



City of Bonner Springs

KANSAS

City Council Meeting Minutes
June 23, 2025

WORKSHOP – 6:15 P.M.

Council Present: Mayor Stephens, Councilmembers Reeves, Long (6:25 p.m.), Blanks, McMahan (6:43 p.m.), Wood, Gurley, and Shannon. Kipp was absent.

City Staff Present: Amber Vogan, City Manager; Chris Brake, City Clerk; Tillie Laplante, Finance Director; Carrie Handy, Assistant City Manager; Megan Gilliland, Economic Development Coordinator; Matt Beets, Public Works Director; Jack Granath, Library Director; Justine Spease, Recreation Director; James Zeeb, Interim Fire Chief and Michael Kelling, Police Captain

1. **Budget Work Session - General Fund, Library Fund, and Debt Service Fund** - The Finance Director reviewed the proposed budgets for the Library fund, the Debt Service fund and the General fund. The City Manager then reviewed the cuts that would need to be made to decrease the mill levy by one-half mill, by one mill, or to go revenue neutral.

The workshop closed at 7:14 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 7:30 P.M.

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

City Staff Present: Amber Vogan, City Manager; Chris Brake, City Clerk; Tillie Laplante, Finance Director; Carrie Handy, Assistant City Manager; Megan Gilliland, Economic Development Coordinator; Matt Beets, Public Works Director; Jack Granath, Library Director; Justine Spease, Recreation Director; James Zeeb, Interim Fire Chief; Michael Kelling, Police Captain and Mark Lee, Community Development Director

The Mayor led the Pledge of allegiance and requested a moment of silence for the victims and families affected by the flooding in Texas.

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

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

1. Minutes of the June 23, 2025 City Council Meeting
2. Claims for City Operations
3. Public Use Request – Bubble Run
4. Public Use Request – Tiblow Days Amended Request

OLD BUSINESS - None presented

NEW BUSINESS -

1. **Public Hearing to Issue Industrial Revenue Bonds for Scannell Properties, LLC (Building 2)** - Gurley moved and Shannon seconded, to cancel the public hearing concerning the advisability of granting an exemption from ad valorem taxes and issuing industrial revenue bonds for the Scannell Building 2, Lot 3 North project. Unanimous approval.
2. **Notice of Intent to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate** - Scott Harding, 13786 Valleyview Way, voiced his concerns about people in Wyandotte county who are facing foreclosure and his discontent with the way the Unified Government manages their budget. He encouraged the council to vote to go revenue neutral. Shannon moved and Blanks seconded, to authorize City staff to notify the County Clerks of the City's intent to exceed the Revenue Neutral rate, maintaining the current mill levy rate of 38.834, and set a public hearing for September 8, 2025, to hear comments on exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Unanimous approval.
3. **FP-02-25 - Replat of Lots 6-10 of the East Grandview Subdivision** - Reeves moved and Long seconded, to accept the dedication of public right-of-way and easements for the final plat of 1755 S. 136th Street. Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

1. **City Manager's Report** – The City manager provided an update on the status of the City Hall chimney after it was struck by lightning. Chimney update. The insurance adjuster and contractors looked at the chimney. Staff is currently waiting for the engineer to declare if it is stable enough to use that area of the building. There will be a full tear down and replacement of the chimney. The historic tax credits we received require us to replace the chimney. Staff does not yet have a timeline for repairs.
2. **City Council Items**
 - Blanks - Welcome Assistant City Manager Carrie Handy and Interim Fire Chief James Zeeb to their first council meeting. Blanks stated she is excited about the 2nd street sidewalk completion. Blanks thanked the economic development coordinator and the police and fire departments for a successful Bonner Blast. She reviewed some of the cell phone data collected that showed 6,500 visitors to Bonner Blast. Blanks thanked the city manager for her help with Evenings on Oak last Thursday. Thanked Captain Kelling and Officer Cooper for their support as well. July 17th is the Community Engagement event with the police department at 6:30 p.m. The Women's Chamber Network celebration event is July 18th, from 8-10 at the KCK Chamber. The ribbon cutting for Manna Mental Health is July 22nd at 2:00 p.m. The Edwardsville Art Fest is July 24th from 1-4 p.m. On July 25th, the Wyandotte County Sheriff's office will be at the aquatic park providing hotdogs and free entry to the first 250 participants from 4-7 p.m. Dolan Kile has been amazing, he goes the extra mile, offers to help before being asked.
 - Long - Thanked public works staff for their support of Bonner Blast, picking up trash and answering questions. They were professional, kind and helpful.
 - Reeves - Stated municipal court has been busy taking care of "frequent fliers". City staff started the year doing a good job with the vegetation in Spring Creek, but it needs attention again after all the rain.
 - Gurley - Reported conduit from the streetlight is down at Pratt & Castle
3. **Mayor's Report** – The Mayor stated he is pleased with how much of our community participates in community events like Bonner Blast. Staff puts in a lot of hard work and it makes the events enjoyable.

John McCaughrean, 1240 Budd Circle, Kansas City, KS, introduced himself as a candidate for the upcoming USD204 Board of Education election.

ADJOURNMENT - Reeves moved and Blanks seconded, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 8:21 p.m. Unanimous approval.

_____ Christina Brake, City Clerk