



Mayor Jason Ward opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance. Council members present were Curtis Oroke, Mayor Jason Ward, Chris Donnelly, Andy Gilner, and Kara Reed. Mr. Truesdell was absent. Also in attendance were City Administrator Nathan McCommon, Assistant City Administrator Jamie Shockley, and City Attorney Michael Kelly.

#### **Approval of Minutes and Consent Agenda**

- Ms. Reed moved to approve the minutes from June 15, 2015. Mr. Donnelly seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.
- Mr. Donnelly moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting dated June 29, 2015. Mr. Oroke seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.
- Ms. Reed moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Donnelly seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### **Open Agenda**

- Mr. Robert W. Smith, a Tonganoxie schools crossing guard addressed the Council about his concerns that there needs to be a right turn and left turn lane near the new elementary school and middle school

#### **New Business**

##### **Recognition of first responders of incident at Tonganoxie Water Park**

- Mayor Ward recognized the numerous people involved in saving a young child from almost drowning at Tonganoxie Water Park.

##### **Proclamation – National Day of the American Cowboy**

- Mayor Ward pushed this agenda item back until later in the agenda to give Mr. Green an opportunity to show up to the meeting.

##### **Consider approval of agreement with Kelly Poling for artistic services**

- Mr. Donnelly moved to enter into an agreement with Kelly Poling to paint a mural, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000. Mr. Gilner seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

##### **Consider reduced development excise tax on building permit for Cornerstone Family Worship**

- The City Council debated on the request from Cornerstone Church to receive a waiver or discount on the excise tax as part of the building permit fees on their new facility. Mr. McCommon informed the Council that he reached out to his colleagues in other communities throughout Kansas and he found no community with a policy on granting discounts on building permits or excise taxes. He mentioned a couple communities who have tried to implement policies in the past, but failed to do so due to not being able to apply the policy equitably to all groups involved.
- Mr. Donnelly moved to approve a 30% discount on the church's excise tax fees. Mr. Gilner seconded. Ms. Reed stated that she doesn't see compelling evidence that would warrant the council waiving or discounting the fee. She doesn't see any difference between this case and any other group coming to the Council and asking for a discount, and she believes that if the Council is going to keep making exceptions to the policy, then the City needs to change the policy. The Council held a roll call vote on the motion: Ms. Reed – No. Mr. Gilner – Yes. Mr. Donnelly – Yes. Mr. Oroke – No. Since the vote was tied, Mayor Ward was able to vote on the motion. He said that he believes in being consistent, and in the past we've granted groups a 30% discount and believes that the church has a positive impact on our community. Mayor Ward voted yes. Motion carries 3-2.

#### **City Administrator Agenda**

##### **Update on RFQ for public facility designer**

- Mr. McCommon gave the Council an update on the RFQ for design services of public facilities. The RFQ is currently being advertised and responses are due on July 17.

#### **City Council Agenda**

- Mr. Gilner inquired as to whether or not it was possible to allow citizens to use their golf carts on the streets of Tonganoxie, as he has had that request from several of his constituents. Members of the Council indicated that it would be a liability issues for the City and not something they would be interested in doing.

##### **Proclamation of National Day of the American Cowboy**

- Mayor Ward read the proclamation, naming July 25 as National Day of the American Cowboy in Tonganoxie.

Mr. Gilner moved to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. and enter into a budget work session. Ms. Reed seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jamie Shockley  
Assistant City Administrator