



# City Council Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2022  
6:00 p.m.

**Mayor:** Carolyn Caiharr  
**Councilmember** Chuck Adams      Mark Bishop (*not present*)      Garrett Mellott  
Greg Scott      Margaret Shriver

---

1. **Consider approval of consent agenda items**
  - a) **Approve minutes of August 22, 2022**
  - b) **Statement of bills paid in the amount of \$158,567.51**
    - **Motion:** Councilmember Mellott made the motion to approve the consent agenda items.
    - **Second:** Councilmember Shriver seconded the motion
    - **Vote:** Passes, 4-0
2. **Requests or Comments from the public**
  - No comments were heard.
3. **Hear presentation from USD 204 Superintendent regarding district initiatives, enrollment trends, school safety, and more**
  - USD 204 Superintendent Dan Brungardt provided a presentation on district activity. He noted it is his fifth year serving in this capacity for the district and noted his appreciation for his board and for the community.
  - Mr. Brungardt reviewed recent facility improvements to Edwardsville Elementary as a result of the recent bond measure.
  - Mr. Brungardt reviewed the district map as well as some of the significant areas of revenue.
  - Enrollment was discussed, with Mr. Brungardt noting a recent dip in enrollment mostly due to COVID-19. He also noted that bond project improvements increased the capacity in all of the district schools. EDW Elementary's capacity is now 700 students.
  - A discussion of the mill levy setting process used by schools, which Mr. Brungardt explained how it is different from the funding of municipalities.
  - Mr. Brungardt reviewed challenges for the district, which include staffing and the increased costs to provide service.
  - The district's strategic plan was then discussed, as well as its vision and mission statements.
  - There was additional discussion on the makeup of the special education staff as well as the current staffing levels for paras.
  - School security was then discussed, with Mr. Brungardt noting the camera capabilities at the district's facilities and other measures.
  - There was additional discussion on the district's response to parent complaints regarding items in the curriculum, which include a staff review, committee review, and ultimately the school board of necessary.
  - Councilmember Mellott noted his support for the school district staff and his appreciation for Mr. Brungardt's efforts, including the addition of the tech program at the high school.
  - Mayor Caiharr thanked Mr. Brungardt for his presentation.

- No action was requested as a result of this presentation.

#### **4. Hear staff update regarding the City's ARPA allocation and allowable uses**

- City Manager Michael Webb reviewed the background of the ARPA funding as well as the allowable uses per the final rule issued in January 2022.
- Mr. Webb noted that the City would likely take the standard allowance for revenue loss, but also noted that there must be a programmatic purpose associated with those funds.
- Allowable uses include infrastructure projects related to water, stormwater/sewer, and broadband, public health responses, and premium pay for staff who directly responded to the pandemic. Uses that are not allowed include unallocated deposit into the City's General Fund to offset reduction in tax revenue or to replenish financial reserves.
- Mr. Webb noted the City received \$685,978.14 in two tranches directly from the federal government but no uses have yet been determined. He also noted that the City made request for use of about \$3 million in Wyandotte County ARPA funds for projects related to public safety and new public facilities for access to broadband and recreational opportunities.
- Mr. Webb noted that he expects several additional conversations with Council regarding the use of the funds and encouraged the group to generate ideas for projects to pursue. He also noted the involvement of the Mayor in developing funding priorities for ARPA funding.
- No action was requested for this item at this time.

#### **5. City Manager Report**

- Mr. Webb referenced the written report and also noted that the City is working with NYP CPA for bank reconciliations since the recent departure of the Finance Manager.
- Councilmember Mellott asked about the City's potential benefit after the changes in state law for casinos, which Mr. Webb replied that this money is kept with the state and not allocated directly to municipalities.
- Police Chief Mathies noted that due to the recent partnership with the Community Health Council, the City's Training Room will not be available for departmental uses at certain times. He stressed the need for adequate facilities for staff.

#### **6. Council and Mayor Comments**

Councilmember Adams asked about the process to review the responses to the City's RFQ related to facilities. Mayor Caiharr and Mr. Webb reviewed the selection committee and the tentative schedule. Mr. Webb stressed that he'd like to have some action ready for Council review prior to the end of the year. Mr. Webb also noted that this process will not result in construction, only the selection of a partner to help manage the potential project. Councilmember Adams also reviewed the time he had at the police dog competition. He also encouraged the group to pursue upcoming elected officials classes, which he has found beneficial in years' past. He requested that an item be included on the 10/24/22 agenda for review of right-of-way acquisition in light of recent developments with the electric company.

Councilmember Mellott noted the progress of Swartz Rd. and the improvements in the City Cemetery. There was additional discussion on the Fire Department's training at the Highland properties.

Councilmember Shriver also noted she has heard from residents how good the cemetery looks. She asked for clarification on trash day this week due to the recent bank holiday.

Councilmember Scott thanked the responsible agency for correcting the road issues along north 110<sup>th</sup> St. in a timely manner (Mr. Webb noted this was BPU crews who responded). He thanked Mr. Brungardt for his presentation and for the opportunity to hear more about the district.

Mayor Caiharr referenced recent discussions with Evergy regarding the location of a potential new substation. There was additional discussion about the placement of electrical utility infrastructure.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Zachary Daniel  
City Clerk