

MINUTES

Due to public health orders related to COVID-19, the meeting will be closed to the public. Members of the public who wish to observe the meeting can do so via the City's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/DeSotoKansas/live>.

Meeting information materials can be viewed here:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=1BoO7dkEtEakRO_o9d01OsnAdJbbQ_OCB

Applicants or members of the public who wish to participate during the meeting may join the video conference at <https://www.gotomeet.me/DeSotoKS>

The meeting was called to order with Roll Call by Mayor Rick Walker.

Roll Call:	Lane	Present	Ritter	Present
	Daniels	Present	Murdock	Present
	Honomichl	Present		

Mayor Walker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda Items will be acted upon by one motion unless a Council member requests an item be removed for discussion and separate action.

1. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approve Minutes of the Council Meeting on April 16, 2020.
 - b. Approve Pay Ordinance No. 877.

Motion by Council member Murdock to approve the Consent Agenda; second by Lane.

Roll Call:	Lane	Yes	Ritter	Yes
	Daniels	Yes	Murdock	Yes
	Honomichl	Yes		

Motion carried.

2. Call to Public:

Because members of the public cannot attend council meetings at this time, the public comment portion of the agenda is temporarily suspended.

3. Old Business: None

4. New Business:

- a. Receive 2019 Audit Report. Administrator Brungardt commented that Karen Linn and Emily Sheldon are on line to present the findings. Ms. Linn presented the items of the audit including the Report to the City and the Financial Findings. Ms. Linn stated the City's audit did not find any categories or matters that are unacceptable. All the Staff were helpful in assisting with documentation for the audit.

Administrator Brungardt commended Bonnie Bennett and the office staff who worked on the

new software and financial packages. He said Bonnie and her staff did a great job and he thanked them for all their work.

Motion by Council member Honomichl to receive the 2019 Audit Report; second by Murdock.

Roll Call:	Lane	Yes	Ritter	Yes
	Daniels	Yes	Murdock	Yes
	Honomichl	Yes		

Motion carried.

- b. Consider Archery Club Lease for Widow Big Knife Park. City Attorney Reavey provided some revisions to the current lease to allow public use of the park during the month of April due to citizens wanting to mushroom hunt. Attorney Reavey worked with Ron Gray, a member of the Archery Club, to work out these revisions.

Council member Murdock said she had someone who asked her about it. The person was asking about the use of the archery range during the month of April. She appreciates the Archery Club for allowing the month of April to be an exception for using the archery range.

Mayor Walker asked if Mr. Gray wanted to comment. Mr. Gray said the Archery Club is happy with the resolution.

Motion by Council member Daniels to authorize the Mayor to approve the Lease for Widow Big Knife Park; second by Murdock.

Roll Call:	Lane	Yes	Ritter	Yes
	Daniels	Yes	Murdock	Yes
	Honomichl	Yes		

Motion carried.

- c. Discuss Re-opening Plans and Schedules for Summer Events. Administrator Brungardt said this is a big topic of discussions in most towns around us. The County Commissioners have adopted the state's plan, with the extension in Johnson County to May 11th. Starting Monday, the City will be on the state's plan and the parallel to the County's plan. Jay Garvin and Justin Huslig have had numerous conference calls with surrounding cities and recreation program leaders. The County Health Officer will make an independent decision on the phases as they pertain to Johnson County. De Soto will follow the County's plans for each phase. Administrator Brungardt commented on the City Offices and Staffing, Recreation Programming, Parks & Playgrounds, and the Pool.

He provided an update with employees who will be returning to work on Monday, May 11th. When we move to Phase 2, he will bring back the furloughed employees. He doesn't plan to open City Hall until Phase 2 and explained the barriers and dividers that will be installed. He said the judge and prosecutor will be holding Court on Monday, May 11th, in the Council Chamber. Face masks will be required in the court room.

Administrator Brungardt said refunds for the soccer programs have been processed. Jay Garvin said there will be a new registration deadline for baseball and softball of June 5th. If Phase 2 isn't reached by June 22, there will be no season for this. Swim teams are still being reviewed based on pool openings. The Park Board wants to proceed with at least part of the season.

Administrator Brungardt said community centers are in Phase 2 for reopening. The City has

three areas to consider: the Senior Center and the Community Center Gymnasium, and the rental of these. The Gymnasium opening would fall into Phase 3. We expect Great Life Fitness to open when it is appropriate according to the State's plan.

Administrator Brungardt comments on the Parks & Playgrounds. The sports courts will be opened in Phase 2 and the playground equipment in Phase 3.

Administrator Brungardt said some cities around us have closed their swimming pool. The County's plan says opening in Phase 3, with the safety distancing and gathering of groups. He said the training of lifeguards would be an issue, as well as PPE for lifeguards. Staff's recommendation is to not open the pool until the 'phased out' part of the plan. If we can't reach Phase 4 by the end of June, the recommendation is not to open the pool. Jay and Justin have talked with other Parks & Recreation Directors' meeting on Friday. They will be talking with them and discussing what cities are planning to do regarding all the safety concerns in following all the protocols. He doesn't want to put lifeguards in charge of these items when they need to be protecting the patrons in the pool and their safety.

Mayor Walker said there would need to be adults on duty to enforce the safety protocols as the lifeguards will need to be overseeing the pool and the people in it.

Council member Murdock said we really want to be able to open the pool, but it doesn't seem safe to do so at this time. Young people work at that pool and they will have a hard time telling adults what they need to do in following the safety protocols. She fears having that many people potentially together in that confined area. Let's not try to rush into this; just hold off and see what happens.

Council member Daniels said he agrees. Lifeguards need to be watching the people in the pool. Enforcement would need to be done by other people. Another consideration is how many people can be in the pool and monitoring the number of the people in the pool could be an issue, unless we are in the Phase 4 stage.

Council member Honomichl said he would encourage Administrator Brungardt to work with other cities and be engaged with their ideas and plans. He is glad Jay and Justin are working with other Recreational Directors and hearing what other directors are thinking. He encourages a strong public communication process for our citizens.

Council member Honomichl has these questions for Administrator Brungardt: Do you have input from Staff for their comfort level; what plans are made for PPE for Staff; and have there been any thoughts about alternative programming for Parks & Recreation. Administrator Brungardt said the Staff comfort levels are from one end to the other. Departments that are outside are all gung-ho about getting back to work. He has ongoing discussions with the department heads with getting work tasks completed. Administrator Brungardt said it is difficult to find face masks and he has ordered some. There is sufficient hand sanitizer on hand, but the sanitizing wipes are still difficult to obtain.

Administrator Brungardt asked Jay and Justin if they've heard of any other cities who have been able to provide some alternative recreational programs. They will be looking into that once they are back in City Hall working together. It's a good idea, but nothing formulated yet.

Council member Ritter said he agrees with the previous comments. He said there may be alternative ways to come up with the needed PPE and disinfection items. He said he would be happy to help locate those items. He feels there is no way you can have one on one CPR training before the pool opens. He says everyone is working hard on this and he appreciates it.

No further comments from Council member Lane

Administrator Brungardt said the Park Board did make a motion to support Staff's Recommendations.

Council member Daniels said the pool use could be limited to De Soto residents only; and, no walk-ins. He also commented on the fitness rooms being available to access wi-fi in the Jazzercise room. He said Jazzercise is doing a free virtual class at this time. Justin commented on the wi-fi outside of the gymnasium being sporadic.

Mayor Walker said some cities are thinking of selling two-hour passes for the pool and then clean in between the passes.

Administrator Brungardt commented on the Summer Concert Series has been postponed. This would have to be in Phase 4. Mayor Walker said that events can be held if social distance can be maintained. Council member Murdock said putting it off to the Fall would make most sense as July and August are usually hot. September could be a good time.

Administrator Brungardt said the 4th of July is also in question. Discussion among Council members. Council member Daniels said maybe the fireworks could be added to De Soto Days. No discussions have taken place on that celebration yet. Administrator Brungardt said the concert series and the fireworks could be postponed until late summer or Fall.

- d. Consider Proposal for July 4th Fireworks Display from Wald.

Motion by Council member Murdock to accept the proposal from Wald Fireworks in the amount of \$11,793.00; second by Daniels.

Roll Call:	Lane	Yes	Ritter	Yes
	Daniels	Yes	Murdock	Yes
	Honomichl	Yes		

Motion carried.

- e. Discuss 2021 CDBG Application Project Selection. City Planning Director Weisenburger said the deadline for project submittal is May 22nd. He is asking Council's direction on several projects. The sidewalk projects usually score better in CDBG funding. A public hearing is scheduled for the May 21st Council meeting. Planning Director Weisenburger commented on a water line project on Wea Street the Water Department is recommending. He further commented on the funding.

Mayor Walker asked for input. Administrator Brungardt said there are system maintenance funds now and that fund could be used to raze the old water plant building.

Mayor Walker and Council member Murdock asked about the waterline and the sidewalk along Wea Street being the project. Council members said they like the Wea Street project.

5. Executive Session: N/A

6. Advisory Reports:

- a. City Administrator, Mike Brungardt, advised Council of a significant repair bill that will be on the swamp loader that had some electrical issues that have to be repaired. The estimate right now is \$15,800.00. This vehicle is scheduled to be replaced next year. He was hoping to put off the purchase of a vehicle next year to help the budget. This loader is necessary and is used regularly. It will be out of service for about six weeks due to repairs.

Administrator Brungardt said the culvert issue on 95th Street is being worked on. The pipe is to be delivered tomorrow morning and the contractor hopes to get it installed tomorrow and get the road opened back up. The total project will be around \$50,000 in repairs. He showed Council members where the pipe was put in for the railroad overpass. It is the City's opinion this is Sunflower Redevelopment's responsibility as it lies within the railroad easement. They are aware of the cost, but they haven't yet agreed they are responsible for the costs of this emergency repair.

Council member Lane asked how much of this property actually belongs to Sunflower Redevelopment. Administrator Brungardt showed the AIMS map for Council members.

- b. City Attorney, Patrick Reavey, said the Ashworth snowplow claim has been settled by the insurance company.
- c. City Planner, Brad Weisenburger, nothing further.
- d. City Clerk, Lana McPherson, thanked Council and Staff for their encouragement and support this past year as she represented De Soto in serving as the IIMC President.

7. Council & Mayor Comments:

Council member Lane said he appreciated Administrator Brungardt having the brush site opened for the storm brush. Discussion ensued on opening the brush site again next week.

Council member Ritter had no further comments.

Council member Honomichl said the Mayor is doing a great job of running a virtual meeting. He also thanked Administrator Brungardt for the fast response on the 95th Street culvert repair. Good job jumping on this. He commented on the K-10 damage. Council member Honomichl commended Mike and the Council for the on-line remote meeting environment. He said he feels very good about the support. He said he wants to create additional abilities for people in the community to engage.

Council member Murdock said "good work, Mike" for working long hours and we appreciate the work you are doing.

Council member Daniels said he appreciates the reports Mike prepares for Council. He commented on the tree that is on the north side of 83rd Street and Corliss Road.

Mayor Walker said he encourages everyone to continue to be aware of maintaining our distances so we can continue to stay well.

Motion by Council member Murdock to adjourn at 8:41 p.m.; second by Daniels.

All Council approved by "ayes".

Respectfully submitted:

Lana R. McPherson, MMC, City Clerk