

CITY OF SEVERY
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
JUNE 1, 2026
7:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL, SEVERY KS

Present: Council members Marc Warren, Lyle Riggs, Ron Robert, Bryan Hampton, Rodger Kraft, Clerk Tessa Riggs, City Attorney William McClendon, Water Superintendent Paul Schmidt & Treasurer Madelyn McClendon

Guests: Ed Cornett, Joanna Wilson, Marvell Summerow and Jenelle Summerow

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

Riggs moved to approve the May 2026 minutes. Warren 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Robert moved to approve the May 2026 bills. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Warren moved to approve the May 2026 treasurer's report as presented. Hampton 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Water Superintendent Schmidt reported that the FFA kids came for a workday, some of the old stones that have fallen over on the Twin Groves cemetery have been set back up to make it easier for the mowers. The cemetery directory building is completed. It will need paint in the future. Part-time employee Mitchell will be taking 10 days off for vacation and the plan is to have Schmidt work the weekends and WaterWise Enterprises work 3 days during the week at the water plant. Schmidt also noted it is taking longer to do backwashes, the sewers are doing good at this time, and the older mower is down and will need repaired. Council agreed if it comes down to putting a motor in it to get a Kawaski. Jason Nusz has been working on the roof above the city shop and installing new screws. Schmidt also noted that a citizen dug up his sewer to do some repairs last year and has never filled the hole back in. While digging, the customers has dug out into the alley which is still exposed also. City Attorney McClendon stated there are a couple of ways to handle it but suggests the city clerk ask the county if there is an easement.

Marvell and Jenelle Summerow introduced themselves as WaterWise Enterprises. WaterWise is the company the city hired in the fall of 2025 to assist Schmidt in water testing so Schmidt would be able to utilize his vacation and sick days when needed or take care of other tasks. WaterWise has been in business for 35 years and Jenelle is the 3rd generation owner and currently they are serving the Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma areas. Clerk Riggs has been sending the chemical invoices to Mrs. Summerow so a comparison could be done with Brenntag Southwest and WaterWise. The savings would be approximately \$2,600 to go with WaterWise. The city would

also be saving anywhere from \$75-\$250 for delivery fees since the company already comes out to Severy a couple times a week. Mrs. Summerow will also be looking into some other chemicals the city uses but she does not have on hand.

Mayor Wiss thanked everyone for the way the cemetery and town looked for Memorial weekend. Marc Mitchell will also need to be thanked for the shelf he made for the cemetery directory building.

Clerk Riggs checked into getting a loan in 2028 when the final payment is scheduled to pay off the road grader. Council would like to stretch the final payment out another couple of years if possible. T. Riggs mentioned the bank does not do loans for a city and there was another option, but it would be costly. Clerk Riggs called CAT Financial whom the loan payments are with now to see if they would be refinanced. The financial company is willing to do that, but the interest rate will not be the same as we are paying now and Riggs need to notify the company at least 3 months prior to payoff. There is no penalty for making an extra payment, but to pay balance off early there is a \$275 processing fee. T. Riggs stated that we are now at the halfway point in the year and if we are unable to get any millings, we could possibly make another payment on the road grader this year and possibly an extra payment in 2027. Warren moved to make an extra payment of \$9,942.48 on the road grader going toward principal. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Old Business.

Clerk Riggs mentioned that there has been an issue regarding 99 S Road. In March 2014, council passed to annex the property into the city limits so the property could have water, sewer and trash services. The ordinance was published in the Eureka Herald, but the paperwork was never taken to the Greenwood County Courthouse to be recorded therefore for the past 12 years the city has not been receiving taxes and the annexation paperwork that was done was not a legal document as in not dated, notarized and only one property owner had signed off instead of two. Clerk Riggs stated that the paperwork will need to be redone in order for the city to start collecting the city taxes and with that the city needs to know what they are annexing in. Clerk Riggs does have a letter signed from the current property owners saying that they wish to be in the city limits of Severy. Robert moved to survey 99 S Road and had City Attorney McClendon draft the annexation papers. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Riggs noted that the pay off balance for the sewer lagoon project was confusing and explained that the city had a balance of \$32,469.71. The semi-annual payment had been paid, leaving a balance of \$28,017.05. Clerk Riggs stated the city did receive a 90% grant in the amount of \$25,215.35 leaving the balance of \$2,801.70 which will have a small amount of interest also. KDHE called and asked if the city would be willing to make the final payment or the paperwork would need to be redone because the payments were set to be made every 6 months. Clerk Riggs stated the 2026 budget is reflected to make two payments anyway this year. The loan was expected to be paid off in 2029. Riggs made a motion to pay the remaining balance on sewer lagoon of \$2, 801.70 plus any interest the state requires. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Discussion was had more on draft Ordinance 443 retaining to the community revitalization. Council requested McClendon to change the wording in paragraph 6 and the wording for mobile homes. Council will review again at July's meeting.

New Business.

Clerk Riggs noted she received an email from Waste Connections reminding the city that according to the contract the city signed there will be a 4% increase starting July 1st. Item was tabled until July's meeting to see what the Midwest Assistance Program rate analysis determine. Clerk Riggs also reported that the city received a quote from Hickman Environmental regarding a new sewer lift station for the north end of town. Council noted that there is another avenue the city could check into.

Clerk Riggs asked if there was anything the council wanted to put in the 2027 budget. Council would like to maybe make 2 payments on the road grader and check into a different heating and air system for the office.

Kraft moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes to consult with city attorney on matters subject to the attorney-client privilege and include Clerk Riggs. Warren 2nd. Motion passed.

Regular meeting reconvened. No action was taken.

Kraft moved to adjourn at 9:42 p.m. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

/s/ Donna Wiss, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Tessa C. Riggs, City Clerk