

**City of Edgerton, Kansas**  
**Minutes of City Council Regular Session**  
**August 14, 2025**

A Regular Session of the City Council was held in the Edgerton City Hall, 404 E. Nelson, Edgerton, Kansas on August 14, 2025. 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  
Assistant to the City Administrator, Kara Banks  
Assistant to the City Administrator, Trey Whitaker  
Interim City Clerk, Alex Firth  
Public Works Director, Dan Merkh  
CIP Project Manager, Holly Robertson  
City Attorney, Todd Luckman  
Finance Direct, Karen Kindle  
Senior Accountant, Justin Vermillion  
Parks and Recreation Director, Levi Meyer  
Construction Inspector, Todd Veeman  
Public Works Foreman, Chase Forester  
Parks & Recreation Maintenance Tech II, Colton Hamilton  
Building Inspector, Jeff Swearingian

**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 July 24, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting
5. Approve Concurrence to Bid 2025 CDBG Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project

Councilmember Longanecker moved to approve but to exclude items 6 and 7, seconded by Councilmember Lewis. Vote approved, 4-0.

6. Approve Ordinance No. 2181 Amending Chapter XIV of the Edgerton, Kansas Municipal Code to Incorporate the 2025 Standard Traffic Ordinance, Subject to Existing Local Traffic Provisions in the City Code Which Supplement and/or Modify Certain Sections Thereof

Ms. Banks presented the item explaining this ordinance will adopt the new 52<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities, published in 2025. Included with this item is an article prepared by the League of Kansas Municipalities which outlines the changes in the 2025 edition of the STO.

Councilmember Longanecker asked about the UTV item on the changes to STO. Ms. Banks stated that the change had no effect on City ordinances.

Mayor Roberts stated the City opted out of that section of the STO and Mr. Longanecker wanted to know what had changed. Ms. Banks stated that nothing materially changed, but rather the language was clarified.

Councilmember Lebakken moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Longanecker. The motion carried, 4-0.

7. Approve Ordinance No. 2182 Amending Chapter XI, Article I, Section 11-101 of the Code of the City of Edgerton, Kansas, Concerning the Uniform Public Offense Code

Ms. Banks presented the item to council explaining that this ordinance will adopt the Uniform Public Offense Code, 41st Edition, except such articles, sections, parts or portions as are omitted, deleted, modified, or changed Section 11-102 of the existing Code of the City of Edgerton. The changes were also reflected in the article by the League.

Councilmember Longanecker moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Lewis. The motion carried, 4-0.

### **Regular Agenda**

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

### **9. Public Comments**

Mr. William La Falce, 516 W 4<sup>th</sup> St, thanked Mr. Moore, Development Services Director, for letting him know about the CIP meeting in October. He voiced concerns that the flooding issue in his yard will not be dealt with in the CIP and he recommended that we hire another engineer to come look to add to the project for the drainage issue in his yard. Mr. La Falce added that he has a cable in his yard and he called to have Mr. Whitaker, Assistant to the City Administrator and Mr. Moore come out to take a look and he wanted to thank them for their effort.

Mr. Troutner, 707 W Nelson St #707, stated a study of the City dam in January of 2024 found it significantly damaged and cracked in very unstable condition. The City had an open house of March of 2024 and he stated that since he has not heard about any changes, he feels that there is a serious safety issue that needs to be addressed.

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

Mr. Moore introduced the new building inspector Jeff Swearingian. He has been working for the City for about two weeks. He told Council that appreciates the opportunity to be part of the growth of this community, and he is happy to be here and see the growth. Mayor asked where Mr. Swearingian previously worked. He stated he was a building inspector in Olathe and prior to that handled facility maintenance and was maintenance supervisor for the public housing system.

## **Business Requiring Action**

### **11. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTES OR BONDS FOR MAIN TRAFFICWAYS**

Ms. Linn presented the item with a request authorizing the issuance of GO notes or bonds for street improvement projects that involve a two-step process. The first step was the passage and publication of the July 24 ordinance designating the streets as main trafficways. The second step is adopting a resolution authorizing the issuance of GO notes or bonds to finance the improvement of such main trafficways. This is the resolution approving GO financing of the streets.

This action item sets maximum amounts of GO notes or bonds that may finance each project but does not obligate the City to issue notes or bonds for these projects; she stated such issuances would be subject to future action by the Council.

Councilmember Lewis moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Longanecker. The motion carried, 4-0.

### **12. CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2183 TO FORMALLY ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE "ENVISION EDGERTON 2050 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN"**

Mr. Moore presented the item. He stated the City Council adopted the Envision Edgerton 2050 Comprehensive plan in April of 2024. State law allows annual updates, and staff has identified two proposed amendments to the Future Land Use Map: redesignating 14.76 acres at W. 191st Street and Four Corners Road from Parks/Recreation to Logistics Park after confirming the property is privately owned and designating 34.79 acres at the southeast corner of Waverly Road and US-56 Highway as Mixed-Use, consistent with nearby properties. These amendments were presented at a Planning Commission work session on June 10, 2025, and a public hearing on July 8, 2025, where no public comments were received; the Commission voted 3-0 to recommend approval. Staff now recommends City Council approval of Ordinance No. 2183, subject to City Attorney review..

Mayor Roberts commented that a real estate agent for one of the properties contacted the city in support of this change.

Councilmember Lewis moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Conus. The motion carried, 4-0.

**13. CONSIDER AN UPDATE TO THE STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS PLAN AND THE CREATION OF A NEW FACEBOOK PAGE FOR EDGERTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Ms. Banks presented the item. In 2019, the City of Edgerton adopted its Strategic Communications Plan and launched the official government Facebook page. Since then, First Amendment case law has shifted, and staff recommends updating the City's content moderation policy to align with recent legal decisions. Under the proposed changes, comments will no longer be moderated based on profanity, topic, or relevance, while spam posts will continue to be removed immediately to protect citizens from harmful actors.

As part of this update, staff also proposed the creation of a separate Facebook page for the Parks and Recreation Department in recognition of the department's significant growth.

Mr. Conus asked who would be doing to set up the page. Ms. Banks stated that she would be doing the general set up and make the page look cohesive with the City Government page that currently exists.

Mr. Conus asked Ms. Banks how the Facebook page bot activity is monitored. Ms. Banks stated that she does this manually as the activity arises. She also limits the reach of the page to the US and that helps cut down on the bot activity as well. She stated the settings can also limit what people can post on the city page so no one can add pictures or links in the comments, which also helps.

Ms. Linn stated this gives the City the opportunity for us to look for other ways to engage with the community and we will want the Edgerton voice to stay consistent with this page but also have more reach. She stated if this were approved, staff would roll out the new Facebook page when activities are ramping up and we can roll it out when there is the possibility of the most traffic for the page.

Mr. Lewis stated that he feels that this is a good idea and will make it to where the recreation posts on the City page will not drown out the PSA and will make the regular city page more informational.

Ms. Lebakken agreed that many residents would be more willing to follow the post for a recreation page than a city page.

Mr. Lewis agreed and said that when people get notification after notification from a certain page on your media you get numb to it and may not pay attention when it is the city doing a PSA. He believes that this additional page will reduce the noise on the city page and allow for more reach on both pages.

Councilmember Lebakken moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Lewis. The motion carried, 4-0.

#### **14. Report by the City Administrator**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report

Karen Kindle, Finance Director, summarized the financial report for the 2nd quarter and stated that the City was on track for the fiscal year and within budget authority.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter CommDev Report

Mr. Moore presented the quarterly report for Community Development Department, and it shows steady permitting activity, with nearly \$4 million in total permit valuation. He stated code enforcement remains an active area, with the majority of violations related to property maintenance, though the high abatement rate (80%) indicates effective resolution. Only two citations were issued, suggesting compliance is often achieved without formal penalties.

Animal control cases were relatively low, with most incidents involving loose animals rather than aggressive or dangerous behavior.

Ms. Lebakken asked what falls under zoning violations. Mr. Moore stated those are items like an out of compliance driveway expansion or incorrect material used.

- Update on Johnson County Transportation Connection Plan

Mr. Merkh presented an update to Council on the Johnson County Transportation Connection Plan, which was developed in conjunction with the redevelopment of the former Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant into the Astra Enterprise Park. Study findings indicated that recommended revisions to the County's CARNP plan are located mainly north of 143rd Street and no changes were recommended for Edgerton's immediate transportation system. He stated while regional traffic may eventually reach the broader network, the study findings did not recommend a change to CARNP in Edgerton's network. Council was provided with a FAQ from the County's public meeting and a QR code linking to the full plan for further reference.

- Biannual Parks & Recreation Report

Mr. Meyer presented the report from January through July 2025, the Parks & Recreation Department reported steady growth in facility use, programs, and community engagement. The Greenspace welcomed over 20,700 visitors, issued 948 day passes, and hosted 19 rentals, while also serving as both a cooling center and storm shelter when needed. Overall, he stated the department emphasized improved maintenance, diverse programming, and multipurpose facility use to better serve residents and visitors.

Ms. Linn stated that she wished there was a way to count the kids at the splash pad this year. She stated what is happening in The Greenspace lawn is the Council's vision of bringing people together.

Mr. Conus inquired about the Greenspace hours and asked if Mr. Meyers had an opinion on if they should change. Mr. Meyer said he would like The Greenspace to be open a year before he re-evaluates the hours of The Greenspace.

Ms. Lebakken asked if the timer got fixed on the splash pad. Mr. Meyer answered they did get it fixed, but it was a very complex timer and it took calling the manufacturer and many hours by one employee going through all the settings to get it fixed.

### **15. Report by the Mayor**

- Mayor Roberts stated he would like to see another inspection for the dam soon. The dam replacement is not a budgeted item, and he would like to see that repair moved forward on the schedule due to the nature of the safety concern.

**WALK-ON ITEM:** Ms. Banks requested Council members approve a new contract with Brightspeed for the alarm line at the wastewater treatment plant. She stated the City maintains an alarm line in case of equipment malfunctions, communication failures, power outages, etc. This telephone line has been serviced by various companies throughout the years, most recently with Brightspeed. She stated that staff has been trying to align the billing for the plant so that the alarm line and the internet were on the same bill. The alarm line is currently on the same internet bill with Public Works. Staff were recently notified that in order to switch the line to the same account number as the wastewater treatment plant, they would need to cancel and sign a new contract.

The new contract before Council will fix the billing issue and save approximately \$4.50 per month from the current contract. The City Attorney has reviewed and approved the terms of the contract.

Ms. Lebakken inquired about the type of line it is; Ms. Banks was not sure, but stated it is considered a POTS line if that helped answer the Council member's question.

### **16. Future Meeting Reminders**

Mayor reminded the Council of the future meetings for the Council and Planning Commission.

### **17. Adjourn**

Councilmember Lewis moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Conus. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm with a 4-0 vote.

Submitted by Alex Firth, Interim City Clerk.