

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
SOLOMON KS 67480
August 4, 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: Kelley Vandecreek, Brian Duryea, Colten Kohman, Jennifer Cross

Council Absent: Shawn Kirby

Staff Present: Andrea McCook, Dan Britt

Others Present: Attorney Aaron Martin, Sheriff Jerry Davis, Stacey Zerbe, Jerri Richards, Sonya Thompson, Jessica Lindsley, DeanAnn Zsamba, Jennifer Wiese, Ralph Ohl, Kathy Ohl, Kathleen Carroll, Barbara Glover

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR August 4, 2025 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Motion by Jennifer Cross to approve the agenda with the additions, seconded by Brian Duryea, 4 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

No public comments

3. PRESENTATION/REPORTS

1. Financial Audit Report- Jessica Lindsley handed out an audit report to the council and reviewed it. Varney & Associates found no issues, concerns, recommendations for the City. She noted the audit went smoothly this year and thanked the City staff for their cooperation. The financial statements reflect the city's financial position with no significant changes from the previous year.

2. Building Inspector- Bill was unable to attend but Andrea reported that he's been keeping busy this summer with 9 roof permits, 4 fence permits, and 2 building permits along with with several items in the works.

3. Solomon Pool- Stacey Zerbe reported that the pool was set to close August 10th but they have enough staff to remain open August 11-13 during normal hours and also can extend two more weekends to include the 16th & 17th and also the 23rd & 24th. Current daily attendance has been low. The childcare center has been using the baby pool at a discounted rate.

4. Senior Center-Sonya Thompson reported they've been serving 27-28 meals a day. She expects that number to go up to 30+ in September. The building has been rented 4 times in July with more upcoming dates reserved. She reported a few maintenance issues that Dan will follow-up on.

5. Dickinson County Sheriff- Jerry Davis provided a summary of activity for July 2025. 8 traffic stops, 8 suspicious activity, 6 speak with an officer, 7 damage to property, 2 unknown problems, 1 animal complaint, 1 noise, 1 utility, 3 theft, 8 burglary, 2 citizen check, 2 civil matters, 2 harassment, 2 outside agency assist, 2 welfare checks, 1 fire structure, 1 lost/found property, 1 motorist assist, 1 open door, 1 psychiatric emergency, 1 trespassing, 1 weapons complaint. They had 62 calls with 229.5 hours. Jerry also reported the juveniles had been caught and charged with burglaries and property damage and will now go through the court system.

5. Solomon Fire Department- Chief Paden was absent but provided a written report stating they'd had a very busy month. They set up the cabin and cooked both days at the festival and then also did stand by for the Demo Derby at the Fair in Abilene.

25 calls in July

In The City - 7- Med Calls, 3 fire, 1 house fire, 7 other calls

In The County - 3 Medical call, 4 fire

6. Public Works Director- Dan Britt reported he's started getting bids from engineers on storm drainage projects. They received an out-of-compliance letter from KDHE Air Quality Division on the dump site. Inspectors found debris including particle board and tarps. The dirt and ash piles will also need to be buried to return to compliance. Discussion was held on improving signage out at the dump and at the office when checking out keys. The team has been busy with routine summer activities including: water leaks, street repairs, mowing, equipment repairs, and managing lift station issues. This month they will begin exercising water valves and flushing and testing hydrants throughout town.

7. City Clerk- Andrea McCook reported that chicken inspections have been completed. Letters for code compliance have been sent out and the next focus will be on RV's.

8. Municipal Services Clerk- No report given as Krista was sick.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Council reviewed consent agenda items including:

(1) Approval of minutes dated July 7th & July 21st, 2025.

(2) July Check Register & Payroll Summary & June Fund Reports.

A motion by Brian Duryea to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Kelley VanDeCreek, 4 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Consider approval of 2024 Financial Audit

Motion by Kelley VanDeCreek to approve the 2024 financial audit, seconded by Brian Duryea, 4 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

2. Planning & Zoning-Consider New Member Appointment

There is currently 1 spot open on the P&Z Board

Motion by Kelley VanDeCreek to appoint Gina Bell to P&Z for a 3 year term, seconded by Colten Kohman, 4 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

3. Consider Ordinance 774 Amending Section 5-609 Mobile Food Vendors

Attorney Martin explained the proposed amendment to the mobile food vendor ordinance.

The recommendation was to modify Section 5-609 to allow mobile food vendors on city park property and school property with authorization, while maintaining the prohibition of food trucks in residential zoning districts.

Motion by Brian Duryea to approve Ordinance 774, seconded by Colten Kohman, 4 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

4. Sales Tax Resolution 2025-09

This would be a 1% sales tax rate for the City of Solomon, specifically for operation, repair, and maintenance of the water utility system. This would be for a duration of 40 years or until the debt is paid off. This will be on the November 4, 2025 ballot for the community to vote on. Motion by Jennifer Cross to approve Resolution 2025-09 for a 1% sales tax to help fund the water infrastructure project, seconded by Kelley VanDeCreek, 4 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

5. 208 W 6th Resolution 2025-08 Review

Attorney Martin provided a detailed explanation of the process for Resolution 2025-08 regarding the property at 208 W 6th St. He went over the legal process, hearing procedure, and potential outcomes.

6. Water Infrastructure Project

Dan has been continuing to work with Jim and CES to get them all the information they need to complete engineering. The council discussed holding two town hall meetings to educate the public about the project and proposed sales tax. They aim to provide comprehensive information about the water infrastructure project's history, current status, and financial needs.

6. CITY MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

Colten mentioned the fence had been completed at the sports court. Benches and signage is being reviewed and priced to complete the project. Council also discussed the recent Solomon festival and positive feedback.

7. CALENDAR REMINDERS

Monday, August 25th at 6PM-Council Workshop

Monday, September 8th at 6PM- Budget Hearing, Public Hearing, City Council Meeting

8. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:05 PM by Colten Kohman, seconded by Jennifer Cross, 4 Yays, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Signed:

Attest:



Brandy Gray
Mayor



Andrea McCook
City Clerk