present: Shawn Kirby, Jennifer Cross, Kelley Vandecreek, Brian Duryea, Colten Kohman

Absent: Brandy Gray

Staff Present: Andrea McCook, Krista Radke, Dan Britt, Randy Paden

Others Present: Sheriff Jerry Davis, Aaron Martin, Chris Ade, Jerri Richards, Sonya Thompson, Stacey Zerbe, Rob Peschel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR February 3, 2025 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Motion by Jennifer Cross to approve the agenda, seconded by Kelley VanDeCreek, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Andrea McCook shared a couple of positive e-mails she'd received in regards to the increase in water rates and thanking the council for their transparency and hard work in looking towards the future.

3. PRESENTATION/REPORTS

1. Senior Center- Jerri Richards reported that Michelle Homann resigned from her position and introduced Sonya Thompson as the new director. Sonya reported that 473 meals had been prepared in January. They will finalize the setup of the AED machine this week.

2. Pool-Stacey Zerbe reported that she would be losing at least 2 lifeguards this summer. They ran the pool with 8 staff last year. Kelley VanDeCreek will reach out to Liz Krause to make an announcement and advertise at the school. Stacey will begin taking applications now. There was discussion about reaching out to Abilene or Salina as well.

3. CES- Rob Peschel gave an update on where we are at with our water project. He shared a sheet of probable costs that was presented December of 2023. He also shared the original scope of the project with 90% of the design being complete. There was discussion about breaking it into phases and what that would look like. This might not be our best option as there are many needs and not wants that we could cut out. Rob encouraged us to reach out to a municipal financial planner. The last sheet he presented to the council was a theoretical comparison of financing options.

4. Dickinson County Sheriff- Jerry Davis provided a summary of activity for January 2025. 6 traffic stops, 1 welfare check, 20 suspicious activity, 6 speak with an officer, 1 traffic complaint, 1 outside agency assist, 4 alarms, 3 unknown problems, 1 psych emergency, 1 theft, 1 utility, 1 weapons complaint, 2 arrests, 2 noise, 1 burglary, 1 citizen check, 1 damage to property, 1 drugs, 1 harassment. They had 55 calls with 244.5 hours.

5. Solomon Fire Department- Chief Paden reported that he did get back 4 refurbished SCBA back from the SCBA company. These are loaners till they can get our 4 completed and sent out. They are having a hard time getting them at this time, so there might be a delay in receiving ours. They have not paid for the 4 approved last year and they won't until they get their 4 SCBA back. The new chassis went over to Watts for a day last month to get measured and everything ordered. They are hoping to start working on it this month. Randy reported price updates on the gear that is worn and needs replaced. Structure pants \$1,238.95/ea and they need 3, rescue/wildland pants \$455/each, boots \$305 each and need 2 for a total of \$4781.85 plus shipping. He is not able to get any of those under a grant.

17 calls in January

In The City - 8- Med Calls, 1 high CO in the house, 1 gas leak, 3 stuck vehicles with 1 family staying at the station for a couple of hours utilizing the warming center, 1 canceled enroute.

In The County - 1 Med Cals, 1 vehicle accident.

Out of District - 1 structure fire.

6. Public Works Director- Dan Britt reported that after the snowstorm they worked on widening the streets and scooping snow for another week about 3-4 hours a day. One of them would also follow behind to keep the driveways clear. Ginder hydraulic fixed the new dump truck quickly and it was back to working and running the next day. They've been working on their annual maintenance of equipment.

7. City Clerk - Andrea McCook reported that payroll was up and running with Gusto and noted it was a smooth transition. She's continuing to work on the USDA punch list. She met with Smart Insurance and reviewed our current policy. She'll be getting with Dan & Randy and get an update on any costs/coverage that need changed. There will be an employee meeting this Friday to discuss reviews, vacation/sick balances, safety policy, and uniforms and vouchers. Andrea also met with Brandy, Curtis Boyer, and Lori Brubaker to discuss P&Z goals for 2025.

8. Municipal Services Clerk- Krista Radke reported there were 20 Cases on the docket for January. 7 first appearance, 8 pay or appear, 3 cases set for status, 2 trial cases.

2024 Case Numbers- 53 Total (18 Criminal Cases & 35 Traffic Cases)

Next court date 2/20/25 at 4:00

Krista reported that the bills with the new rates have been sent out. The link to sign up with NexBill was placed on the postcard for people to sign up.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Council reviewed consent agenda items including:

(1) Approval of minutes dated January 8, 2025.

(2) January Check Register & Payroll Summary

(3) License approval- Home Resort

A motion by Kelley VanDeCreek to approve Consent Agenda, seconded by Jennifer Cross, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. DISCUSSION ON SOLICITOR, PEDDLER, ICE CREAM & FOOD TRUCK LICENSES

ARTICLE 1, 2, & 6 WERE REVIEWED AND DISCUSSED. AARON O. MARTIN PRESENTED HIS CHANGES AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS. AFTER FEEDBACK HE'LL DEVELOP A FINAL ORDINANCE TO IMPLEMENT THESE CHANGES AT THE MARCH MEETING.

B. HR: EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK-ADDITION OF SAFETY POLICY

A MOTION WAS MADE BY KELLEY VANDECREEK TO APPROVE THE SAFETY POLICY AS PRESENTED WITH THE CHANGE TO 7-2 IN THAT THE REPORTING WILL GO THROUGH THE ON-CALL NURSE, SECONDED BY BRIAN DURYEA, 5 YAYS, 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

C. ADMIN: INSURANCE- INCREASE EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY BOND COVERAGE TO \$250,000

EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY IS CURRENTLY SET AT \$5,000/EMPLOYEE. WHEN SUBMITTING PAPERWORK FOR OUR USDA LOAN THEY WERE REQUIRING US TO HAVE COVERAGE UP TO \$369,000, COSTING US \$700-\$1,000 MORE ANNUALLY. DEB OHLDE WITH NCRPC COMMUNICATED WITH AUSTIN MASTERS OF USDA AND IT WAS AGREED UPON \$250,000 WITH OUR OTHER INTERNAL CONTROLS. THIS WILL COST THE CITY \$300 MORE ANNUALLY

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JENNIFER CROSS TO APPROVE EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY COVERAGE TO \$250,000, SECONDED BY COLTEN KOHMAN, 5 YAYS, 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

6. CITY MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

None

7. CALENDAR REMINDERS

Monday, February 24th- Council Workshop

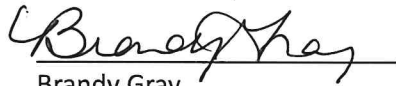
Monday, March 3rd at 6 PM- City Council Meeting

8. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:06 PM by Brian Duryea, seconded by Jennifer Cross, 5
Yays, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Signed:

Attest:



Brandy Gray
Mayor



Andrea McCook
City Clerk