



City of Bonner Springs

KANSAS

City Council Meeting Minutes January 26, 2026

WORKSHOP – 6:45 P.M.

Council Present: Mayor Stephens, Councilmembers Long (6:57), Blanks, McMahan, Wood, Gurley, Kipp and Shannon. Councilmember Reeves was absent.

City Staff Present: Amber Vogan, City Manager; Chris Brake, City Clerk; Carrie Handy, Assistant City Manager; Megan Gilliland, Economic Development Manager; James Zeeb, Fire Chief and Matt Beets, Public Works Director

1. **Potential Centennial Park Extension** - The economic development manager introduced Cary Shiner, Shiner Holdings, presented information regarding a piece of vacant land in downtown Bonner Springs and the potential to install a mid-block crossing and year-round public restrooms. The potential for the space includes a green space, public gathering spot.

Katie Martniovic, NSPL Architects, presented two possible concepts.

Staff reviewed funds planned in future CIPs for public restrooms, splash pad, etc. Staff is asking the council for agreement to create a public/private cooperative plan for Shiner Holdings to develop the park, with the city possibly taking ownership in the future. Councilmembers discussed the investment, funding, and future maintenance costs.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 7:30 P.M.

Council Present: Mayor Stephens, Councilmembers Long, Blanks, McMahan, Wood, Gurley, Kipp and Shannon. Councilmember Reeves was absent.

City Staff Present: Amber Vogan, City Manager; Chris Brake, City Clerk; Carrie Handy, Assistant City Manager; Megan Gilliland, Economic Development Manager; James Zeeb, Fire Chief and Matt Beets, Public Works Director

The mayor led the Pledge of allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS –

1. **Swear In New Police Department Personnel - Officer Lyndsey Allen** - The city clerk administered the oath of office to new Police Officer, Lyndsey Allen.

CITIZEN CONCERNS ABOUT ITEMS NOT ON TODAY'S AGENDA – None presented.

CONSENT AGENDA – Shannon moved and Long seconded, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Unanimous approval.

1. Minutes of the January 12, 2026 City Council Meeting
2. Minutes of the January 15, 2026 Joint City Council Planning Commission Meeting
3. Claims for City Operations

OLD BUSINESS - None presented

NEW BUSINESS -

1. **Potential Centennial Park Extension** - Blanks moved and Shannon seconded, to authorize the mayor to sign a letter of interest on behalf of the city to explore concepts and cost estimates for the development of a park extension for Centennial Park in the 100 block of Oak. Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

City Manager's Report – The city manager reported the chimney rebuild is complete, just waiting for scaffolding to be removed. Once scaffolding is removed, drive will be opened back up. The next step are the roof and interior repairs.

City Council Items

- Long - Thanked public works for taking care of the streets; and the Police and Fire departments for their work during the extreme cold.
- Blanks - Commended public works. Blanks stated she saw footage of a car on fire in the parking lot, and reported a very quick response time. Blanks reminded everyone of the Chamber luncheon February 5th. Issued an invitation to participate in the upcoming Penguin Plunge. Blanks reminded everyone of the upcoming Chamber of Commerce annual banquet.
- McMahan - Commended the public works director and staff for clearing roads and doing the best they can. He thanked the first responders for their professionalism. McMahan commented the city parking lot across the street does not have much lighting and requested staff consider installing more lighting.
- Wood – Asked everyone to be careful going home tonight
- Gurley – Reminded everyone that there are organizations in town that will help those who are unable to shovel their driveway or sidewalk. She encouraged people to call City Hall Codes office, for assistance.
- Kipp – Asked if KDOT responded to the report on the medians on K-32? Staff stated it was brought to KDOT's attention, but there has not been a response yet.
- Shannon - Thanked to everyone for their commitment to our city and families

Mayor's Report – The mayor stated he received no complaint this week. He stated public works staff did a wonderful job cleaning city streets. He commended Emily Blanks for organizing the Penguin Plunge.

ADJOURNMENT – Blanks moved and Long seconded, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:57 p.m. Unanimous approval.

_____ Christina Brake, City Clerk