

WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – City Hall
6:30 p.m. – March 2, 2026

1. Call to order by Mayor Garrett Edgar at 6:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Garrett Edgar, Mayor
 Amy Anderson, Council Member
 Bryan Loberg, Council Member
 Allison Kern, Council Member
 Carolyn Pinnick, Council Member

Absent: Mary Ann Crome, Council Member

Staff Present: Carl Chalfant, City Administrator
 Denise Powell, City Clerk

Others: Cynthia Scheer, Washington County News
 Jill Duis, Ministerial Alliance
 Taylor Miller, Washington
 Rob Peschel, CES Group
 Dean Randolph, CES Group (Phone)
 Kelsie & Braeley Beikmann, Washington
 Pastor Jill Duis, Pastor Patrick Belshe, Pastor Eli Sweeney, Teryl Goeckel, Father
 David Metz, Jeanne Walker, Amy Zabokrtsky, Washington County Ministerial
 Alliance
 Jake Pannbacker & Caitlin Placek, Washington Rotary Club

3. Approval of Agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended to add Washington County Fair Board Request by Pinnick and seconded by Loberg.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
 Allison Kern
 Bryan Loberg
 Carolyn Pinnick

4. Citizens Comments.

Braeley and Kelsie Beikmann, Washington, asked the council to consider reducing the \$100 yearly permit fee for the chicken permit.

Beikmanns left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

5. Minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 2, 2026, by Pinnick and seconded by Anderson.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
 Allison Kern
 Bryan Loberg
 Carolyn Pinnick

6. Appropriations Ordinance 2026-03.

Motion to approve appropriations ordinance 2026-03 by Anderson and seconded by Kern.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

7. Washington Rotary Club Request.

Jake Pannbacker, Washington Rotary presented a check for \$3,000 to the City of Washington EMS.

Motion to allow the Washington Rotary Club and Washington County Fair Board to install a concrete pad between the pickleball court and concession stand on the east side of the rock barn by Pinnick seconded by Kern.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

8. Friendly Corners Proposal.

Consensus of the Council is to have City Attorney Elizabeth Baskerville-Hiltgen draft a deed to give the former Friendly Corners building to the Washington County Ministerial Alliance.

Pastor Jill Duis, Pastor Patrick Belshe, Pastor Eli Sweeney, Teryl Goeckel, Father David Metz, Jeanne Walker, and Amy Zabokrtsky, Washington County Ministerial Alliance, discussed the Washington County Ministerial Alliance proposal for the former Friendly Corners building. Duis said the food pantry needs more space. The other area could be used as flex space. Duis said it is a building worth saving. They have had someone look at building and it needs some work. They had several questions about the building. City staff will work on finding the information requested.

Council Member Amy Anderson asked if the intent of the Alliance was to purchase the building. Duis said they would purchase if the price was right. It costs about \$1,000 a month to operate the food pantry. Council Member Carolyn Pinnick gave a little history on Friendly Corners.

Pastor Jill Duis, Pastor Patrick Belshe, Pastor Eli Sweeney, Teryl Goeckel, Father David Metz, Jeanne Walker, Amy Zabokrtsky, Washington County Ministerial Alliance left the meeting at 7 pm.

9. July 4th Request.

Motion to approve the request from Taylor Miller, 4th of July committee member, for a Loud Speaker/Sound Amplifier Permit and Street Use Permit July 3rd & 4th for the Fourth of July activities at the park, ballfield, volleyball and basketball courts, and approve a free swim day from Noon to 5 p.m. July 4th, as presented by Pinnick and seconded by Anderson.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

Miller distributed a schedule of proposed Fourth of July activities. She asked the council for permission to use the ballfield, cleaning up the Mill Creek bank for a fishing tournament, free swim from Noon to 5 p.m., access

to pool house so they can use water hoses for the volleyball court and asked that truckers be notified not to park on the east side of the rock buildings July 3 and 4th.

Activities include a kids' free hot dog lunch, 3-on-3 basketball tournament, volleyball tournament, parade, kids' games, free swim, concert and more.

Mayor Garrett Edgar thanked Miller and the committee for their work organizing the event. City Administrator Carl Chalfant added that Thad Powell does a fantastic job with the volleyball courts, and the city greatly appreciates his work.

10. Playground Bids.

Motion to accept the apparent low bid of Recreation Construction Group for installation and purchase of surfacing and playground equipment and removal of Munchkinland Playground in the city's park at a cost not to exceed \$509,888.98 contingent upon CDBG approval by Anderson seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

Dean Randolph, CES Group, recommended moving forward with Recreation Construction Group's bid with surfacing all synthetic turf. He said obstacle course would be over budget.

Taylor Miller, playground committee member, asked about the surfacing grant that was applied for. Dean said if the grant were received a change order could be made for surfacing. Miller stated the committee is pushing for equipment rather than surfacing.

Peschel and Miller left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

11. East 2nd Street Pay Request.

Motion to approve and authorize the mayor to sign the Contractor's Application for Payment No. 6 of the East 2nd Street Rehab/Reconstruct project from Inline Construction in the amount of \$122,996.18 with the city's portion being \$43,214.87 upon KDOT approval by Pinnick and seconded by Loberg.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

12. Summer Employees.

Motion to adopt the 2026 pool employee pay scale as proposed by Pinnick and seconded by Kern.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

Motion to hire 2026 pool manager Garrison Sand at a rate of \$12.00 per hour, and the following lifeguards: Nora Brabec, Adelyn Oakes, Kelly Annunziato, and Emma O'Rourke at a rate of \$10.00 per hour; and Aubri Applegarth, Emma Cordry, and Susanna Trujillo at a rate of \$9.50 per hour, by Anderson and seconded by Loberg.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

Motion to hire Seth White as summer help at a rate of \$13.00 per hour and Easton Finlayson as summer help at a rate of \$12.50 per hour by Pinnick and seconded by Kern.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

13. Mayoral Appointments.

Motion to appoint Scott Weber to the tree board to fill the term through April 30, 2027, of Bryan Loberg, who was elected as a council member and Lee Simon to the Washington Ball Association to replace Brandon Hubbard who moved outside the city limits by Anderson seconded by Kern.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

14. KMEA Appointments.

Motion to appoint Fred Brungardt to the Director #2 position effective April 1, 2026, through April 30, 2028, to the Board of Directors for Kansas Municipal Energy Agency, by Pinnick and seconded by Anderson.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Carolyn Pinnick
Bryan Loberg abstained

15. Delinquent Account.

Motion to write off the account balance of Hormann, \$2,894.19 by Pinnick and seconded by Anderson.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

16. Cemetery Mowing Bids.

Motion to approve the bid from Christian Hanekom, TurfJet, in the amount of \$1,650 as outlined in the cemetery mowing services agreement by Pinnick seconded by Loberg.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Allison Kern
Bryan Loberg
Carolyn Pinnick

17. Utility Rate Study.

Consensus of the Council is to have City Attorney Elizabeth Baskerville-Hiltgen draft an ordinance to increase water rates by 25 cents per 1,000 gallons for residential, commercial and bulk and to increase the base rate for electric residential and commercial customers by \$2.50.

18. Smart Beam Pilot Customer Participation.

Council took no action in participating in a Smartbeam pilot program through Kay Park Recreation. for two Smart Beam USB devices.

19. City Administrator Repot.

a) **Asbestos Inspection.** City Administrator has been in contact with KDHE to pursue the possibility of obtaining assistance from them through the Brownfields Program. The biggest obstacle right now is trying to obtain written permission from the property owner. City attorney is still trying to obtain permission.

- b) **Vehicles needing replaced.** Staff has not been able to obtain an estimate for the repairs on the 2009 Electric Distribution pickup to date.
- c) **E. 2nd St. Project.** Monthly progress meeting was held on February 4th at city hall. Inline reported they were down to about a day or a day and a half from curbing and then can proceed with pouring. They had issues with their ground heater, which is being repaired. The stabilization process is working well, and they are working on routing stormwater to the nearest box instead of digging up a waterline. They are planning to finish up this section and then move forward to the next phase. As of February 24, they have moved west up the hill and are on the second phase. Three cracks have developed in the new concrete that has been poured in three different locations. Inline Construction, Beatrice Concrete, and CES are trying to determine what exactly has caused the cracking.
- d) **Street Dedication.** The city council needs to consider dedicating a 50' or 60' street running east and west across the north side of lot fourteen in the Industrial Park before it can be considered for sale. With the current plat of the Industrial Park, selling lot 14 without the proposed street running east from Progress St. would landlock the current farm.
- e) **Street repair and patching.** Street repair and patching schedules are being worked on so as soon as the weather breaks, staff will be working diligently on those. Council asked city administrator for a list of streets and to prioritize the work to be done.
- f) **Fire Hydrant.** City Administrator Chalfant is authorizing Inline Construction to install a fire hydrant at a cost of \$2,000 at the intersection of East 2nd Street and Pierce Street. This was an oversight on the water project and with the proposed addition of a new clinic at the former nursing home site and the closest fire hydrant 400 feet away, it is the perfect time to install one. The city has all the material on hand and Inline will provide labor.

20. City Clerk's Report.

- a) **Reports.** Fire minutes for February and Library minutes for January and February were given to the Council for review.
- b) **Insurance Bid.** Discussed the bid for insurance. Council asked staff to contact Russell Shipley, auditor.

Motion to adjourn by Pinnick and seconded by Anderson.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
 Allison Kern
 Bryan Loberg
 Carolyn Pinnick

Adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Denise M. Powell, City Clerk