

# City Council Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2026

## Call to Order

Mayor Timothy Eldredge called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

**Present:** Mayor Timothy Eldredge; Councilmembers Kathryn Coleman, Scott Silknitter, Dan Ravenscraft & Grant Bowlin; Absent Trent Clark (Baseball)

**Staff/Guests Present:** Anne Morrow (City Clerk), Jake Callstrom (Animal Control), Terry Ullum (Treasurer), Andrew Hanna (City Superintendent), Thelma “Jeep” Edris, Darryl Hill, Andy Floyd, Bruce Boettcher (BG Consultants), Rory Valenti (DHI Roofing), Randy and Sandra Jensen.

## Approval of Agenda & Minutes

**Motion by Silknitter, second by Coleman, to approve the May meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously (7:04 PM).**

**Motion by Silknitter, second by Ravenscraft, to approve the April 2026 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously (7:04 PM).**

## Public Comments:

**Thelma “Jeep” Edris** thanked the City for improvements to the alley behind her house and commented on stop signs at Elm and Topeka Streets.

## New Business

- **BG Consultants – Bruce Boettcher (7:07pm)**

Bruce Boettcher of BG Consultants presented an overview of the firm’s integrated engineering, architecture, and surveying services for municipal infrastructure projects. He highlighted their experience with grant funding, on-call services, preliminary engineering reports, design, and construction administration. Handouts were provided, and discussion focused on potential future infrastructure priorities for Whitewater. No formal action was taken at this time.

- **Resolution No. 2026-0526 (Roofing Codes) (7:26pm)**

Rory Valenti of DHI Roofing spoke in support of updating roofing standards to align with current Kansas and Butler County practices, aiding property owners with insurance and code compliance. **Motion by Silknitter, seconded by Bowlin, to adopt Resolution No. 2026-0526 (Interim Building Code Acceptance for Roofing and Roof Assemblies, incorporating Chapter 9 of the 2024 IRC).** Councilmember Coleman requested striking the “WHEREAS” clause regarding outdated codes. **The amendment was accepted unanimously (7:53pm)**

- **Side-by-Side Bids, Mayor Eldredge (7:44pm)**

- tabled until after the Personnel Reports.

## Personnel Reports

## Mayor's Report (7:55 PM) - Mayor Timothy Eldredge

- Met with Sen. Roger Marshall's staff to discuss ways to assist the City.
- In discussions with Union Pacific regarding the railroad bridge and log jams.
- Reviewed lease history with Wheat State Manor (2014 documents located).
- Other updates on scoreboard/lighting, and playground equipment.

## Animal Control Report (7:58 PM) - Jake Callstrom

ACO Callstrom presented the May report (full written report on file).

- operational incidents and administrative requests for nuisance fines and chicken coop registration.

**Motion by Silkknitter, seconded by Bowlin, to establish animal nuisance fines: 1st offense \$50; 2nd offense \$100; 3rd and subsequent offenses \$250 + court costs.**

## Treasurer's Report (8:03 PM) - Terry Ullum

Treasurer Ullum presented the Treasurer's Report and full Financial Report Packet for January–April 2026 (unaudited). Key figures included total cash balance of \$715,935, net increase of \$62,016, and strong operating reserves.

**Motion by Ravenscraft, second by Silkknitter, to approve the May Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8:09 PM).**

## Clerk's Report (8:08 PM) - Anne Morrow

Clerk Morrow presented the May report (full written report on file). Highlights included:

- Printing error in the May newsletter corrected for future issues.
- Area Wide Garage Sales scheduled for June 12–13.
- Planning & Zoning Commission held first meeting and is updating zoning maps and Comprehensive Plan.
- Chloe Callstrom began summer employment assisting with historical documents and office tasks.
- New food truck **Bumblebee Barbeque** approved; inaugural event May 30.
- Scout House rented twice this month with additional June reservations.

## City Superintendent's Report (8:10 PM)- Andrew Hanna

Superintendent Hanna presented the May report (full written report on file). Highlights included:

- Successful RHS workday: painted picnic tables/bleachers, spread mulch, and trash pickup at ballfields.
- New bridge installed across slough connecting ballfields.
- Dustrol Inc. donated 100 tons of asphalt millings for new parking lot near Scout House.
- Foul pole relocated at Ballfield #1.
- Elm Street Creek cleanout underway.
- Summer helpers Nolan Sweazy (Maintenance) and Grady Jones (Parks & Rec) started.
- No water leaks reported; cemetery tree damage cleaned up for Memorial Day.

## Unfinished Business

- **Side-by-Side Bids (8:15 PM)** Council opted to rent a unit through Ravenscraft Imp. for evaluation. Mayor authorized to proceed.
- **Painting Bids (8:29 PM)** Motion by Ravenscraft, seconded by Silkknitter, to accept Koop Painting bids totaling \$8,205 for City Building, Library, Old Fire Shop, and BF1 Bathrooms. Motion carried unanimously.

- **ADA Ramps & Parking Bids** – Tabled to June meeting.
- **Ordinance No. 646 – Codification (8:42 PM)** *Motion by Bowlin, seconded by Silkmitter, to approve Ordinance No. 646 adopting the updated codification of City ordinances. Motion carried unanimously; signatures applied.*

### **Additional Public Comments:**

Randy Jensen discussed drainage issues on farmland south of the City via the Elm Street ditch. Mayor noted plans to consult Corps of Engineers and BG Consultants.

- **Executive Session:**

Motion by Mayor Eldredge to enter executive session under K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) for personnel matters (Andrew Hanna performance review and compensation). Reconvened at 9:11 PM.

*Motion by Coleman, seconded by Silkmitter, to approve a \$0.76 performance-based raise for Andrew Hanna. Motion carried (one Nay – Bowlin) (9:12 PM).*

### **Future Agenda Items – Next Meeting: Monday, June 22, 2026 – 7:00 PM**

- Review 2027 Budget Allocations from Boards/Committees
- Budget Meeting with Loyd Group – June 23
- Possible Charter Ordinance for Library
- Revisit Purchasing Policy
- Review Project Bids

### **Adjournment**

*Motion by Bowlin, second by Silkmitter, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.*

- Meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM.