

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

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Brandy Gray called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

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

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

Others Present: Sheriff Jerry Davis, Aaron Martin, Chris Ade, Lynn Teeters, Kyle McCook, Jessica Goodale, Ben Hobbs, Lindsey Hobbs.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR March 3, 2025 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

None.

3. PRESENTATION/REPORTS

1. Recreation Commission- Kyle McCook reported that Logan Krause was hired in January as the new Recreation Coordinator. Soccer will start this month and run for 4 weekends. Then they'll start gearing up for baseball and softball. The Community Easter Egg Hunt has been scheduled for April 13th. Kyle and Carson met with Brandy last week to discuss future new ideas and activities for the community.

2. Library- Lynn Teeters reported that the library is working on getting caught up after being closed several days with the snowstorms. They're working on their budget, updating library policies, and getting insurance quotes. They've hired a new employee, Candy Gray. There is a new courier service that drops off and picks up books. They have not had Story Hour since October but hope to get that back up and running. The theme for this year's Summer Program is "Color Our World".

3. DKEDC- Jessica Goodale informed the Council that KanEquip's ribbon cutting will be taking place March 12th at 3:30 and encouraged people to attend. She also presented the Council with packets of information in regards to the Community Improvement District (CID) and Certified Sites program. They are wanting to help smaller communities develop incentives to bring new businesses in. Discussion followed. DKEDC will help write a proposal to be discussed at a Council Workshop. This will be proactive and give Solomon something to market. A new business would then apply for a CID and that would have to then be approved by the Council.

4. Dickinson County Sheriff- Jerry Davis provided a summary of activity for February 2025. 13 traffic stops, 4 suspicious activity, 7 speak with an officer, 2 outside agency assist, 2 alarms, 1 unknown problem, 2 utility, 1 burglary, 1 open door, 1 civil matter, 1 animal complaint, 1 domestic disturbance, 1 juvenile complaint, and 1 escort. They had 38 calls with 214.75 hours.

5. Solomon Fire Department- Chief Paden reported that with the dry conditions and high winds forecasted for the next several days he was placing us in a burn ban. The forestry grant is open again for this year. This is a 50/50 grant and they're looking at getting some wildland tools and hoses for the new truck. Randy also reported that they are still waiting for the 4 refurbished SCBA's that were approved last year. They did send loaner SCBA's to use in the meantime.

11 Calls in February

In The City - 5- Med Calls, 1 gas line break, 1 canceled in route

In The County - 1 Child birth, 1 false alarm, 1 canceled in route

Out of District - 1 vehicle accident

6. Public Works Director- Dan Britt reported there will be a State-wide tornado drill this Wednesday. They will test the sirens every Tuesday at noon through the season. They finished up the pool today. They thought that should last 7-8 years before needing to be painted again and then shouldn't have to resandblast. The only thing left to do is add a new railing by the entryway steps. The pool is set to open May 24th and they will try and get the pool filled at least 2 weeks prior. The motor went out on well #5 but they were able to get it replaced and back on quickly. The sewer lagoon shut off. This will take time but correct itself. Dan did dump some liquid oxygen in there. Twin Valley is still finishing up in a few areas. There are several potholes and areas that need asphalt around town. When it warms up they will get a load of asphalt and start filling.

7. City Clerk - Andrea McCook reported that Solomon unfortunately didn't receive a KWO Grant. The office has been busy with residents getting animal and garden permits. Over half of the garden plots are already taken. Andrea will e-mail Luke to have him set up a Garden Board Meeting to discuss the upcoming season. She has been working on several of the business items below and will discuss those later in the meeting.

8. Municipal Services Clerk- Krista Radke reported there were 20 Cases on the docket for February. 1 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 February 3, 2025.

(2) February Check Register & Payroll Summary

(3) License approval- KVK, S&K Electric, Bird Contracting, Inc., Jae's Electrical, LLC

A motion by Shawn Kirby to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Brian Duryea, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Solicitor, Peddler, Ice cream, & Food Truck Licenses

Ordinance 771 was presented to amend three different articles in section five of the code book. The addition of Article 6 Mobile Food Vendors was discussed. There is no site plan yet but that will be added as needed. It was moved by Jennifer Cross to approve ordinance 771, seconded by Colten Kohman, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried

Motion made by Brian Duryea to approve updated fee schedule, seconded by Kelley VanDeCreek, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

2. Vacated Property- 105 E Main

The City doesn't currently allow any new mobile homes. Discussion was held with no action taken.

3. KDHE Property Clean-Up

Discussion was held on properties that have been a part of this in the past and an upcoming project and what that process looks like.

4. Library Board Appointments

Lauroi Overlease's application was reviewed. Motion by Colten Kohman to approve Lauroi's 4 year term starting May 1, 2025- April 30, 2029 to replace Sheila Cook, seconded by Jennifer Cross, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

5. Planning & Zoning New board members.

Applications were reviewed. Motion by Kelley VanDeCreek to approve Mike Richards and Aaron Hoover as new members, seconded by Brian Duryea, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

b. Water Project Update

The City didn't receive a KWO grant. We were encouraged to reapply. This can be done annually. No USDA or CDBG is available. The City has added a monthly \$5 infrastructure fee and is looking at a sales tax.

After much discussion, motion by Jennifer Cross to move the project into 3 phases, seconded by Shawn Kirby, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the financials of the project. Motion by Shawn Kirby to approve 3.7 million for phase 1, seconded by Brian Duryea, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

The council also decided to remove the wellhouse related projects from the water infrastructure project and address them individually over time as funding allows.

7. Sales Tax

Motion made by Colten Kohman to proceed with steps to incorporate a 1% Sales Tax and place on the ballot for November 4, 2025 election, seconded by Brian Duryea, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

8. KDHE Contract Update

Motion made by Shawn Kirby to appoint Brandy Gray as legal appointment, seconded by Brian Duryea, 5 yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

9. EMC Insurance Renewal

Motion by Kelley VanDeCreed to renew insurance, seconded by Shawn Kirby, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

10. Wage adjustments

After discussion it was moved by Shawn Kirby to approve the wage adjustments starting April 1st, seconded by Jennifer Cross, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

6. CITY MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

Brian Duryea will reach out to Luke Riordan to see when their next Garden meeting is and coordinate with Dan to have him there.

7. CALENDAR REMINDERS

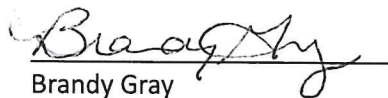
Monday, March 31st at 6PM- Council Workshop

Monday, April 7th at 6PM- City Council Meeting

8. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 8:04 PM by Jennifer Cross, seconded by Kelley VanDeCreek, 5 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Signed:



Brandy Gray
Mayor

Attest:



Andrea McCook
City Clerk