

# City Commission of Arkansas City Meeting Minutes

---

The Arkansas City Board of City Commissioners met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. May 16, 2017, in the Commission Room at City Hall, 118 W. Central Ave., in Arkansas City.

Mayor Duane L. Oestmann called the meeting to order. Those also present at roll call were Commissioner Dan Jurkovich, Commissioner Jay Warren and Commissioner Karen Welch. Commissioner Charles Tweedy was absent.

City employees present at the meeting were City Manager Nick Hernandez, City Attorney Tamara Niles, City Clerk Lesley Shook, Public Information Officer Andrew Lawson, Public Works Director Eric Broce, Fire Chief Bobby Wolfe, EMS Director Jeri Smith, Firefighter-Paramedic Cassandra Branscum, Firefighter-Paramedic Lucas Martin and Police Chief Dan Ward.

Citizens in attendance included Michelle Dykes, Ken Harader, Ark City Daily Bytes reporter Jeni McGee and Cowley CourierTraveler reporter Cody Griesel.

Commissioner Warren offered the opening prayer. Mayor Oestmann led the pledge of allegiance.

## **Agenda Approval**

City Manager Hernandez asked for an additional action item to be added under New Business, concerning two bids for the demolition of dangerous structures at 203 E. Madison Ave. and 1419 S. Summit St.

Commissioner Welch made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Oestmann declared the amended agenda approved.

## **Awards and Proclamations**

Mayor Oestmann issued a proclamation that May 21-27, 2017 is National Emergency Medical Services Week in Arkansas City. Chief Wolfe, EMS Director Smith, and Firefighter-Paramedics Branscum and Martin received it.

## **Consent Agenda**

Mayor Oestmann made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, including the following:

1. Approving the May 2, 2017, regular meeting minutes as written.

Commissioner Welch seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Oestmann declared the consent agenda approved.

## **Old Business**

### **Board Appointments**

City Clerk Shook presented for discussion Mayor Oestmann's appointments and reappointments to various City advisory boards and commissions.

# City Commission of Arkansas City Meeting Minutes

---

Commissioner Warren asked Michelle Dykes if she would like to speak about her application for appointment to the Arkansas City Recreation Commission.

Dykes said she became passionate about fitness and health after losing a lot of weight from her teenage years.

She said she wanted to encourage kids who don't enjoy organized sports to want to go outside and stay fit.

Mayor Oestmann indicated he wished to delay any decision on the Recreation Commission appointments until the June 6 commission meeting so Commissioner Tweedy could weigh in.

Mayor Oestmann said he wanted to recommend the reappointment of Carl Bowman to the Building Trades Advisory Board, but Commissioner Warren said he still wants to look at realigning the membership of the board.

Commissioner Warren suggested adding two additional laymen to the board, increasing its membership to 11. City Attorney Niles said Municipal Code would have to be changed to allow more than nine people on any board.

Commissioner Jurkovich observed that the Building Trades Advisory Board had unanimously recommended not making any changes to its membership during its meeting in April.

Public Information Officer Lawson is drafting an ordinance to address other building regulations issues, but said he would propose a change and indicated Bowman would continue to fill his spot until reappointed or replaced.

Commissioner Jurkovich made a motion to ratify Oestmann's appointment of Ethan Bartlett to the Equal Opportunity and Accessibility Advisory Board. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion.

A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Oestmann declared the appointment approved.

Mayor Oestmann made a motion to appoint Jill Wineinger to the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion. Commissioner Jurkovich said he preferred Chris Tackett.

A voice vote resulted in two aye votes and two nay votes, with Commissioners Jurkovich and Warren dissenting.

Commissioner Jurkovich made a motion to ratify Oestmann's appointment of Chris Tackett to the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion.

A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Oestmann declared the appointment approved.

Mayor Oestmann indicated he wished to delay indefinitely any decision on the Planning Commission appointment for one of the seats in the 3-mile growth area so more interest could be generated for that position.

City Manager Hernandez said the City has a lot of investment to the north and west of the City limits, and he wants the residents in those areas outside of the City to have a voice in any planning decisions that are made.

Commissioner Jurkovich made a motion to ratify Oestmann's reappointment of Shandon Weston to the Public Building Commission. Mayor Oestmann seconded the motion.

A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Oestmann declared the reappointment approved.

# City Commission of Arkansas City Meeting Minutes

---

## New Business

### 2014 Ford Taurus Purchase Resolution No. 2017-05-3105

City Clerk Shook presented for discussion a resolution approving the purchase of a 2014 Ford Taurus from Reedy Ford, for an amount not to exceed \$14,493.08. The vehicle will be used administratively by the Police Department. Police Chief Ward said it would replace a vehicle that was totaled in a recent traffic accident.

Chief Ward said the totaled vehicle itself had replaced another vehicle that had been totaled. Neither accident was the fault of the employee driving, nor was any significant injury reported as a result of either accident.

In this case, the other party's insurance paid out \$14,700, which will cover the entire cost of the new vehicle. Ward said the cost of adding lights or other specialized equipment would be handled in house, at no extra cost.

Mayor Oestmann made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion.

A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Oestmann declared the resolution approved and given Resolution No. 2017-05-3105.

### Dangerous Structure Demolitions

City Clerk Shook presented for discussion bids for demolition of structures located at 1419 S. Summit St. and 203 E. Madison Ave. The low bids were \$4,800 and \$11,500, respectively, from D&T's Hauling and Excavation, of Winfield.

City Manager Hernandez said the two properties were declared dangerous and unfit structures by the commission, and the deadline to make substantial improvements has passed, triggering the demolition route.

Hernandez said bids were sought from five companies and three of them bid on the two demolition projects.

Commissioner Warren asked if the work could be handled by City crews. Hernandez said the price on the burned-out house on Summit Street would be comparable, but he didn't think the City would be competitive on the Madison Avenue structure because of additional complexity involved in demolishing the two-story structure.

Mayor Oestmann asked why D&T's bids were so low. Hernandez said he didn't know, but he was thankful for it.

Mayor Oestmann made a motion to approve D&T's bid to demolish 1419 S. Summit St. Commissioner Welch seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Oestmann declared the motion approved.

Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve D&T's bid to demolish 203 E. Madison. Commissioner Welch seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Oestmann declared the motion approved.

## City Manager Updates

City Manager Hernandez said he has talked recently with Brett Von Martin and some volunteers regarding Martin's house at 617 S. Fourth St. He said Martin is trying to improve the property, but is moving very slowly.

# City Commission of Arkansas City Meeting Minutes

---

Hernandez recommended allowing Martin more time beyond the original 120 days. Commissioner Jurkovich asked if the roof was closed in yet and Mayor Oestmann said it was not. He said he checks it about once a week.

Hernandez said the roof will be partly shingled and part metal sheeting. While this is unconventional, Hernandez said it technically meets the code requirements. A volunteer has offered to provide assistance with the process.

Commissioner Welch asked if Martin was doing the minimum necessary to stave off demolition. Hernandez said he is at least working on the property and he did not want to demolish the structure unless Martin quits working.

Commissioner Welch asked if the City can log the work done each month. The permit lasts another 3-4 months.

Hernandez invited Mayor Oestmann to join him June 9 on an Amtrak passenger rail inspection trip from Oklahoma City to Newton and Kansas City that will pass through Arkansas City that morning.

He also provided an update on the Wilson Park train. Kalin Taylor, of L.G. Pike Construction, has been working nearly every day on metal fabrication and repair, Hernandez said. The cab nearly had separated from the engine.

Hernandez said the entire floor has been rebuilt and now the walls are being addressed. Both the bell and front light are done, and the marker lights are built. Some, but not all, of the brass has been polished already.

He said the water fountain near the train had been broken recently, and a bronze plaque had been broken off recently and thrown in the flowerbeds. Hernandez reiterated the need for more cameras, with an online feed.

## **Other Business**

Commissioner Jurkovich said he will be out of town on May 25 and asked Mayor Oestmann if he could fill in at the South Central Kansas Medical Center Board of Trustees meeting that morning. Hernandez also will be there.

Commissioner Warren asked if anyone could fill in for him at a Strother Field Commission meeting. No one could.

## **Adjournment**

Commissioner Warren moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Oestmann seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Oestmann declared the meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

THE ARKANSAS CITY  
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS

---

Duane L. Oestmann, Mayor

# City Commission of Arkansas City Meeting Minutes

---

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lesley Shook, City Clerk

Prepared by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Lawson, Public Information Officer