

WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – City Hall
6:30 p.m. – October 6, 2025

1. Call to order by Mayor Garrett Edgar at 6:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Garrett Edgar, Mayor
Amy Anderson, Council Member
Mary Ann Crome, Council Member
Jerry Fuhrken, Council Member
Terry Morse, Council Member
Carolyn Pinnick, Council Member

Absent:

Staff Present: Carl Chalfant, City Administrator
Denise Powell, City Clerk
Caroline Scoville, Full-time EMT

Others: Cynthia Scheer, Washington County News
Eli Sweany, Washington Christian Church
John & Misty Durst, Morrowville

3. Approval of Agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended adding an Amendment to Architectural Agreement for Munchkinland Playground as presented by Anderson and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

4. Citizens Comments.

None.

5. Minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 2, 2025, and special meeting September 29, 2025, by Pinnick and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

6. Appropriations Ordinance 2025-10.

Motion to approve appropriations ordinance 2025-10 by Pinnick and seconded by Crome

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

7. Washington Christian Church.

Eli Sweany, Washington Christian Church, made a request to install three handicap parking stalls on C Street in the off-street parking in front of the church at 16 C Street. City Administrator Carl Chalfant will provide Sweany with the ADA guidelines and offer assistance to ensure compliance.

Motion to give the city administrator administrative authority to sign off on parking considerations by Pinnick and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

8. Ambulance.

Full-time EMT Caroline Scoville was present to discuss ambulance inspections; working with Washington County Emergency Preparedness on community awareness and hands on demonstrations for CPR and choking; the government potentially affecting ambulance billing; and ambulance staffing.

Scoville talked about incentives for personnel to attend ambulance meetings which are currently not mandatory. She would like the council to consider paying individuals to attend mandatory meetings. Currently she is having to teach the same thing five or six times. The city does pay for EMS personnel to have online training for renewal of their license, according to Scoville. No action was taken.

Scoville would like to start carrying some medications on the ambulance which she could give as an AEMT. If a policy is adopted medications could be given offering a higher level of care. Dr. David Hodgson, medical director, would ultimately make that decision. Medications could possibly be acquired from the hospital and the city wouldn't have to purchase them, according to Scoville.

Also discussed was the countywide ambulance service. Scoville said Randy Hubbard, Washington County Emergency Preparedness, is still doing research on a potential countywide ambulance service.

9. John & Misty Durst Request.

John & Misty Durst were present to discuss an estimate they received in the amount of \$32,424.84 to move electric lines so they can move a church they own at 801 C Street to their farm.

Misty Durst stated they purchased the church back in 2021 and planned to move the church from its current location to their farm. Durst said she came from a ministry background and they have started a nonprofit on their farm for ministry where they hold Christian concerts, have a boutique and fellowship. The purpose behind it is to give back to the community through Thanksgiving, Christmas, and recovery. They've had someone give them \$10,000 to move the church and it's a calling, according to Durst.

Council Member Terry Morse said the problem is the height is 34 feet at the top of the roof. Durst corrected Morse, stating 29 feet.

John Durst stated he didn't understand some of the charges. City Administrator Chalfant said the city does not have the equipment nor the manpower to do the work on the heavy lines across Highway 15 going to the industrial park, so that portion will have to be done by a contractor, who has estimated the cost at \$17,500. Durst stated he wanted to be sure the city was not pricing the job high because they didn't want to do the work.

In addition, there will be 230 residences and businesses without power and the city power plant will have to generate electricity for six to eight hours during the move, said Chalfant. There was discussion about the possibility of removing the roof from the church prior to moving it. It was said the height without the roof

would be about 21 feet tall which might allow it to go under the lines without disconnecting them. It would save the Dursts significant expense and prevent residents and businesses from having to be without power.

Mayor Garrett Edgar asked Dursts once they decide what direction they want to take to get back with the city.

10. Amendment to Architectural Agreement Munchkinland Playground.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign an Amendment to the Architectural Agreement for Munchkinland Playground between CES Group Inc. and City of Washington adding in collaboration with the playground committee and city representative to the agreement upon review by the city attorney by Crome and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

11. Taylor Miller Request.

Motion to approve the street use permit from Taylor Miller for the 2nd Annual Turkey Trot on Thursday, Nov. 27, 2025, contingent upon receipt of proof of liability insurance by Pinnick seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

12. Health Insurance.

Staff reached out to Charles Mayfield, group sales consultant for BCBS, to see when renewal rates would be available for 2026 employee health insurance. Mayfield said the city has an age rated renewal which should be out the second week of October.

Consensus of the council was to allow Darren Booth, Theel Insurance and Financial Services, to provide a quote for their employee health insurance needs. He works with Freedom Claims Management, Inc., a third-party administrator, that handles claims for employer-provided health plans.

13. Kansas Setoff Agreement.

Motion to approve and authorize the mayor to sign the Municipal Qualification Certification from the State of Kansas Department of Administration Accounts Receivable Setoff Program as presented by Pinnick and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

14. Law Enforcement Contract.

Motion to renew the 2026 Law Enforcement contract by Crome and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Carolyn Pinnick
Nays: Terry Morse

15. Washington County Sheriff Parking Request.

City Administrator Carl Chalfant will work with Sheriff Justin Cordry to move the handicap parking stall east of their garage door on the north side of the building to the first stall west of B Street on the south side of 3rd Street and ensuring compliance with the ADA guidelines.

16. EMT Applicant.

Motion to approve the hire of EMT Jerrika Chase by Crome and seconded by Anderson.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

17. KMGA/KMEA Conference.

Motion to allow Fred Brungardt and Terry Morse to attend the 2025 KMEA/KMGA Conference Nov. 13 -14 in Wichita by Crome seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

18. Emergency Water Supply Plan.

Motion to appoint City Administrator Carl Chalfant as a 2025 voting delegate and Council Member Terry Morse as 2025 alternate voting delegate to represent the city in the conduct and management of the affairs of the League of Kansas Municipalities by Pinnick and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

19. Executive Session.

Motion to recess into executive session to discuss employee performance of non-elected personnel to include the Mayor, Council, City Administrator to resume in the Council chambers at 8:25 p.m. by Pinnick and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Motion to recess into executive session to discuss employee performance of non-elected personnel to include the Mayor, Council, City Administrator to resume in the Council chambers at 8:30 p.m. by Pinnick and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Motion to pay Fulltime EMT Scoville the same on call rates for weekend and weeknights for nonscheduled business hours retroactive to the beginning of the current pay period by Anderson and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Motion to classify the City Clerk as a nonexempt employee and be compensated for attendance at council meetings to include the October 2025 meeting by Anderson and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

20. City Administrator Report.

- a) **Sheriff Contact.** At the request of the Council, staff reached out to Sheriff Justin Cordry in reference to delays in delivery of personal service. Sheriff Cordry responded they struggle in finding them and/or catching them at home. In order to do personal service of the notice(s) they must be done in person, which can sometimes be challenging because some people purposely evade any type of service. The whole purpose of the personal service is to ensure they get the notice in their hands and can't deny they've received it. A notice slip is put in/on their door telling them to contact the Sheriff's office and officers continue make repeated visits.

As of 10/2/25, there have still not been any citations for delinquent pet tags submitted. Council asked staff to follow up.

- b) **Playground Grant.** Staff worked with the playground committee and submitted a grant application through the Washington County Community Foundation to be used toward sidewalks alongside the playground project.
- c) **Sewer Lining 2025 Project.** Mayer Specialty Services, LL, was in town Monday, September, 29th and finished the last section of the sewer lining project of 2025.
- d) **East 2nd St. Project.** The progress meeting for the East 2nd St. Project was Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at city hall. Rain and material delays slowed the project this past month. Sidewalk and parking lot at the doctor's office had been completed. With delivery of the concrete boxes the past couple days, the contractor has started replacement of the sanitary sewer manholes. There was discussion on vacuum testing manholes, using flowable fill in holes over four feet deep and striping the hospital parking lot.

21. City Clerk's Report.

- a) **Playground.** Staff followed up with CES Group and North Central Regional Planning Commission on the playground project bid as there had been no communication since the Council meeting on Sept. 29th.

Dean Randolph stated with the recent feedback on project cost, surfacing material, and equipment cost, CES Group will begin the rebidding process by revisiting the design with the playground committee to meet these parameters (a meeting date will be determined soon). After the design is finalized, the construction and bidding documents will be revised to reflect the changes in the updated project scope. CES Group will also reach out to additional subs to increase potential bids. Because CDBG still requires a 30-day minimum for bidding, a new bidding timeline will be formulated using feedback from the playground

committee. CES Group will hold a pre-bid meeting, answer contractor questions, and issue addendums if needed. If any city council members would like to review these drawings, it will be the playground committee's responsibility to distribute documentation, gather feedback, and formulate final responses back to CES Group. Once a contractor is selected, the original contract scope will continue. CES Group will organize contracts and oversee construction through pay-applications, change orders, and RFIs. This additional design and bidding work is outside of the project scope listed in the original agreement between CES Group and the City of Washington, which requires an add-service to our original agreement. CES Group will complete this outline and share with the Playground Committee next week (October 6-10).

Randolph's reply in reference to the cost to rebid is – "I apologize for the confusion on our end - let's move forward with Rob's statement to Mayor Garrett but I will let him chime in if he has any further comments."

Rob Peschel's correspondence to Randolph was "Please continue as you have planned. We need to know what this additional cost should be. I can still honor my commitment to the mayor."

The City received from CES Group and Amendment to Architectural Agreement stating services for the rebid services would cost an additional lump sum fee of \$3,120.

- b) **Reports.** September Fire minutes and Library Board minutes were given to the council for review.
- c) **Demo to Dirt.** North Central Regional Planning Commission (NCRPC) will launch a new housing initiative titled "Demo to Dirt" October 14, 2025. The residential demolition grant program will provide financial assistance to property owners for removal of unsafe or blighted residential structures. Applications will only be accepted online only, starting at 9 a.m. October 14, 2025, with funding allocated as a first-come, first-served basis. Grants are available up to \$4,000 per property with a 25% local match.

22. Council Reports.

Pinnick.

- a) **Street Sealing.** Inquired if staff would be sealing streets. Chalfant stated if time allows.

Terry Morse.

- a) **Turbo on Engine 6.** Inquired if action was needed to repair turbo on engine number six. Chalfant said until the turbo is inspected it is unknown if there is damage or a cost of repair. Staff will take the turbo to TSI in McPherson for inspection.

Mary Ann Crome.

- a) **Miller property.** Inquired where in the process the City was with the Miller property. Chalfant inquired if there was assistance from KDHE for asbestos testing. Chalfant has not heard back from them.

Amy Anderson.

- a) **Inoperable vehicle.** Asked what the process was for inoperable vehicle as there is a vehicle on main street with three flat tires.

Mayor Garrett Edgar asked council members to encourage people to get out and vote Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025.

Motion to adjourn by Pinnick and seconded by Anderson.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Denise M. Powell, City Clerk