

Smith Center City Council Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order
Bryce Wiehl opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2026, at the Srader Building.

Attendance
Governing Body Members: Don Wick, Chris Cole and Tracy Kingsbury Others: Bryce Wiehl, Melissa Colby, Rick Hileman, Jamie Marshall, Kim Phelps, Brittany Niles, Brett Decker, Tabitha Owen, Cindy Nixon, Alicia Strother, Coleen Eberle, Mike Isom, Becky Isom, Tim Riley and Annette Riley.

II. Consent Agenda
Following review, a motion was made by Wick, seconded by Kingsbury, to approve the previous meetings' minutes. Motion carried. Cole then made a motion to approve the Vouchers and Receipts as presented. Kingsbury seconded the motion and carried the motion.

III. Previous/ Ongoing Business
a. Tiffany Rietzke on behalf of Midwest Real Estate Investments, LLC inquired about the update of the sale of the lot behind the old Pioneer building. Upon discussion, a motion was made by Wick to sell the lot located at 107 W. Court to Midwest Real Estate Investments, LLC, in the amount of \$1500.00 with the buyer to pay all associated closing costs. The motion was seconded by Kingsbury and the motion carried.

b. Coleen Eberle on behalf of Eberle Studios provided the council members with an update on the Choose Smith County Campaign and provided analytics. The council thanks her and her company for their continued work.

Recess at 6:15 P.M. for Public Hearing to Vacate City Street

c. Following the public hearing, a motion was made by Kingsbury to adopt Ordinance #1055 to close the portion of Blaine street from Shelton Drive north to

Third Street. The motion was seconded by Wick and the motion carried.

IV. Guests
a. Cindy Nixon then comes to the council to discuss a vicious dog that lives near her property. Owen and Marshall discussed the options of what could be done; Marshall agrees to review the ordinance and plan to speak with the animal owner.

b. Mike Isom asks the council to sign an employer statement of support for the Guard and Reserve. The council unanimously agreed to support the statement.

V. New Business
a. B & B Electric Motor Co- Hileman updated the council on the main lift pump at the shop; stating that it is not fixable due to erosion from grit in the effluent that it is pumping. Rick obtained a bid from B & B Electric Motor Co to replace the pump for \$39,845.00. Hileman assured the council that with this pump down, the city has a backup plan to keep things running smoothly until the pump is in stock and replaced. Cole requests to also have this equipment put on a maintenance schedule going forward. A motion was made by Wick and seconded by Kingsbury to approve the purchase of the new pump through B & B Electric Motor Co. for \$39,845.00. Motion carried.

b. Inland Potable Services Inc.-Every 3 years the water tank needs internal cleaning; a proposal was provided by Inland Potable Services, Inc., a company the city has utilized in the previous years, to have a diver come and clean the water tower without a disruption of service. A motion was made by Cole and seconded by Kingsbury to approve the proposal submitted by Inland Potable Services Inc., for \$3,750.00; motion carried.

c. Community Notification – The council discussed options to better notify the public about

maintenance being completed on streets. Colby and Niles will work internally to prepare a public notification policy and work to educate the community on the mass text and email alerts that get sent out and help individuals get signed up.

d. Alicia Strother presented an image of the “Hobo Harp” to the council and educated them on the history. Ms. Strother would like to donate the item to the city to hopefully be placed in the library to be viewed by the community. The council agreed for the Harp to be placed in the Library. Niles will discuss with the librarian and the library board on how to proceed.

VI. Department Reports/Committee & Board Reports
a. Clerk–Niles provides a copy of Economic Development meeting minutes from March of 2023 wherein the Smith County Recruitment Team approved up to 2 incentives to USD 237 for the SCWRIP award at \$6,000.00 and a Director of Technology at \$7,000.00. Niles states that these approvals did not make it in the city council meeting minutes. Upon discussion from the council, they remember their intent to approve all 3 of the positions in 2023. A motion was made by Cole to approve the 2 teaching positions at \$6,000.00 each and 1 Director of Technology at \$7,000.00. This motion was seconded by Kingsbury, and it carried. Niles also indicated that there were two different motions that were discussed via individual emails and individual text message that need formally approved through the city council meeting minutes. In January of 2026 the Srader Center needed to have the heater and air conditioner replaced due to a noticeable smelling gas leak. Due to the urgency, the council approved the purchase of a new heating and air conditioning unit in the amount of \$18,800 through Daves

Heating and cooling. A motion was made by Kingsbury to approve the \$18,800 purchase of the heating and air conditioning unit through Daves Heating and cooling. The motion was seconded by Cole, and it carried. Next, in March of 2026, the council was presented with a proposal submitted by Nextech to replace the server at the city office for \$16,922.89; following the approval at the council meeting, Niles was contacted by Nextech stating they had provided us an incorrect price and that the new server would cost \$19,621.67. Nextech stated the urgency of needing it to be approved due to the price increasing every day. A motion was made by Kingsbury to have the minutes reflect the change in price for the server at the city office from \$16,922.89 to \$19,621.67. The motion was seconded by Wick and the motion carried. Next, Niles informed the council of a fee that was assessed to 205 East Street for a mowing nuisance; between the time of the nuisance and it being assessed to the county tax roll, the property sold. Niles is requesting the council remove the \$100.00 fee that was not accrued by the new property owners. A motion was made by Kingsbury to remove the \$100.00 fee. The motion was seconded by Wick and the motion carried. Niles will work with the county clerk's office to get it abated. Lastly, Niles has had community members show interest in an empty lot owned by the city at 619 S. Lincoln. It was the general census of the council to put 619 S. Lincoln up for sealed bid for 30 days to be awarded at the first meeting in November.

VII. Governing Body Reports
Nothing to report.

VIII. Adjournment
A motion to adjourn was made by Kingsbury and seconded by Wick. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Smith Co. Commissioners Meeting Minutes

The County Commissioners met in a regular session on September 21, 2026, in the County Commissioners' Room. Present were Commissioners Kurt Ifland, Jim Gwennap and Brady Peterson. Also present was Joell Wagenblast, Deputy Clerk and Travis Story, Road and Bridge Supervisor.

At 8:30 a.m. Ifland called the meeting to order and Gwennap opened with prayer.

A motion was made by Peterson and seconded by Gwennap to approve the 9/14/2026 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Peterson and seconded by Gwennap to approve the 9/21/2026 agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

The commissioners approved payroll #19 for 164,712.46.

The commissioners approved voucher #17089-voucher#17096 and wires for the following accounts:
Employee Benefits \$69,474.01
Payroll Clearing \$48,688.86
TOTAL \$119,227.17

The commissioners and Story discussed the following:

1. Story reported they had a few challenges last week on C Road, but the first mile should get gravel put on it today.

2. Ifland received a request for a drag to be used on 100 Road off of Highway 8. Story stated at this time they don't plan on dragging that section of the

road. When the blade operator is working that section, he will pull the gravel from the ditches.

3. Ifland asked if there was an update on the bridge on K Road south of 100 Road. Story informed them that part of the deck will have to be replaced. Gwennap asked if it was possible to put a tube in at this location. Story reported that with the amount of water that flows through it they would have to use a 10.5-foot tube. Story will compare the prices but believes there would be less cost if they redeck the bridge.

4. Ifland informed Story he has received a few “thank yous” for the work that has been done to the dirt roads ahead of harvest.

5. Peterson asked Story to put the road going to Home on the Range on the list to work after fall harvest.

6. Peterson reported that T Road south of Wormer is coming along nicely.

7. Gwennap reported there was rock put on L Road south of 100 Road, but it is starting to powder out. Story stated there isn't much they can do until we receive some rain.

8. Gwennap received a call about putting gravel on 100 Road just west of K Road.

9. Gwennap asked if there was an update on the tube for Q Road south of 30 Road. At this time Story hasn't heard anything yet, but he will reach out to the company and get an update.

10. Story presented the

commissioners with an agreement for them to sign for the HRRR grant.

11. Story reported he has changed some of the leadership roles on C Road re-graveling project.

12. Story presented the commissioners with 3 pay increases to sign.

13. Commissioners and story reviewed a couple of job applications.

14. Story reported that

the base layer rock that the County had booked for C Road was accidentally sold. They had the first mile of base layer rock stockpiled on C Road already and the company is working on grinding more.

15. Story reported that they are starting to mark the second mile of C Road this week.

Story left the meeting.

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 5004
A PROPOSITION to amend section 1 of article 5 of the constitution of the state of Kansas to require individuals to be citizens of the United States, at least 18 years of age and a resident of the voting area in which such person seeks to vote in order to vote in this state.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state for their approval or rejection: Section 1 of article 5 of the constitution of the state of Kansas is hereby amended to read as follows:

“§ 1. **Qualifications of electors.** Every (a) No person shall be deemed a qualified elector unless such person:

(1) Is a citizen of the United States who;

(2) has attained the age of eighteen years; and who

(3) except as provided in subsection (b) or (c), resides in the voting area in which he or she such person seeks to vote

shall be deemed a qualified elector:

(b) Laws of this state relating to voting for presidential electors and candidates for the office of president and vice-president of the United States shall comply with the laws of the United States relating thereto. A citizen of the United States, who is otherwise qualified to vote in Kansas for presidential electors and candidates for the offices of president and vice-president of the United States may vote for such officers either in person or by absentee ballot notwithstanding the fact that such person may have become a nonresident of this state if his or her such person's removal from this state occurs during a period in accordance with federal law next preceding such election.

(c) A person who is otherwise a qualified elector may vote in the voting area of his or her such person's former residence either in person or by absentee ballot notwithstanding the fact that such person may have become a nonresident of such voting area during a period prescribed by law next preceding the election at which he or she such person seeks to vote, if his such person's new residence is in another voting area in the state of Kansas.”

Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with the amendment as a whole:

“Explanatory statement. This amendment would clarify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to vote in this state.

“A vote for this proposition would clarify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to vote in this state.

“A vote against this proposition would make no change to the constitution of the state of Kansas, and the language concerning voter qualifications would remain the same.”

Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted to the electors of the state at the general election in November in the year 2026, unless a special election is called at a sooner date by concurrent resolution of the legislature, in which case the proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state at the special election.

KNOW YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS ARE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES FOR SMITH CO. COMMISSION; THE CITIES OF SMITH CENTER, KENSINGTON, LEBANON, CEDAR, GAYLORD AND ATHOL; USD #110 AND USD #237

SMITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JAMES GWENNAP DISTRICT 1 TERM ENDS: 2026	THE SMITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEET EACH MONDAY, AT 8:30 A.M. AT THE SMITH COUNTY COURTHOUSE
BRADY PETERSON DISTRICT 2 TERM ENDS: 2028	KURT IFLAND DISTRICT 3 TERM ENDS: 2028
SMITH COUNTY OFFICIALS	ASHLEY MAXWELL CLERK TERM ENDS: 2028
TRAVIS CONAWAY SHERIFF TERM ENDS: 2028	VERNON REINKING TREASURER TERM ENDS: 2028
TABITHA OWENS ATTORNEY TERM ENDS: 2028	STEPHANIE ARMENT REGISTER OF DEEDS TERM ENDS: 2028

SMITH CENTER CITY
THE SMITH CENTER CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 2ND AND 4TH MONDAYS OF EACH MONTH AT 6 P.M. AT THE SRADER CENTER

BRYCE WIEHL MAYOR TERM ENDS: 2029	CHRIS COLE COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029
DONALD WICK COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2027	TRACY KINGSBURY COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029
EVERETT MANSHOLT COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2027	TY WALLGREN COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029
SMITH CENTER CITY OFFICIALS	BRITTANY NILES CLERK APPOINTED:
MELISSA COLBY TREASURER/BILLING APPOINTED:	KIM MAUDLIN ADMIN/TRANSIT APPOINTED:

KENSINGTON CITY

THE KENSINGTON CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5 P.M. AT THE CITY OFFICE

ADAM SYNOGROUND MAYOR TERM ENDS: 2027	DONALD DODDS SR COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2027
BLAYNE BIENHOFF COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029	DONALD DODDS JR COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029
MATTHEW FLINT COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2027	AMBER HARDACRE CLERK APPOINTED:
TRACY ATCHISON COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029	

LEBANON CITY

THE LEBANON CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7 P.M. AT THE CITY OFFICE

RICK CHAPIN MAYOR TERM ENDS: 2029	HANNAH RARMRIEZ COUNCILWOMAN TERM ENDS: 2027
BILL BEFORT COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029	BETTY PILCHER COUNCILWOMAN TERM ENDS: 2029
MARTY HANSON COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2027	KARLIE KURCIAK CLERK APPOINTED:
RANDY MAUS COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2027	

GAYLORD CITY

THE GAYLORD CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH @ 7:00 P.M.

BARBRA LEHMANN MAYOR TERM ENDS: 2027	DENA DANNENBURG COUNCILWOMAN TERM ENDS: 2027
DENNIS LEHMANN COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029	DARIN GODSEY COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029
ADAM IFLAND COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2027	KIM IFLAND CLERK APPOINTED:
EDDIE ADAMS COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029	

CEDAR CITY

THE CEDAR CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7PM @ THE CEDAR DEPOT

REBECCA MUELLER MAYOR TERM ENDS: 2027	CHERYL GLASER COUNCILWOMAN TERM ENDS: 2029
LINDA MATUS COUNCILWOMAN TERM ENDS: 2027	SUE RILEY CLERK APPOINTED:
MOIYA STUBBS COUNCILWOMEN TERM ENDS: 2029	

ATHOL CITY

THE ATHOL CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

ALLEN DANIELS MAYOR TERM ENDS: 2029	BEVERLY FELDMAN COUNCILWOMAN TERM ENDS: 2029
JANA DANIELS COUNCILWOMAN TERM ENDS: 2029	CADE RIETZKE COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029
MONTY JONES COUNCILMAN TERM ENDS: 2029	BARB JONES CLERK APPOINTED:

USD #237
USD #237 MEETS THE 2ND MONDAYS OF EACH MONTH AT 7 P.M.

JOE WIEHL BOARD MEMBER TERM ENDS: 2029	LIBBY McDONALD BOARD MEMBER TERM ENDS: 2029
MARTY HANSON PRESIDENT TERM ENDS: 2027	WYATT RHOADES BOARD MEMBER TERM ENDS: 2029
JODI FRYDENDALL BOARD MEMBER TERM ENDS: 2027	ADAM RENTSCHLER BOARD MEMBER TERM ENDS: 2027
SARA PRUDEN VICE-PRESIDENT TERM ENDS: 2027	

USD #110

THE USD #110 MEETS THE 2ND MONDAYS OF EACH MONTH AT 7 P.M.

STACI FOREMAN PRESIDENT TERM ENDS: 2030	ALI HADLEY BOARD MEMBER TERM ENDS: 2030
BRIDGET WYRILL VICE PRESIDENT TERM ENDS: 2030	KATHY HOLLING BOARD MEMBER TERM ENDS: 2028
JUSTIN ABBOT BOARD MEMBER TERM ENDS: 2030	TINA DENNIS BOARD MEMBER TERM ENDS: 2030