

City of Kanopolis
June 14, 2022, 5:30 p.m.
Kanopolis City Hall
100 South Kansas Avenue
Kanopolis, KS 67454

The council of the City of Kanopolis met in regular session on June 14, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at the Kanopolis City Hall.

Present: Council members Tom Wilkinson, Jim Zvolanek, Michelle Schwerdtfeger and Greg Tripp
Presiding: Anthony Hopkins
Absent: Rebekah Tripp
Citizens: Darrell Ploutz, Dave Stroede, Susan Hulse, Annette White, Barba Fleming, Gerry Gebhardt, Miranda Fleming, Theresa Shute, Bernard Shute, Karen Bonar

Approval of minutes: Michelle Schwerdtfeger motioned to approve the minutes dated May 10, 2022, Greg Tripp 2nd. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Mayor Hopkins asked about the general fund balance. Debbie Kralik to check with the City Treasurer & let the Mayor know. Greg Tripp motioned to approve the treasurer's report dated May 2022, Jim Zvolanek 2nd. Motion carried.

Citizens:

- Miranda Fleming wanted to know the results from the survey that was sent out with the water bill regarding chickens. Also, would like to know the number of chickens to be allowed. Would like to allow chickens to help support families.
- Theresa Shute put flowers on father-in-law's grave, but the marker is missing & would like to know exactly where he is buried. She thinks it was run over during mowing. Mike Bunch said that there is a divot near his grave that the marker is in & it is usually covered in grass from mowing. Theresa said that her mother purchased several plots & there is a tree on one of the plots that they cannot even use. Mayor Hopkins suggested that they can be reimbursed for the unused plot. Mayor Hopkins suggested they get with Mike Bunch to locate the grave. Theresa also asked about tags for ATV's, dogs & cats. Mayor Hopkins said yes, they are all supposed to be licensed. Theresa said that most dogs, cats & ATVs are not tagged. Mayor Hopkins said the city has a tight budget & Chief Weigel is doing a good job with clean up.
- Darrell Ploutz said that there is already an ordinance in place that does not allow for chickens & it should be left as it is. Need to leave well enough alone. Mayor Hopkins said that there has always been an ordinance on the books banning chickens, but it was never enforced. The supporters of chickens came up with

an ordinance that seemed fair. Last year when the issue came up, there was a lot of hate & discontent. Mayor Hopkins said that it his discretion to put an issue on the agenda but if it cannot be dealt with in a calm manner then he will not put it on the agenda.

- Gerry Gebhardt is opposed to the ordinance. The Mayor is trying to clean up the town & he believes this will diminish cleanup of the town.
- Dave Stroede said that when he had to go to court, Judge Svaty told him that the ordinance reads any farm animal cannot be in town & that includes dogs.
- Barb Fleming asked about the clean up of residences in town. One person works for the city. Mayor Hopkins told her that there is an abatement process & this puts a burden on the city due to the cost associated with abatement.
- Elena Glass wanted to know the primary reason for not having chickens. Main reason was cleanliness & it will bring predators into town. Elena said that she just moved here from Chicago & even Chicago had roosters. She was born & raised here & her grandparents had chickens, pigs & goats.
- Annette White asked if anyone has noticed the price of eggs or to buy a frying chicken. The supply chain is now an issue as well. If chickens were allowed, it could create a sustainable environment in the town.
- Tom Wilkinson said that this was a good discussion for both pros & cons and wants & desires on both sides. There are several things to overcome to allow the ordinance. Tom said he is not opposed or for the ordinance, but code enforcement will be key.
- Jim Zvolanek said that this would not be an overnight decision.
- Mayor Hopkins said the survey was non-binding. If anyone does not like the decisions of the council, they can put their name on the ballot to run for office. The survey had forty-two for chickens and twenty-six opposed. Tom Wilkinson said that there was less than 30% in favor & he cannot see moving forward with the ordinance. Miranda Fleming said that the national average of voters is about 35%. Mayor Hopkins said that the ordinance was not on the agenda so no decisions can be made today. Mayor Hopkins asked the council if they wanted to put on the agenda for next month. Michelle Schwerdtfeger motioned to add the ordinance to the agenda for July 2022, Tom Wilkinson 2nd. Motion carried.
- Darrell Ploutz asked about the low water pressure at his house. Mike Bunch will check the water pressure at his in the next couple of days.

Old Business:

- Water Project – Thaniel Monaco called & said there is nothing new on the water tower. Mike Bunch received a bid from Yost Electric to fix the new well. ESI bid \$8963.00 & Yost Electric bid \$6050.87. Yost Electric looked for the VFD pump & there is one available. Yost put a 30 day hold on the pump. Mayor Hopkins will call Thaniel Monaco to see if they can include this on the water tower project funds. Debbie Kralik to email information for Thaniel tomorrow. Mayor Hopkins will then call a special meeting to approve the bid.

- Abatements - Demolition can begin at 304 S Colorado. Judge Svaty said that she could fine the owner at 420 S Iowa but doubt it would get paid. She suggested to start the abatement process. Resolution 2022-R-08 sets the hearing for August 9, 2022. Greg Tripp motioned to approve Resolution 2022-R-08 for abatement of property at 420 S Iowa, Michelle Schwerdtfeger 2nd. Motion carried. Debbie Kralik said that the person who came to disconnect the gas meter said that other cities have ordinances established that if they abate a property the property becomes the owner of the city. Debbie to contact other cities to see how this is done. Mayor Hopkins asked how we get paid after an abatement. Debbie to contact the County Clerk to see how the money gets distributed.
- Drinking Water Protection Plan – A meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2022, at city hall to go over proposed changes.
- American Rescue Plan Act – Debbie Kralik received the 2nd payment of \$34,489.67.
- Street Sealing – Debbie Kralik received a change in quote from South Central Sealing & Paving indicating that with rising oil prices, they had to increase their bid by \$4,992.00. The letter indicated that they could raise the bid or decrease the amount of sealing that was needed. Greg Tripp to call & discuss with South Central Sealing & Paving.

New business:

- HB Communications – HB Communications received a grant to run fiber internet & would like to know if they can use the city easements. They are mainly updating rural communities but would need to go straight through the town on the county road.
- Dumpster at fire station – Fire Chief Dustin Neuman asked if the fire station could get a dumpster at the fire station. Mike Bunch said that the maintenance crew could empty the trash barrels in the dumpster at the city shop. Mike then suggested that they move the dumpster at the city shop to the fire station. Debbie Kralik will need to notify Slechta Enterprises that it will be moved.
- New Attorney – Patrick Hoffman s resigning as the city attorney & the city will need to appoint a new city attorney. Mayor Hopkins would like to talk to Patrick before deciding on a new city attorney. Melissa Miller has been overseeing most of the city's requirements thus far.

Committee Reports:

- City Employees – Mike Bunch – Mayor Hopkins asked Mike to spray the grass growing in the rock at the community center & to spray the weeds at the new fire station. Greg Tripp asked Mike to trim the trees around the park & to put the net up at the volleyball court. Mayor Hopkins asked Mike about the sign at the tree dump. Mike said they are constantly pulling trash out of the tree dump. Mayor Hopkins asked Mike to make a better sign out of wood or a vinyl banner.
- Municipal Judge – Absent.
- City Properties – Rebekah Tripp – Absent.

- Sewer & Cemetery – Jim Zvolanek – Nothing to report.
- Streets & Alleys – Greg Tripp – The maintenance crew needs to make sure the patches are completed on the affected streets for August when they do the sealing. Greg also said that the gas line in the alley at his shop needs more dirt because it has settled. Greg asked how often they are spraying mosquitoes. Mike Bunch said that he did it twice last week. It will depend on how much rain we have received how often they spray.
- Water – Tom Wilkinson – Discussed previously.
- Mayor – Mayor Hopkins – Nothing to report.
- President of Council – Michelle Schwerdtfeger – Nothing to report.
- City Clerk - Debbie Kralik let the council know that the council needs to approve the liquor license for the Fort Harker Committee. Greg Tripp motioned to approve the liquor license for Fort Harker Committee, Jim Zvolanek 2nd. Motion carried.
- Chief of Police – Jeff Weigel – Absent

Payment of Bills: Greg Tripp motioned to pay the bills, Tom Wilkinson 2nd. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Greg Tripp motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 PM, Tom Wilkinson 2nd. Motion carried.

Anthony Hopkins via phone call
Tom Wilkinson
Michelle Schwerdtfeger
Greg Tripp
Jim Zvolanek
Rebekah Tripp

ATTEST

Debra S. Stroede-Kralik
City Clerk