

**City of Kanopolis**  
**November 14, 2023, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Kanopolis City Hall**  
**100 S Kansas**  
**Kanopolis, KS 67454**

The council of the City of Kanopolis met in regular session on November 14, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the Kanopolis City Hall.

Present: Council members Brian Pruitt, Tom Wilkinson and Jim Zvolanek.  
Absent: Rebekah Tripp, Michelle Schwerdtfeger  
Presiding: Mayor Anthony Hopkins  
Citizens: Karen Bonar, Tim Bobbett, Stacie Schmidt, Thaniel Monaco, Angie Bunch, Randy Bunch, Jack Modrow

**Approval of minutes:** Jim Zvolanek motioned to approve the minutes dated October 10, 2023, Brian Pruitt 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's report:** Brian Pruitt motioned to approve the October 2023 Treasurer's report, Jim Zvolanek 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

**Citizens:**

- Stacie Schmidt presented the Big Kansas Road Trip. The BKRT is a multi-day open house type of event highlighting unique points of interest, museums, attractions, shops and restaurants beginning May 2 through May 5. It will bring people from all over the state and beyond to the area for a "Build your own adventure. She is looking for a champion for the City of Kanopolis to highlight the community for this event. The event deadline is December 1. There is no cost to list in the brochure but there are advertisement spaces that can be purchased. She mentioned that the weekend it begins is the opening weekend for the Kanopolis Drive-In. Tom Wilkinson volunteered to be the champion for this event.
- Angie & Randy Bunch asked if the culverts for the property at 109 W 5<sup>th</sup> Street could be removed. There are 3 different areas that have culverts & they want them removed so people don't drive on their property. Mayor Hopkins asked if it would hamper the drainage in that area. Mike Bunch said it would be more likely to improve the drainage. Brian Pruitt motioned to have the maintenance crew remove the culverts, Tom Wilkinson 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried. Angie said that the water meter pit is still there & they would like it removed also. The maintenance crew will abandon the line to that meter. Angie also asked if there was money available to help citizens clean up their properties. Mayor Hopkins said that there are organizations that have guidelines that offer grants. In the past, Kanopolis was not

considered for these grants because city codes were not enforced. Mayor Hopkins said that he would like to see the city get qualified for these grants before his next term is up. Debbie Kralik said that these grants usually require matching funds from the customer.

#### **Old Business:**

- Water Project – Thaniel Monaco let the council know that he still has no official word from USDA RD regarding the grant for the new water tower. The lowest bidding contractor agreed to a 30 day extension so no decision will need to be made at this time. Thaniel said that when he talked with USDA RD, Dave Barber, he indicated that the city could get a grant of at least \$340,000 possibly more. With the promise of the grant, the remaining loan \$ of \$262,000, the city would need a loan of around \$600,000. Dave Barber is to contact Debbie Kralik the city's current budget. Dave Barber needs to re-evaluate the budget to get the city a higher grant. The old tower was inspected & it definitely needs to be refurbished. The total refurbishment should last at least 20 years whereas the new tower should last at least 80 years. Mayor Hopkins said that we can spend \$600,000 for 20 years or 1,200,000 for a new water tower. Mayor Hopkins asked Debbie if she looked into the Peterson Grant that he forwarded her. Debbie will look into that tomorrow. Thaniel asked Debbie to let him know if she doesn't hear from Dave Barber. A special meeting will need to be held to make the decision of a new water or refurbish the old tower.
- Park bathrooms – The city received a check for \$10,793.21 from the insurance company. Ralph Doubrava submitted a bid for \$35,000.00 & Briseno Construction submitted a bid for \$59,850.00. Mayor Hopkins asked Debbie to send the bids to the insurance company to see if more money can be given. Debbie told the council that she received a call from a juvenile facility in Great Bend saying that she had received money for restitution. Debbie will call Ellsworth County Clerk to see if that money will be sent to the city. Mayor Hopkins asked Mike Bunch to tear down the old bathrooms & they will table the bids until the next meeting.
- Sewer Ponds – Lagoon Pumping & Dredging is waiting on the signatures of the landowners before moving forward. They had to add a line to the current application because Gary Donley did not like the way it was worded so he refused to sign. Lagoon sent a revised letter for signature & the council approved the modification to the form.

#### **New business:**

- EHS After prom donation – Brian Pruitt motioned to approve \$75.00 donation to EHS After Prom, Tom Wilkinson 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.
- Ordinance 2023-O-02 to increase the solid waste rates effective January 1, 2024. Jim Zvolanek motioned to approve Ordinance 2023-O-02, Brian Pruitt 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.
- Insurance for Train Depot, Museum & Park Shelter – Debbie received a bid from the insurance company for \$3503.00 per year to include the Train Depot,

Museum & Park Shelter per year. Mayor Hopkins said that the most common loss is hail or a windstorm. Tom Wilkinson said that the city should be responsible to pay for the insurance. Tabled until December meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

- City Employees – Mike Bunch – Nothing to report.
- Municipal Judge – Absent.
- City Properties – Rebekah Tripp – Absent
- Sewer & Cemetery – Jim Zvolanek – Nothing to report.
- Streets & Alleys – Brian Pruitt – Nothing to report.
- Water – Tom Wilkinson – Nothing to report.
- Mayor – Mayor Hopkins – Asked about the remaining funds for the fire department. Debbie said that they have approximately \$50,000.00 remaining in loan proceeds. Mayor Hopkins said that they have received 1 quote for heaters/AC units. He would like them to get at least one more quote. If needed, there will be a special meeting to approve the bid.
- President of Council – Michelle Schwerdtfeger – Absent
- City Clerk - Debbie Kralik – Debbie received an email from Stacy Hicks requesting \$400.00 for the afternoon with Santa. Debbie said that they only have \$370.00 left in their budget & Stacy was fine with that. Brian Pruitt motioned to approve \$370.00 for the Afternoon with Santa, Jim Zvolanek 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried. Bekah Tripp would like to use the community center on November 20, 2023, for the 4th grade feast for free. Brian Pruitt motioned to allow Rebekah Tripp to use the community center for free, Jim Zvolanek 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried. Debbie also let the council know that Bekah extended an invitation to the council to attend.
- Chief of Police – Jeff Weigel – Absent

**Payment of Bills:** Tom Wilkinson motioned to pay the bills, Brian Pruitt 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** Brian Pruitt motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m., Tom Wilkinson 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

Mayor Anthony Hopkins  
Tom Wilkinson  
Jim Zvolanek  
Brian Pruitt

ATTEST

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Debra S. Stroede-Kralik  
City Clerk