

**City of Edgerton, Kansas**  
**Minutes of City Council Regular Session**  
**January 22, 2026**

A Regular Session of the City Council was held in the Edgerton City Hall, 404 E. Nelson, Edgerton, Kansas on January 22, 2026. The meeting convened at 7:00 PM with City Council Mayor Roberts presiding.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Donald Roberts	Present
Clay Longanecker	Present
Josh Lewis	Present
Deb Lebakken	Present
Bill Malloy	Absent
Ron Conus	Present

With a quorum present, the meeting commenced.

Staff in attendance:

- City Administrator, Beth Linn
- City Attorney, Todd Luckman
- Assistant to the City Administrator, Kara Banks
- Assistant to the City Administrator, Trey Whitaker
- City Clerk, Dusti Callahan
- Public Works Director, Dan Merkh
- Finance Director, Karen Kindle
- Senior Accountant, Justin Vermillion
- Development Services Director, Zach Moore
- Parks and Recreation Director, Levi Meyer
- Public Works Foreman, Chase Forrester
- Construction Inspector, Todd Veeman
- Recreation Superintendent, Brittany Paddock
- CIP Project Manager, Rhoderic Montgomery

**2. WELCOME.** Mayor Roberts welcomed all in attendance.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Consent Agenda** (*Consent Agenda items will be acted upon by one motion unless a Council member requests an item be removed for discussion and separate action*)

4. Approve Minutes from January 8, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting
5. Approve Final Acceptance For The 2025 Street Preservation Program
6. Approve Resolution 01-22-26A Approving A Subordination/Attornment Agreement for ELHC XXXII, LLC Project

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7. Approve A Contract For Services And Scope Of Work With ETC Institute For The 2026 Citizen Survey

Councilmember Longanecker moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Lebakken to approve items 4-7 on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried 4-0 by the following vote:

**Yes:** Longanecker, Lewis, Conus, Lebakken

**Absent:** Malloy

### **Regular Agenda**

8. **Declaration.** Council members had nothing to declare.

9. **Public Comments.** There were no public comments made.

### **10. Introduction of New Employee**

Public Works Director, Dan Merkh, introduced the City's new CIP Project Manager, Rhoderic Montgomery.

Rhod comes from the City of Olathe, where he worked for four and a half years. He started off on the manhole team, inspecting and repairing manholes. That is where he found his love for public service, so he decided to go back to school and earned a Bachelor's degree for Public Administration in May. He is excited to be here, and work with this great team.

Mayor stated he is happy to have Rhod here, and to hear his energy for public service.

Councilmembers gave Rhoderic a welcome.

### **10.5 Public Works Announcement**

Mayor would like to add item 10.5 to the Agenda for Public Works Announcement.

Assistant to City Administrator, Trey Whitaker, introduced Tim Ross with the KC Metro Chapter of Public Works Institute, who presented a graduation certificate to Public Works Foreman, Chase Forrester.

Tim Ross stated that the program requires four planned modules every 6 months. Mr. Ross praised Chase's dedication to the program, as he was unable to come every time due to work obligations. Mr. Ross stated most guys say the most valuable part is meeting hundreds of people from different cities around the KC Metro area.

Mr. Forrester stated he appreciates all the new contacts. His favorite part, other than meeting new people, is the opportunity to re-evaluate operational. He loves the opportunity to apply different ideas to the department and City.

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Tim Ross has a diploma and desktop plaque for Mr. Forrester. This says for completing the 90-hour Public Works Institute program. He graduated on December 10, 2025.

Mayor expressed his thanks to Mr. Forrester for continuing his education to improve the community.

### **Business Requiring Action**

#### **11. CONSIDER AGREEMENT FOR TEMPORARY WORKSPACE WITH SOUTHERN STAR CENTRAL GAS PIPELINE, INC.**

Public Works Director, Dan Merkh, came to discuss the agreement with Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. by the Big Bull Creek Wastewater Plant. Southern Star is requesting Temporary Workspace for construction activities to stage equipment. The agreement does state restoration will be made of any areas impacted by construction. This request is for zero dollars.

Mayor asked Mr. Merkh if this is a 45-day term or what is the time frame.

Mr. Merkh said it is typically for 2 years. He will contact Southern Star to ask.

Mayor stated he was only curious about that part, the "temporary construction."

Mr. Merkh stated there is excavation involved in doing the testing.

Mayor said he wanted to make sure it was truly temporary. The term of agreement should define that. He did not want that to be 5 or 10 years.

Mr. Merkh said he will get the information and report back.

Mayor stated that he would prefer table item 11, so it is signed with a term.

Councilmember Conus asked if there are any direct or indirect costs for us (City).

Mr. Merkh stated there should not be direct or indirect costs to the City. There is risk with digging, but they do site restoration. The area borders the fence but does not cross the fence line.

City Attorney, Todd Luckman, stated there is a 45-day notice before they come and plan on working in June or July of 2026.

Mayor stated that this is a more intense inspection process. They may have noticed something and that is why they want to test and may need to do repairs and elongate the process.

Councilmember Lewis asked if it is custom for communities to provide space for them to work for no charge.

Mr. Merkh stated it is very common for this type of agreement.

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Councilmember Lewis expressed he understand the maintenance; he was just curious about the charge for access/storage.

Mayor stated the City pays for temporary construction easements all the time. Many utilities request temporary easements.

City Administrator, Beth Linn, stated some just get a right of entry, but the concern is usually about restoration.

Mayor stated they have legal rights as they have the easement already.

Mr. Luckman stated this is technically a license. He believes the City would have a strong case to terminate it if they were to extend too long, even without a term due to it being the City's property.

Mayor stated he would like a term in writing.

Councilmember Longanecker moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Lewis to table item 11 for the February 12, 2026, regular Council Meeting. The motion carried 4-0 by the following vote:

**Yes:** Longanecker, Lewis, Conus, Lebakken

**Absent:** Malloy

## 12. Report by the City Administrator

- 2025 Recreation in Review
  - Parks & Recreation Director, Levi Meyer, presented a summarization of the year. There were approximately 3,906 in attendance for special events in 2025. That only includes City-led events, not things such as School/PTO events, Frontier Days, etc. 1,798 were approximately in program attendance. 90 different programs were offered. There is a 9% increase in attendance at events. New Programs offered in 2025 were Women's Self Defense, Charcuterie Board, Diecast Racing, and Hunter Safety. The Greenspace had a total of 38,289 total visits, averaging 129.8 visits per day. There was a total of 44 rentals from April through December months. 49% of day passes sold are residents, 80% of memberships scans were residents.
  - Mr. Meyer gave an update on Parks. Just under 5,600 vehicles were counted in traffic at Martin Creek Park. Just under 3,800 were counted in pedestrian traffic at Glendell Acres Park, not counting side yards or other entrance. 45 tons of dirt was added to improve the walking surface. 36 tons of gravel were added to Edgerton Lake Road. Grounds, Maintenance and Facilities work made up 63% of the parks workload. 74% of the Facilities Maintenance worker was at publicly available spaces. Key projects included front office renovation, refreshing Council chambers, routine maintenance on City buildings, and a higher focus on downtown groundskeeping, HVAC work, filter changes, repairs, etc.

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Councilmember Conus asked Mr. Meyer if he was going to adjust the Greenspace hours based on usage.

Mr. Meyer stated he has collected 21,000 data points and that he will come up with a summary and recommendation for moving forward. He would hesitate until we have a full year for that recommendation. Mr. Meyer stated that around 20-40 people a day are recorded at the front entrance of Glendell Acres Park.

Councilmember Lebakken shared that 5 or 6 people commented on our holiday decorations on Nelson. They really enjoyed it. It looked very nice.

- 4th Quarter Public Works Report

- Public Works Director, Dan Merkh, and Public Works Foreman, Chase Forrester, presented the fourth quarter Public Works Report. On the CIP Side he showed a quick four to five photos of work completed, referencing 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. CDBG sewer pipelining project is at paperwork clean up for the grant requirements for completion. A portion of the 2025 curb replacement was shown. All new concrete was put in at 199<sup>th</sup> and Homestead, and curb on the residential portion. 183<sup>rd</sup> and City Line between us and Gardner, this median is prone to the snow blades. This is replaced and looks so much better, as shown in the picture. Contractors completed this in the last handful of weeks.

Councilmember Longanecker asked why the sides of the culvert were so much wider than the street. Mr. Merkh stated he believed it was due to sidewalks.

Councilmember Lebakken asked for the culvert size.

Mr. Merkh answered it is 6x4, the two bays installed create a no-rise situation for stormwater.

- Public Works Foreman, Chase Forrester presented both 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and a few all-year things to show what the Public Works Department has been doing in 2025 as a whole. 17 miles of gravel roads were graded. 175 tons of asphalt patching were done. 772 miles were swept with the street sweeper, and 600 of those were with the new sweeper. 1,000 feet of ditch line maintenance was taken care of. 30 yards of concrete were poured, totaling around 120 panels of sidewalk. He stated they are hoping to do more in 2026.

Mr. Forrester stated in preparation for Winter, there were 200 tons of salt ordered, 5 CDL drivers, (hoping to make that 7 this year), 85 lane miles were taken care of for plowing. Jetting program had 10 orders that were 100% complete. 235 work orders for vehicle and appointment maintenance. There were 28 physical callouts, and 53 work orders for facility maintenance. Mr. Forrester stated there are six plow trucks, four people per crew.

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Mayor asked about the upcoming winter storm that was predicted.  
Mr. Merkh stated there are predictions of 4-8 inches of snow with windchills -15 to 0.  
Snow starts around 12am on Saturday and goes on until Sunday morning before it stops. Mr. Forrester said they predict 15 to 25 mph winds.  
Mayor says powdery snow blows.  
Mr. Forrester stated there will be a lot of drifting, and visibility issues.  
Mayor stated he wishes everyone stays safe, the crews and public.

### 13. Report by the Mayor

Mayor spoke about the postcard for the Stormwater and Streets special sales tax that recently was mailed to residents. He pointed out that kids activities are available so parents can attend the Public Information meeting. He appreciates staff doing this to make a better turnout. City Staff does a great job trying to inform the citizens of Edgerton.

Mayor reminded the Council of the future meetings for the Council and Planning Commission, as well as the events scheduled at The Greenspace.

- January 24: Cultural Passport
- January 27: Toddler Gym Jam
- February 4: Cold Case File: Munst Murder
- February 5: February Flow with Om Grown Yoga
- February 6: Chinese New Year Pork Dumplings
- February 10: Planning Commission Meeting
- February 12: City Council Meeting
- February 24: Toddler Gym Jam
- February 26: City Council Meeting
- March 10: Planning Commission Meeting
- March 12: City Council Meeting
- March 24: Toddler Gym Jam
- March 26: City Council Meeting

### 14. Adjourn

Councilmember Lebakken moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Lewis to approve to adjourn. The motion carried 4-0 by the following vote:

**Yes:** Longanecker, Lewis, Conus, Lebakken

**Absent:** Malloy

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.  
Submitted by Dusti Callahan, City Clerk.

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