

City of Great Bend
February 18, 2025

REGULAR SESSION

The Governing Body met in Regular Session in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Cody Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following presents: Councilmembers, Rickee Maddox, Alan Moeder, Kevyn Soupiset, Jolene Biggs, Davis Jiminez, Gary Parr, and Tina Mingenback. Absent was Cory Urban. Also in attendance were City Administrator Logan Burns, City Attorney Allen Glendenning, and Deputy City Clerk Alison Urban.

OPENING: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Minutes:** Minutes of the Regular Session held on February 3, 2025.
- b) **Claim's Warrant Register 2-18-25:** Covering 2025 bills to date in the amount of \$326,074.69.
- c) **Payroll Register P/R 2-7-25:** Covering payroll ending February 1, 2025, in the amount of \$411,506.97.
- d) **Appointments:** Mayor Schmidt made no appointments.
- e) **Tree Trimmers License:** Trent Sallee, DBA Salle Tree Service, out of St. John, Kansas, has applied for a tree trimmers license. All requirements of the ordinance have been completed and recommend approval.
- f) **Agenda:** Mayor Schmidt amended the agenda removing item #6 calling for an Executive Session.

Mr. Soupiset made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mingenback and passed with all voting in favor.

B. OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

C. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no visitors or announcements.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Councilmember Reports:** Mr. Jimenez had questions about the Economic Development board and funding.
2. **Administrators Update:** City Administrator Logan Burns presented an update on what is happening within the City organization.

- 3. CVB/Community Coordinator Report:** City Administrator Logan Burns presented this report on Christina's behalf as she was absent due to weather conditions.
- 4. Mud Volleyball & Fireworks Decisions at Party in the Park:** City Administrator Logan Burns reported that during the work session when making plans for the 2025 Party in the Park, it was discussed on where to place Mud Volleyball for the 2025 event. Several different options were discussed, (Amber Meadows, Brit Spaugh Park, further west in Vets, or back out at the Expo Grounds). Mud Volleyball brings 1,000-2,000 extra people to the event and it really hurt the event to have it out at the Expo Grounds in 2024. Each year the City has spent \$5,000 on a small firework display at Party in the Park. In order to save funds, this is an easy elimination from the event, and there are at least 5 other smaller displays that take place with fireworks such as the Rec's Easter Egg Hunt, July 4th activities and Bat Cat games. If we do not have fireworks, that opens up the area for the day to have other activities instead of it being blocked off. Staff would like to have 3 bands play for the concert. Mr. Soupiset made a motion to bring mud volleyball back to its original location in Veterans Memorial Park and to eliminate the Fireworks portion of Party in the Park. Ms. Biggs seconded the motion and passed with all voting in favor.
- 5. Ladder Truck:** Fire Chief Brent Smith reported that as part of the fire department's vehicle replacement plan our current ladder truck was scheduled to be replaced in 2025. It was identified in 2022 that at the rate we were saving money for the trucks replacement we would not have enough money in reserve to replace the truck in 2025. At that time two more years were added to the project date. This would give us a 2027 replacement year. In visiting with multiple fire truck dealers, we identified at the current rate of inflation we would not have enough money saved to complete the purchase in 2027. It was also identified that if we waited until 2027, it could be up to 48 months (2031) before the truck would be delivered. While our current apparatus has been maintained very well for its age, we are starting to see maintenance issues arise (turbo, air leaks). We have also identified that with the addition of a new hotel and the loft apartments being built in the downtown corridor that the department was in need of a longer ladder truck (109') to reach the upper floors and roof of these buildings. The apparatus committee started researching options at the end of last year. It was identified that 2 manufacturers have slots reserved in their build schedules for stock/demo trucks. These trucks are built to a spec that allow dealers to show/demonstrate these truck to perspective buyers, and would be available for purchase. If this purchase is approved from Rosenbauer we would be allowed to make some changes to the spec, so that the truck would better meet our needs. By going this route, we would take delivery of the ladder truck in late 2026 (tentatively August) and would save the city a significant amount of money by cutting 2 years of inflation (7%-10% annually) off the projects current completion date. The second manufacturer who has stock/demo build slots requires us to pay for the truck at the time of order and could not guarantee us a price. It would require us to request from the council a dollar amount that the dealer could not exceed, and we would not be able to change the spec at all to meet any of our needs. They were not able to provide us with a spec for a ladder truck, confirmed pricing, or even that our no more than price would guarantee us a build slot. That manufacturer gave us an approximate price that was approximately \$200,000.00 higher than Rosenbauer and had delivery dates in late 2027. It is the recommendation of the apparatus committee that we be allowed to purchase the Rosenbauer ladder truck from Hays Fire Equipment for \$1,590,023.00. Mr. Parr made a motion to approve the bid from Hays Fire Equipment for the Ladder Truck for \$1,590,023.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Soupiset and passed with all voting in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Maddox made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mingenback and passed with all voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.