



City of Kingman
City Commission Minutes
November 21, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Adrian Harrel called the meeting to order on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 7:00pm at the City of Kingman meeting room. The meeting was also available via Zoom. Commissioners Wollen, McFarland, and Hacker were present. Commissioner Wallace was absent. Also present were Manager Graffman, City Clerk Bieghler, Attorney Smith, Chief Lux, Leslie Schrag, and Gregg Thimesch.

Commissioner Hacker opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA: Motion made by Wollen to approve the agenda with added item H. Legacy Lights. Seconded by McFarland. Motion declared carried by unanimous vote.

MINUTES: Motion made by Wollen, seconded by McFarland to table the November 9, 2023 minutes so they can be revised to reflect a past-tense voice and to add clarification on the legacy light program. Motion declared carried by unanimous vote with Harrel abstaining.

BILLS PAYABLE: Motion made by Hacker, seconded by Wollen to approve the bills payable in the amount of \$203,471.60. Motion declared carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Gregg Thimesch voiced appreciation for the city's Economic Development and the city manager for playing music downtown and states that the music caught the attention of the musical artist, "Winger", who was in town performing a concert on November 16th. He states that the artist shared a post about it on social media, which went viral and brought positive attention to Kingman. Mr. Thimesch also thanked Commissioner Hacker for his years of service on the City Commission.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Director Leslie Schrag reported that she had received nine letters of support for the US 45 Bypass project and submitted those letters to KDOT. Focus groups for the housing assessment has met and is now compiling data, the report for Kingman should be available in February 2024. Rural Champion program received an additional \$27,000 to help current in-home childcare providers, which totaled to \$2,778 per provider that could go towards equipment, curriculums and minor home repairs. Schrag made a new brochure for the Kingman Historical Society. Convention and Tourism has ordered a county-wide tourism study. Schrag provided a Kingman County Property Tax infographic to compare the county to other counties.

B AVE CULVERT ANALYSIS (WILSON & COMPANY): Jeff Holste from Wilson & Company presented some options to the commission regarding the B Ave Culvert. Four options were presented ranging in cost from \$2,409,800 - \$3,579,100. The commission asked Mr. Holst if he could re-analyze the options and provide phases of the project. No action was taken.

FAIRGROUND FENCING: Greg Graffman and Gregg Thimesch reported that they spoke to the Fair Board after the last meeting discussing fairground fencing and said that the fair board had some concerns with removing the fencing and not leaving a barrier in place. Thimesch recommends that that west fence can come out, but a barrier such as a pipe fence should be erected behind the grandstands, which could have a snow fence attached for special events. Graffman recommended to allow the county to remove

the west fence, but keep the fencing behind the grandstands for now until a solution is decided. No action was taken.

DEPARTMENT EDUCATION UPDATE: Gregg Thimesch reported that he attended a Playground Safety Inspector course offered by the Kansas Parks & Recreation Association. The three day class taught participants how to inspect playground equipment for safety, how to prioritize projects, and how to grade the wear and tear on equipment. The certification is nationally recognized. Thimesch also said that he, along with other city staff, attended GridEx training in McPherson. The GridEx training was a two day tabletop exercise class designed to train municipalities in both cyber and physical attacks to the local power grid. Thimesch said that the training was very informative and eye opening. Clerk Bieghler reported that he attended the Kansas Municipal Audit and Accounting Guidebook (KMAAG) training in Salina. Bieghler said that the training focused heavily on fraud, both internal and external, as well as general training in preparing financial statements.

KPP SOLAR: Manager Graffman presented a letter from KPP Energy asking to conduct a feasibility study in an area east of the Kingman Airport. Graffman said that the Airport Board will consider the project at their December 6th meeting.

Motion made by Hacker, seconded by McFarland to authorize the mayor to sign the KPP feasibility study form to allow the KPP to conduct the study. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CMB (PIZZA HUT): Motion made by Hacker, seconded by Wollen to approve the CMB License for Pizza Hut. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CMB (WHITE'S FOODLINER): Motion made by Hacker, seconded by McFarland to approve the CMB License for White's Foodliner. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATION (CINDY CONRARDY DAY): Mayor Harrel read a proclamation to recognize November 30, 2023 as "Cindy Conrardy Day." Motion made by Hacker, seconded by McFarland to approve the proclamation. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

LEGACY LIGHT PROGRAM: The Legacy Light Program was revisited to clarify the motion from the previous meeting on November 9th. The Commission discussed that the pricing shouldn't be absolute and allow for variability to depend on the cost of the lights.

Motion made by Wollen, seconded by McFarland to accept the Legacy Light Program concept pending finalized pricing. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Graffman provided a reminder of the special meeting on November 30th and said that he was working on an agenda and a commission meeting will start at 4:15pm for Cindy Conrardy's retirement reception. City Hall will close at 4:00pm on November 30th. Reorganization of the city commission will be on December 14th, which Hacker will need to be present for the first part to approve bills payable and the minutes. After the minutes are approved, the newly elected commissioners will be sworn in and the commission will elect a mayor.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: [WOLLEN] attended the county commission meeting on November 14th and spoke how the county finance advisor talked about her calculations for EMS funding. Graffman confirmed a meeting is planned for after the Thanksgiving holiday. Wollen also said that he had heard about a vehicle accident at the intersection of Chariton and Washington, which does not have any stop or yield signs and questions whether a yield sign should be placed for east-west traffic. **[MCFARLAND]** asked about the progress of the downtown Christmas Lights. He also asked about the possibility of

contracting with an answering service to field calls after hours to lessen the burden of the county dispatchers. **[HACKER]** thanked the city employees for assisting in catching a cow that was out. **[HARREL]** discussed social media and has some concerns on how some city employees interact on social media regarding city business related posts. He asks that the city review social media policies. He also said that while he was glad that an agreement was made at the last meeting to continue providing EMS services to the County in 2024, he was disappointed that the dispatch services are still tied into it.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Hacker, seconded by McFarland to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Adrian Harrel, Mayor



Zachary Bieghler, City Clerk