

City Commission of Arkansas City - Regular Meeting Minutes

The Arkansas City Board of City Commissioners met in regular session at **5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, 2019**, in the Commission Room at City Hall, located at 118 W. Central Ave. in Arkansas City.

Mayor **Jay Warren** called the meeting to order. Commissioners also present at roll call were Commissioners **Kanyon Gingher, Dan Jurkovich, Duane L. Oestmann** and **Karen Welch**.

City employees present were City Attorney **Tamara Niles**, City Clerk **Lesley Shook**, Public Information Officer **Andrew Lawson**, Finance Director **Kathy Cornwell**, Public Works Director **Mike Crandall**, Police Chief **Dan Ward** and Building Official **Mike Bellis**.

Citizens in attendance included **Pam Crain, Ken Harader, Sandy Randel, Marc Shields** and Cowley CourierTraveler reporter **John Shelman**.

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

Agenda Approval

At Mayor Warren's request, Commissioner Oestmann made a motion to amend the agenda by adding an Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month proclamation to Awards and Proclamations.

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

Awards and Proclamations

Mayor Warren issued a proclamation that June is **Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month** in Arkansas City. Pam Crain and Sandy Randel received the proclamation on behalf of Etzanooga.

Recognition of Visitors

Cherokee Strip Land Rush Museum Director Sandy Randel gave an overview of the museum's operations and services, as well as ongoing Etzanooga Conservancy activities. She requested an increase in funding to **\$75,000** in 2020 — up \$25,000 from the museum's 2019 allotment of \$50,000.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Welch made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including the following:

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1. Approving the **May 21, 2019**, regular meeting minutes as written.
2. Ratifying Mayor Warren's reappointment of **Andrew Paton** to the **Recreation Commission**.
3. Approving **Resolution No. 2019-06-3258**, authorizing a public meeting of the Governing Body to attend a Public Building Commission meeting at **5 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, 2019**, in the Commission Room at City Hall, located at 118 W. Central Ave. in Arkansas City.

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

New Business

Dangerous Structures Hearing Resolution No. 2019-06-3259

City Clerk Shook presented for discussion a resolution scheduling a public hearing at **5:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 16, 2019**, in the Commission Room to determine if structures located at **309 N. Second St., 514 E. Van Buren Ave., 624 North C St., and 817 South A St.** are unsafe and dangerous.

Building Official Bellis gave an overview of the issues with each property. All owners were notified.

Commissioner Jurkovich made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Gingher seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mayor Warren declared the motion approved and given **Resolution No. 2019-06-3259**.

Other Business

Public Information Officer Lawson asked Public Works Director Crandall to give the commissioners an update on recent flooding and the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers'** visit that day.

Crandall said the Corps had no concerns about the City's levees, which have functioned as intended.

Lawson also gave an update on the **West Madison Avenue bridge** replacement project, which has charged 89 days out of 250 allowed by contract. The first major deck pour is expected next week.

Comments from the Audience

Marc Shields, 317 S. Eighth St., addressed the commissioners about the condition of Eighth Street.

He asked for the City to commence crack-sealing repairs on the street this summer. Public Works Director Crandall said he had met previously with Shields and that street is on the list for repair.

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City Manager Updates

Public Information Officer Lawson provided the commissioners with these reminders and updates:

- There will be a Global Running Day event starting at **6 p.m. June 5** at the Paris Park Pool.
- The next monthly meeting of Ark City's Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census will be at **1:30 p.m. June 6** at the Water Treatment Facility, located at 400 W. Madison Ave.
- The Ark City Community Band will have a special joint patriotic concert with the Kansas Army National Guard's 35th Infantry Division Band at **7 p.m. June 6** under the Wilson Park rotunda, followed by a regular concert at **7:30 p.m. June 13** at the same location.
- The annual Ark City Relay for Life will be from **6 p.m. to midnight June 7** at Wilson Park and the RCB Bank team will cook hamburgers from **11 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 6** as a fundraiser.
- The sixth annual Ark City Chamber of Commerce golf tournament will be from **9 a.m. to noon June 8** at Great Life Golf & Fitness, located east of Arkansas City at 8731 U.S. 166.
- Gift from Gunner Foundation will host a fish fry from **4 to 7 p.m. June 8** at Wilson Park.
- The next RISE Cowley coalition meeting will be at **10 a.m. June 11** at the county courthouse.
- The next monthly Cowley County Legislative Committee meeting will be at **noon June 11** at the Arkansas City Area Chamber of Commerce, located at 106 S. Summit St.
- The next City Commission study session will be at **noon June 14** in the city manager's office at City Hall. Commissioners will discuss agendas for the pair of meetings on **June 18**. Discussion of Compensating Use Tax has been postponed until the bond process is over.
- The next Free Friday Family Film is "Ralph Breaks the Internet," sponsored by Newkirk Main Street. It will start at **8 p.m. June 14** on the Kay County Courthouse lawn in Newkirk.
- Due to flooding, the fifth annual Bobby Estus Memorial Bike Ride was rescheduled for **9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 15**. It will start at Veterans Memorial Lake and end in Paris Park. The 14th annual Sgt. Jerry Mills Jr. Fishing Derby had to be canceled and will take place in 2020.
- The second Public Building Commission meeting of 2019 will be at **5 p.m. June 18** in the commission room at City Hall. The PBC will consider bids for refinancing hospital bonds.

Other Business (continued)

Commissioner Oestmann said he and Police Chief Ward attended the Cowley County Commission meeting earlier that day and expressed their concerns about the **East Chestnut Avenue bridge**.

Ward said the river is trying to change course and form an "oxbow," which could erode the shoreline that supports the bridge span. The county estimates the cost of repairing the road and bridge at **\$600,000 to \$800,000**, while bridge replacement could cost upwards of **\$2 million**.

Ward said they were able to convince the county commission to table a decision until its **July 2** meeting, when City Manager Hernandez will be back in town. Closure of the bridge remains a real possibility. Mayor Warren said he is concerned about the impact of that on Crestwood residents.

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Adjournment

Commissioner Jurkovich made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Gingher seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mayor Warren declared the meeting adjourned at **6:23 p.m.**

**THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS**

Jay Warren, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lesley Shook, City Clerk

Prepared by:

Andrew Lawson, Public Information Officer