

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
SOLOMON KS 67480
July 7, 2025 at 6:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

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

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

Absent: Mayor Brandy Gray, Jennifer Cross

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

Others Present: Attorney Aaron Martin, Sheriff Jerry Davis, Chris Ade, Jill Duryea, Stacey Zerbe, Jaelyn Ecton

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR July 7, 2025 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Shawn had two additions for the agenda- Adding 5.3 Approve old radios as surplus and 5.4 Ohl Fire.

Motion by Brian Duryea to approve the agenda with the additions, seconded by Kohman, 3 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

No public comments

3. PRESENTATION/REPORTS

1. Solomon Housing Authority- Jae Ecton reported that 2 units are being worked on and available soon. She has a waiting list of 5 applications.

2. Planning & Zoning- Curtis Boyer was unable to attend.

3. Solomon Festival- Jill Duryea gave a schedule of events for the Solomon Festival being held July 18th-19th.

4. Dickinson County Sheriff- Jerry Davis provided a summary of activity for June 2025. 13 traffic stops, 6 suspicious activity, 7 speak with an officer, 2 damage to property, 4 alarms, 21 unknown problems, 2 animal complaints, 1 juvenile complaint, 1 arrest, 1 noise, 1 traffic accident, 6 traffic complaint, 2 utility, 1 theft. They had 68 calls with 218.25 hours. Jerry also reported that the recent burglaries on July 3-4 are under investigation and the animal complaint is now with the City Prosecutor.

5. Solomon Fire Department- Chief Paden reported on the recent structure fire. 5 fire marshals investigated. The cause is currently undetermined. A zoom meeting was held with mental health professionals. Randy also reached out to 1033 Foundation for first responder support. They will have a debriefing with the foundation and first responders this Wednesday night. Randy also reported that they're getting ready for the festival. Randy did submit the application for the State Farm \$10,000 grant for new truck equipment. He is also preparing to write another one this week. We're waiting on the city attorney to review the volunteer firefighter program.

23 calls in June

In The City - 20- Med Calls with 17 being at the same address,

In The County - 3- 1 Medical call, 1 vehicle accident, and 1 electrical fire

6. Public Works Director- Dan Britt reported they spent an entire day picking up debris from streets after the big windstorm. They removed several fallen limbs from the park as well and helped citizens with their cleanup efforts. KDHE cleanup was attempted twice but rain interfered and now it is currently on hold due to the recent structure fire. Toby Kuhn [KDHE] has been contacted and updated on the situation. Chicken inspections are about 70% complete, with only minor issues found so far. There have been several water leaks in recent weeks. The guys are also

dealing with frequent mowing due to all the rain we've had. Twin Valley now has their Wi-Fi up and going in the park. Homman Electronics is currently trenching the speaker wire. The fence around the pickleball court was completed this weekend. Mulch glue has been ordered for the mulch surrounding the court. The sand at the volleyball court has been tilled and will be done again before the festival. They will also spray for mosquitos again the Thursday before the festival.

7. City Clerk- Andrea McCook reported that the Varney's audit had been completed and we are waiting on the final report. She has started budget discussions with Craig for 2026. She continues to work on code compliance and has started sending letters to citizens who need to get in compliance.

8. Municipal Services Clerk- Krista Radke reported court was not held this month. Next court date is 7/17/25.

Krista reported she'd been helping Andrea with Code Related tasks and assisting Dan with water-related work.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Council reviewed consent agenda items including:

- (1) Approval of minutes dated June 2nd & June 11th, 2025.
- (2) June Check Register & Payroll Summary & May Fund Reports.
- (3) License approval- Weddle & Sons Inc.

A motion by Brian Duryea to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Kelley VanDeCreek, 3 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Mobile Food Vendor Site Plan

The park is zoned residential, which the current food truck ordinance doesn't allow operation in residential areas. Zoning regulations will need to be amended to permit food trucks in the park. City Attorney Aaron Martin will draft an amendment to our current ordinance and advise how to proceed with a site plan approval process. The current site being looked at is the south side of the park with 2 spots available. Most cities have separate zoning district for parks but we are looking to create flexibility without major zoning changes.

2. 2026 Proposed Budget

2026 Budget Summary was reviewed. Craig has proposed a mill rate of 64.675. Andrea will need to notify the county by July 20 that we're exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Two upcoming budget workshops have been scheduled for July 21st & July 28th. Department managers need to prepare and submit budget needs for 2026 ASAP. Departments will dive more into the details during the workshops. The goal is to ensure budgets properly represent department needs and then any variances will be resolved with Craig. Council members are to preview documents before the budget meetings.

3. Consider radios as surplus

Chief Paden requested to declare 38 VHF & UHF radios as surplus.

Motion by Kelley VanDeCreek to move the 38 radios to surplus, seconded by Colten Kohman, 3 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

4. Residential Fire Update

There was discussion about insurance and the cleanup process. The discussion focused on the legal and practical steps to address the fire-damaged property.

6. CITY MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

Colten thanked the fire department for all their work on the fire.

7. CALENDAR REMINDERS

Monday, July 21 at 6PM- Budget Workshop

Monday, July 28 at 6PM-Council Workshop & Budget Workshop

Monday, August 4th at 6PM- City Council Meeting

8. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 6:50 PM by Kelley VanDeCreek, seconded by Brian Duryea, 3
Yays, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Signed:

Attest:

Shawn Kirby
Council Chair



Andrea McCook
City Clerk