



Abilene City Commission Meeting Minutes
Abilene Public Library – 209 NW Fourth Street
June 28, 2021 @ 4:00 p.m.
Abilene, Kansas

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call – City Commission Present: Mayor Rein, Commissioners Marshall, Ostermann, Shafer and Witt.

Staff Present: City Manager Marsh, Interim City Clerk Mohr, Finance Director Rothchild, City Attorney Martin, Parks and Recreation Director Timbrook, Interim Fire Chief Strunk, and Public Works Director Schrader.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Agenda

4. Agenda Approval for the June 28, 2021, City Commission Meeting.

5. Meeting minutes: June 14, 2021, Regular Meeting.

6. Appoint Barry Arp to the Heritage Commission to fill vacancy-term expiring in January 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Marshall, seconded by Commissioner Witt to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of item No. 9 as this can be approved by the City Manager and does not require the passage of an ordinance or resolution. Roll call vote: Marshall YES, Ostermann YES, Shafer YES, Witt YES, Rein YES. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Public Comments and Communications

7. Persons who wish to address the City Commission may do so when called upon by the Mayor.

There were no public comments or communications.

Old and New Business

8. Approval of Resolution No. 062821-1, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, KANSAS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020, AS PREPARED BY VARNEY AND ASSOCIATES, CPAS, LLC.

Motion by Commissioner Marshall, seconded by Commissioner Witt to approve Resolution No. 062821-1, **A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, KANSAS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020, AS PREPARED BY VARNEY AND ASSOCIATES, CPAS, LLC.** Roll call vote: Ostermann YES, Shafer YES, Witt YES, Rein YES, Marshall YES. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

9. Approval of Ordinance No. 21-3399, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE, CONSUMPTION AND POSSESSION OF CEREAL MALT BEVERAGES ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE RODEO GRANDSTAND AT THE CITY FAIRGROUNDS.

This item was removed from the agenda.

10. Approval of the purchase of transmission water main materials for Well #23 from Wichita Winwater.

City Manager Marsh explained this is to build the main water line to connect to Well #23. This is being done early to secure the material needed so we have it when construction begins.

Public Works Director Schrader presented information regarding the bids received for the water main materials for the development of Well #23. The City is requesting that this be funded through the American Rescue Plan for infrastructure improvements.

Motion by Commissioner Marshall, seconded by Commissioner Shafer to approve the purchase of transmission water main materials for Well #23 for Wichita Winwater in the amount of \$91,016.43. Roll call vote: Shafer YES, Witt YES, Rein YES, Marshall YES, Ostermann YES. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

11. 2022 Budget Discussion – Utility Funds.

Finance Director Rothchild presented information regarding the 2022 Budget for the Utility Funds – recycling, storm water, water, and sewer.

Finance Director Rothchild also presented information regarding the American Rescue Fund which the City will use to fund the Convention and Visitors Bureau due to lost revenue during the Covid Pandemic and to help fund the infrastructure for Well #23.

Reports

12. City Manager reports

As you may have seen via social media, with a significant contribution from the community the Convention and Visitors Bureau was able to purchase from auction a carved bulls head and longhorns from Ben Thompsons Bull Head Saloon. The piece will return to Old Abilene Town. Committed contributions are just over \$12,587; the purchase price was \$11,000 with an 18% buyer's premium for a total of \$12,980. The balance will be paid by the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The Corp of Engineers levee remediation continues. Lon expects there is a little over 3 weeks of work left.

Public Works has had quite a bit of overtime the week before last; installing new telemetry remotes at the water plant and a communications issue made for some long days; repaired several water leaks and picking up storm debris.

Update on the status of the radiators for the police department remodel: once the tax credit application has been submitted and reviewed, we will know whether the radiators must stay.

The question was asked last meeting about our sales tax coming from the gas tax. The gas tax in Kansas is \$.24/gallon, but this is not directly received by the City of Abilene. The city does receive around \$150,000-\$160,000 in gas tax distributed from the state each year, but the rest is distributed to other communities or goes towards highways and roads throughout Kansas. The City's increase in sales tax was a combination of an increase in local shopping and online purchases in Abilene. In 2021 so far, our overall local sales tax is up \$56,778 or 10% compared to last year with \$27,880 of that made up by online sales which is currently up 33% year to date.

The question was also asked about our payment to the DKEDC in 2020. The payment was issued from a different line item in the budget and was \$10,000.

The library and CVB budget presentation scheduled for July 12th will now be July 19th due to schedule conflicts with both the library and Julie.

Reminder: starting with the next City Commission meeting on July 12th, all commissioners will be on the bench; and starting July 19th, study sessions will move back to the City Hall conference room.

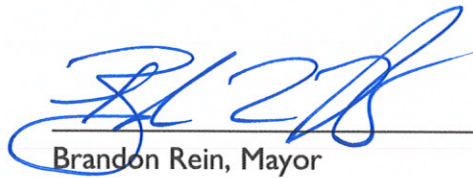
We will not have a study session on July 5th due to the Independence Day Holiday

Adjournment

12. Consideration of a motion to adjourn the June 28, 2021, City Commission meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Marshall, seconded by Commissioner Ostermann to adjourn at 4:35 p.m. Roll call vote: Witt YES, Rein YES, Marshall YES, Ostermann YES, Shafer YES. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.




Brandon Rein, Mayor

ATTEST:


Shayla L. Mohr
Interim City Clerk