

City of Clearwater, Kansas
Sedgwick County
City Council Meeting - **MINUTES**
October 25, 2022
Clearwater City Hall – Council Chambers
129 E. Ross Avenue Clearwater, KS 67026

1. Call to Order/ Invocation and Flag Salute

Council Member Justin Shore called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed the invocation and flag salute.

2. Roll Call

The City Clerk called the roll to confirm the presence of a quorum. The following members were present: Councilmembers; Justin Shore, Chad Pike, Tex Titterington, Tim Robben and Crystal Walter. Mayor Ussery was absent.

The following staff members were present:

Courtney Zollinger, City Administrator, Jaye Poe, City Clerk, Amber Ives, Michael Pickens, Chadd Posch and the City Attorney. Jared Dinwiddie was present via GoTo Meetings.

The following residents were present: Karl May, Lindy May, Brody May, Tymberlin Jimison and Makenna Carroll.

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Shore asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. There were none.

Motion: *Walter* moved; *Pike* seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Voted and passed unanimously.

4. Public Forum

Karl May addressed the council with complaints regarding the City Administrator, the Chief of Police and the Council Members. He has concerns with present and past interactions with them. Karl May spoke for five minutes. Brody May came up to yield his 5 minutes to Mr. May, Councilmember Justin Shore stated that was not allowed and each individual is only allowed the 5 minutes. Lindy May came up to address council with the same concerns as Mr. May. She also stated they have not seen any advertising for the Downtown Trick or Treat which will affect their business. Mr. May came back up to the podium and stated not allowing Brody May to yield his time is an ADA violation since Karl May is his legal representative. Council thanked them for their comments.

5. Consent Agenda

Councilmember Shore asked if there was any question on the consent agenda and if not asked for a motion to approve.

Minutes

Claims and Warrants

Mayoral Appointment – Historical Society

Motion: *Pike* moved; *Titterington* seconded to approve the consent agenda. Voted and passed unanimously.

6. Staff Reports:

- Administration Office – Courtney Zollinger – Council discussed WEE Carnival committing to 2nd week in October for future years. The City and Fall Festival Committee has reached out to see if that can be scheduled, a reply from WEE Entertainment has not been received yet. WEE Entertainment ultimately will be the deciding factor. Down-Town Trick or treat was published on the City website and mailed to

the businesses that would be affected by the road closure. The Police Department will be cooking and handing out hot dogs as well as businesses and city staff handing out candy.

- Fire Department –Jared Dinwiddie – None.
- Police Department – Michael Pickens – None.
- Park – Chadd Posch – Council discussed the plan for the ballfields. 2 weeks before the Fall Festival aeration and seeding of rye grass was done. The seeding was done to the infield of the baseball field and the entire softball field. The rye grass will fill in spots where the Bermuda has not taken over yet and will be seeded annually in the fall. The top dressing was done to fill in any divots or holes for safety reasons and consisted of 20% fine sand and 80% topsoil. The fields are on a 12-hour watering cycle and will continue until it starts to freeze. The Bathrooms at the park are open from Dusk to Dawn unless maintenance is needing to be done.
- Public Works – Chadd Posch – Council questioned what a frost-free was. Posch stated it was a water spicket that has a hole at the bottom to drain any excess water into a sand/rock base. The water tower is scheduled to be painted in early spring, it is nearing the 2-year mark from the last cleaning, therefore it is looking dirty. This is subbed out to a company; public works does not clean or paint the water tower. The railroad tracks at Tracy and Diagonal are sticking up about 3”. This is the railroad company’s responsibility. Public Works will reach out to his contact regarding this issue.
- Senior Center – Amber Ives – Lunch Bunch will be at Carriage Crossing this month. There are no plans for biscuits and gravy for the rest of the year. Ives is hoping to have it in the beginning of the new year and is looking to find someone to head this up as her personal time does not allow her to do this often. There will be a bake sale closer to Christmas as a fundraising event for the Center. There were no commodities in October due to not enough trucks full for the drivers to bring. Before Covid, commodities were only given quarterly from Kansas Food Bank. There will not be commodities given in December, but Ives plans to set enough back from November to give in December. Officer Jacks and the Boy Scouts collected food for the local food bank during the Fall Festival. At this time there is no schedule for Bingo at the Center but, the girl scouts typically join for that.

7. Business

a. NLC membership renewal

In September 2021 Councilmember Shore introduced the idea of the City of Clearwater to become a member of the National League of Cities (NLC). He suggested the training and resources would be beneficial to the city. In 2021 Mayor Ussery stated that for the cost he thinks it would be worth seeing what NLC has to offer. He recommended to review the membership prior to renewal, to see if the value was met. The membership was approved 3-2 in 2021. Since becoming a member of NLC staff continues to use resources through League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) which has an annual membership fee of \$1,300. LKM is a member of NLC therefore when information and training tools are available, we receive them from LKM. The NLC membership fees for cities with our population are \$897.00 annually out of the General Fund. It is the recommendation from City staff not to recommend renewing the NLC membership since the resources they have are available through LKM. Council discussed there being beneficial information and grants through NLC and the Home serve would not be active if we did not renew.

Motion: *Titterington* moved; *Pike* seconded to renew the NLC membership for another year. Voted and passed unanimously.

b. Mikesell Park Feature

The Monkey Mansion had been in the City park since 2013 or 2014. Over time the Monkey Mansion became weak, and it was removed prior to Fall Fest for safety reasons. Mayor Ussery has spoken to the family and wish to put a rock-climbing structure in its place. The city sent over many options that would fit in the space and the family liked the "Home Tree" from the ID Sculpture's Woodland line because it carries the original treehouse theme. They also feel this size would work well for kids that are learning to climb. The structure is ideal for the 5-12 age group. The cost without shipping or installation is \$20,790. There is \$48,000 in equipment reserve for park improvements. Mayor Ussery would like council to consider putting \$10,000 towards the new play structure. The remainder would come from donations. Council questioned this feature being in-line with the Fall Protection. Administrator stated that it was. This could take 8-12 weeks to ship, and the warranty is for 5 years. The plaque that is currently in the park will remain. If the family decides this is not the route they would like to take then it will be brought back to council.

Motion: *Shore* moved; *Walter* seconded to approve using \$10,000 from Equipment reserve towards the Home Tree Structure for the Mikesell Park Feature. Voted and passed unanimously.

8. Governing Body

Walter – Questioned why the CIC sign was not working. Zollinger stated it is old and the phone line just continues to ring. The City has reached out to the sign company to see if it can be repaired. They are 98% sure that they will not be able to fix it but will send someone out to look at it anyway.

Pike – The sign at K-42 would be a great advertisement for the City with an addition of lights as well. Zollinger stated that we can not put the sign in the railroad easement and the property owner of the previous placement, no longer wanted it there.

Titterington – None.

Robben – Would like to reach back out to Commissioner Lopez, Kevin Lanterman or Rusty Leads with Sedgwick County. With the CRV being unstaffed 79 times year to date, that is concerning. The CRV was staffed for Fall Festival.

Shore – The Fall Festival was great. Parks and Public Works did a great job cleaning and prepping for the event. Shore took a lot of pictures and will get them to city staff to publish. Shore expressed his appreciation to City Staff and the Fall Festival Committee for a successful event.

9. Executive Session

Motion: *Shore* moved; *Walter* seconded to recess into executive session pursuant to non-elected personnel to discuss specific personnel matters, to include the governing body, City Administrator and Council. The City Council will reconvene the open meeting in the City Council Chamber at 7:50 p.m.

No action taken.

10. Adjournment

Motion: *Pike* moved; *Titterington* seconded to adjourn the meeting. Voted and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM

CERTIFICATE

State of Kansas }
County of Sedgwick }
City of Clearwater }

I, Jaye Poe, City Clerk of the City of Clearwater, Sedgwick County, Kansas, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the October 25th, 2022, City Council meeting.

Given under my hand and official seal of the City of Clearwater, Kansas, this 8th day of November 2022.



Jaye Poe, City Clerk

