



# City of Bonner Springs

## KANSAS

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### City Council Meeting Minutes March 09, 2026

#### **WORKSHOP – 6:15 P.M.**

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

**City Staff Present:** Amber Vogan, City Manager; Chris Brake, City Clerk; Carrie Handy, Assistant City Manager; Megan Gilliland, Economic Development Manager; Tillie LaPlante, Finance Director; Justine Spease, Recreation Manager; Shawn Ming, Recreation Coordinator; James Zeeb, Fire Chief and Heather Pate, Police Captain

1. **Centennial Park Extension MOU Discussion** - The Economic Development Manager led a discussion about the MOU for the proposed Centennial Park Extension.
2. **Pool Conditions Report** – George Deines, Councilman-Hunsaker, reviewed the pool conditions report and presented recommendations for repair and maintenance schedules.

The workshop adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 7:30 P.M.**

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

**City Staff Present:** Amber Vogan, City Manager; Chris Brake, City Clerk; Carrie Handy, Assistant City Manager; Mark Lee, Community Development Director; Tillie Laplante, Finance Director; Magen Gilliland, Economic Development Manager; Justine Spease, Recreation Manager and Shawn Ming, Recreation Coordinator

The mayor led the Pledge of allegiance.

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

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

1. Minutes of the February 23, 2026 City Council Meeting
2. Claims for City Operations

**OLD BUSINESS** - None presented

#### **NEW BUSINESS -**

1. **Bid Award - Lions Park Ballfields Lighting** - Shannon moved and Gurley seconded to award the bid for the Lion's Park Ballfield Lighting to Third Generation Electric, in the amount of \$258,852. Unanimous approval.

2. **Pre-Season Pool Maintenance Expenditures** - Blanks moved and Wood seconded to approve the re-allocation of funds to cover the needed pre-season pool maintenance as recommended in the Bonner Springs Aquatic Park Aquatics Assessment by Councilman-Hunsaker. Unanimous approval.
3. **Acceptance of the Sandstone Townhomes Sanitary Sewer Lift Station, Sanitary Sewer and Public Water Supply Infrastructure.** - Shannon moved and Reeves seconded to accept certain public improvements within the Sandstone Pointe Townhome development. Unanimous approval.
4. **BSZO-01-26 Unified Development Ordinance Amendment** - Short-term Rental Regulations - Karen Kipp, 810 Lake Forest Dr., interested in short-term rentals. Kipp asked Council to consider shortening the distance from 1000 ft to allow more rentals. 1000 feet in Bonner is currently about three blocks. Would like one allowed every 300-500'.

Gurley moved to adopt an ordinance amending the Unified Development Ordinance establishing regulations and requirements for short-term rentals. The motion failed with no second.

Blanks moved and McMahan seconded, to remand the item back to the Planning Commission to review section 4, line items A and B, to discuss downtown inventory, and reconsider city-wide density restrictions. Motion carried on a vote of 6 to 2 with Reeves and Shannon dissenting.

5. **Resolution to Terminate the City's Industrial Revenue Bonds for the Guy B. Tiner Project (Series 2015)** – Gurley moved and McMahan seconded to adopt a resolution authorizing the city to execute a special warranty deed, a release of real estate, and other release documents and to take certain other actions to effect the option to purchase the project pursuant to the lease in connection with the City's aggregate principal amount of \$1,285,000 industrial revenue bonds series 2015. Unanimous approval. Assigned Resolution No. 2026-12.
6. **Centennial Park Extension Project Memorandum of Understanding** - Reeves moved and Shannon seconded to authorize the city manager to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the Centennial Park Extension Project. Unanimous approval. Blanks dissented due to a professional conflict of interest.
7. **Executive Session for Non-Elected Personnel Matters Pursuant to Exception K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to discuss the City Manager's annual review** - Blanks moved and Long seconded to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel matters pursuant to exception, K.S.A.75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the Council Chamber at 9:03 p.m.  
Gurley moved and Shannon seconded to resume the open meeting with no action taken at 9:04 p.m.

## REPORTS

**City Manager's Report** – The city manager brought everyone's attention to the art installation on Oak St. The artwork is made to look like falling oak leaves. This art installation is permanent.

### City Council Items

- Blanks stated she is excited about falling oak leaves art downtown. Blanks wanted to clarify that it was paid for with Transient Guest tax funds, not resident taxes. Thanked the city for supporting chamber at the annual banquet. Reminded everyone the Penguin plunge is coming up in two weeks and she encouraged everyone to either plunge or sponsor someone who is plunging. 100% of proceeds go to Happy Hearts Working.

- Long stated the Chamber banquet was wonderful and it was great to see business owners and the Kansas City, KS Mayor in attendance.
- Reeves states the banquet was a great night. He was concerned about standing water in the intersection at 138th & Kump. The city manager stated the water isn't currently able to drain correctly. Once the rest of the asphalt is placed and the project is finished, the water should drain correctly.
- McMahan stated the banquet was great, the food was good, guest was great. McMahan stated the wood shake shingles on the Centennial Park Gazebo needs attention. The mayor reached out to one of the high school teachers to encourage a student to take it on as a senior project.
- Wood stated she thinks its wonderful that there is always something going on and appreciates seeing the completed projects for 2026.
- Gurley asked the name of the band that performed at the Chamber banquet and complimented them. She asked if the volume of missed trash calls has declined? The city clerk responded the volume fluctuates but has decreased overall. Is there movement at the old Dari Dine building?
- Kipp apologized for missing the banquet. Kipp stated the mayor made a comment about everyone getting along respectfully, he hopes everyone feels that way. He appreciates that everyone respectfully fights for their city. He is looking forward to doing a police ride along next week.
- Shannon thanked Blanks for coordinating the Chamber banquet. Shannon asked if there have been any updates on Old Dominion trucks using Kansas Avenue. The city manager reported the city cannot put up signs preventing them from using the road, because that would interfere with deliveries to businesses on the road. Any movement on existing vacant property on K-7 and Speaker? The city manager stated there have been no updates from the owner.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Stephens reported the Chamber banquet was well attended. He thanked Councilmember Blanks for coordinating. He was pleased to see representatives from Edwardsville and Kansas City, Kansas attend the banquet. He noted that councilmembers currently present, except Councilmember Blanks, were on the council when the automatic dispatch agreement was approved. The automatic dispatch agreement played an important part in managing the recent Edwardsville high rise fire and thanked Edwardsville, Kansas City, Kansas and Bonner Springs for the foresight to pass that agreement.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Long moved and Reeves seconded to adjourn the City Council meeting at 9:19 p.m. Unanimous approval.

\_\_\_\_\_ Christina Brake, City Clerk