

CITY OF SEVERY
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
JULY 7, 2025
7:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL, SEVERY KS

Present: Mayor Donna Wiss, Council members Marc Warren, Lyle Riggs, Ron Robert, Rodger Kraft, Kevin Klepper, Clerk Tessa Riggs, City Attorney William McClendon and Water Superintendent Paul Schmidt

Absent: Treasurer Madelyn McClendon

Guests: Ed Cornett, Emily Franks, Robin Wunderlich and Jerrid Baumgartel

Mayor Wiss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The pledge of Allegiance was cited and roll called.

Emily Franks, C.P.A., with Jarred, Gilmore and Phillips came to the meeting to discuss both the accounting firm's regular annual audit and the worksheets prepared by the firm to assist the Council in preparing its proposed 2026 budget. The Council also reviewed the information prepared in June for the City of Severy by the Greenwood County Clerk.

The audit showed that the City's current financial statements were neutral, consistent, and clear, and no significant problems were noted to affect the 2026 budgeting process. There were no questions concerning the audit. Klepper joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Robert moved to approve the 2024 audit and the 2026 budget as presented. Warren 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Riggs moved to approve the June 2025 minutes as presented. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Warren moved to approve the June 2025 bills as presented. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Water Superintendent Schmidt reported a blockage in the north sewer lift station. Schmidt noted that the mowing is getting behind. Schmidt stated that APAC will be out tomorrow to fix a repair at the water plant and KDHE will be here on Friday, July 11th to do an inspection.

Clerk Riggs explained that Foley Equipment sent a couple of quotes regarding the repairs needed on the road grader. After viewing the quotes, the council discussed which options they would like to see repaired. Warren moved to add repair number 9 and number 11 which includes removing and installing engine cooling system temperature sensor and removing and install engine cover. The estimated total of those two-line items would be \$2,017.25. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Riggs reported back regarding the vacant lots. She noted that she has been in contact with Larry French of Greenwood County Title Company in Eureka since he was the one who did the warranty deed when the new bank was built. French does have the paperwork on the abandoned railroad. City Attorney McClendon noted there will need to be a special meeting for the vacant lots sealed bids to be reviewed. Riggs moved to allow the clerk to proceed with getting the vacant lots prepared to be sold. Robert 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Riggs stated the property at 401 N. Hobart Avenue has been cleaned up by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Discussion was had that the property owner was bringing more loads of items in. Clerk Riggs reported the state is aware.

City Clerk and Mayor along with staff from Howard and Fall River met with Matthew Godinez regarding possible grants for small towns. There is a possibility of getting some assistance of dilapidated homes.

Clerk Riggs reported a Certificate of Completion for the water plant that needed to be signed by the mayor.

Clerk Riggs reported that a citizen is concerned about the 700 feet northwest end of West Water Street getting repaired by the city. Clerk Riggs has spoken with the county and has documentation that the county is willing to reimburse the city for their portion of the road and the county is willing to give the city the road. The clerk has already submitted the invoices to the county.

Warren moved to go into executive session at 8:40 p.m. to consult with city attorney on matters related to attorney-client privilege and include City Clerk for a total of 55 minutes. Klepper 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Regular meeting reconvened at 9:35 p.m. No action was taken.

Warren moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. Klepper 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

/s/ Donna Wiss, Mayor

/s/ Tessa C. Riggs, City Clerk