Council Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2026
7:00 PM Meeting

I. Pledge of Allegiance

- Mayor Pro Tem Jacob Dale opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Mayor Pro Tem Dale led the pledge of allegiance.
- Mr. Jacob Dale, Ms. Jennifer McCutchen, Ms. Becca Grube and Mr. Matthew Wilke were present.
- City Manager George Brajkovic, Assistant City Manager Dan Porter, City Clerk Lindsay Huntington, and City Attorney Anna Krstulic were in attendance.

II. Approval of Minutes – Regular meeting dated July 06, 2026

- **Mr. Wilke made a motion to approve draft minutes from the regular meeting dated July 06, 2026.**
- **Ms. Grube seconded the motion.**
- **Vote of all ayes, motion carried.**

III. Consent Agenda

a) Review of bill payments

- **Ms. McCutchen made a motion to approve the consent agenda.**
- **Mr. Wilke seconded the motion.**
- **Vote of all ayes, motion carried.**

ITEM IX. a) was moved up in the meeting agenda order and completed at this time as described in the relevant section of the minutes below.

IV. Old Business

- Ms. Rebecca Davis addressed the City Council requesting additional information regarding the proposed annexation of property for the Data Center.
- Mr. Jim Karleskint addressed the City Council and expressed concerns regarding the use of natural gas power generation.
- Ms. Dee Karleskint addressed the City Council regarding potential public health concerns associated with natural gas power generation.

a) Resolution No. 07-26-02: City Private Spaces Policy Development

- Mr. Porter presented the proposed City Private Spaces Policy and explained the purpose of the resolution and policy components.
- **Mr. Wilke made a motion to approve and adopt draft Resolution 07-26-02, adopting the multiple-occupancy private space policy for the City of Tonganoxie.**
- **Ms. McCutchen seconded the motion**
- **Vote of all ayes**

V. New Business

a) Presentation of Tonganoxie Public Library's 2027 Proposed Budget

- Mr. Porter addressed the Council and introduced three members of the Tonganoxie Library Board, Emily Arnold, Meagan Vestal and Chey Partridge, who were present at the meeting to share information with the City Council and respond to questions and outlined the recent revenue neutral rate publication notice to the Leavenworth County Clerk that included a maximum 2027 Budget expected mill levy for the Library funds which included a net increase of 0.776 mills compared to the 2026 budget final mill levy for the Library funds.
- Ms. Arnold addressed the Council and shared information about the proposed Library budget for 2027, including that there has been an increase in the number of patrons served and other elements causing costs and projected costs to increase.

- Mr. Partridge asked about the level of proposed reserves projected for each unique fund and whether adjustments could be made that would potentially better align levels of fund reserves with stated goals for fund balance levels in each fund.
- Ms. Arnold said that some consideration of these ideas was incorporated into the earlier work of the Library Board and Library Board budget subcommittee.
- Mr. Wilke asked how the increase in usage affects the expenses and whether it is primarily programming or salaries that can be seen as driving the expenditure budget increase.
- Ms. Arnold shared that both elements are in part responsible for a share of the proposed expenditure increase.
- Mayor Pro Tem Dale thanked the members of the Library Board for their work on the 2027 proposed budget and for the members of the Board who attended the Council meeting to share information.

b) Ordinance No. 1551: Planning Commission Membership Amendment

- Mr. Brajkovic addressed the council and recognized Monica Gee for her contributions to the City Planning Commission and her recent resignation. He shared information about the potential changes to the membership requirements of the City Planning Commission included in the draft ordinance, primarily changing the wording from "shall be" to "may" in regard to City non-residents being included in the membership of the City Planning Commission.
  - **Mayor Pro Tem Dale made a motion for approval of Ordinance No. 1551, an ordinance amending Tonganoxie City Code regarding Planning Commission membership, amending and repealing sections 16-101 and 16-102 of the Tonganoxie City Code as presented.**
  - **Mr. Partridge seconded the motion.**
  - **Vote of all ayes, motion carried.**

c) Chieftain Park Project Design Update

- Mr. Porter addressed the Council with a brief presentation about the Chieftain Park project.
- Mr. Brad Eccles, Director of the Tonganoxie Recreation Commission, addressed the City Council about the final draft design for the project. He shared that with approval the project install is expected to begin in November and should be completed by February/March 2027, depending on weather conditions.
  - **Mayor Pro Tem Dale made a motion for City staff to proceed with and assist the Recreation Commission with ordering this equipment.**
  - **Mr. Wilke seconded the motion.**
  - **Vote of all ayes, motion carried.**

VI. City Manager Agenda

a) June 2026 Financial Report & Quarterly Treasurer's Report

- Mr. Porter addressed the City Council and provided information about the monthly financial and second quarter City Treasurer's report and noted that the City of Tonganoxie is now halfway through the current fiscal year.

VII. City Attorney Agenda

VIII. Mayor Pro Tem Agenda

IX. City Council Agenda

a) City Council Position Vacancy

- Mr. Brajkovic addressed the Council with the process of advertising the open position on the City Council following the resignation of Loralee Stevens from the Council and noted that the City received one application and that was from Matthew Partridge.
- Mr. Partridge addressed the Council about his qualifications for and interest in filling the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacant position on the City Council and his goals iin public service.

- Mayor Pro Tem Dale discussed the appointment with Mayor Frese who is supportive of the appointment of Mr. Partridge.
  - **Mayor Pro Tem Dale made a motion to appoint Mr. Matthew Partridge to council and to complete the swearing in.**
  - **Ms. Grube seconded the motion**
  - **Roll call vote, all ayes**

  - **Mr. Partridge completed the Oath of Office for the position of City Council member administered by the City Clerk and joined the City Council on the dais for the remainder of the meeting.**

b) Executive Session for consultation with Attorney

- **Ms. McCutchen made a motion that the City Council recess into executive session to obtain legal advice regarding development and related matters pursuant to the attorney/client consultation exception in K.S.A. 75 -4319 (b)(2). The executive session included the City Council, City Attorney, City Manager, Assistant City Manager, and City Clerk. The open meeting will resume in the Council Chambers at 8:32 pm.**
- **Mr. Partridge seconded the motion.**
- **Vote of all ayes, motion carried.**
- No binding action was taken.

X. Mayor Agenda

a) Library Board Position Vacancy.

- Mr. Porter addressed the Council with an update that there is has been one vacancy on the Library Board. He said the opening was advertised on the city website as well as at the library and one application was submitted by Jenna Ast. He said that the Library Board unanimously recommended the Mayor and City Council make the appointment of Jenna Ast to fill the remainder of the unexpired term of Sarah Moore.
- **Mayor Pro Tem Dale requested to appoint Jenna Ast to fill the remaining term of the vacant position on the Library Board with City Council's agreement as recommended by the Library Board, and the other members of the City Council unanimously agreed with the appointment.**

XI. Adjourn

- **Mayor Pro Tem Dale made a motion to adjourn the meeting.**
- **Ms. Grube seconded the motion**
- **Vote of all ayes**
- **Meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Huntington

Lindsay Huntington, City Clerk