

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order with Roll Call by Mayor Rick Walker.

Roll Call:	Lane	Present Virtually	Ritter	Present Virtually
	Daniels	Present	Murdock	Present
	Honomichl	Present		

Mayor Walked led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION: April is Fair Housing Month. Mayor Walker proclaimed the month of April as Fair Housing Month in De Soto and said the United States is celebrating 53 years of fair housing rights.

PROCLAMATION: Arbor Day is April 23rd, 2021. Mayor Walker proclaimed Friday, April 23rd, as Arbor Day for the City of De Soto and encouraged citizens to plant a tree and protect our woodlands.

Consent Agenda Items will be acted upon by one motion unless a Council member requests an item be removed for discussion and separate action.

1. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approve Minutes of the Council Meeting on April 1, 2021.
 - b. Approve Pay Ordinance No. 900.
 - c. Approve Fee Resolution No. 1045.

Motion by Council member Murdock to approve the Consent Agenda; second by Ritter.

Roll Call:	Lane	Yes	Ritter	Yes
	Daniels	Yes	Murdock	Yes
	Honomichl	Yes		

Motion carried.

2. Call to Public:

“Members of the public are welcome to use this time to comment about any matter relating to City business not listed on this Agenda. The comments that are discussed under Call to Public may or may not be acted upon by the Council during this meeting. **There is a four-minute time limit.** Please stand and wait to be recognized by the Mayor. You must state your name and address.”

No one appeared to speak.

3. Old Business: None

4. New Business:

- a. Consider 2022 CDBG Project. Planning Director Brad Weisenburger said the deadline for project submittal for the 2022 CDBG is May 22nd. De Soto has several projects that qualify for funding under this program. Director Weisenburger did go to a planning workshop yesterday and commented on the submittal process. He said he was talked with Marshal Goodnight regarding water line projects within the City. Marshal has suggested two areas for water line replacement projects in the Lakeview Heights area and also Park Street, north of 82nd Street. Director Weisenburger commented on the sidewalks along 82nd Street. There

will be a public hearing on May 6th for comments for the CDBG projects. He requested Council provide any projects for further consideration. Mayor Walker commented on the funds that might be available for reviewing the downtown area. Mayor Walker asked about the Park Street waterline project also including upgrades to the sidewalk.

Council member Murdock commented on the lack of sidewalks on Osage Street between Lexington Avenue and 83rd Street to connect to Miller Park. Mayor Walker asked if the Ottawa Street project will include sidewalk that is missing from 84th to 83rd Street. Planning Director Weisenburger said Administrator Brungardt has increased the budget for 2022.

- b. Approve parade permit for the Kansas Law Enforcement Ride for the Fallen. Planning Director Brad Weisenburger said this group is requesting use of several public streets for a convoy/bicycle event on May 6th. The riders anticipate arriving in De Soto around 1:30 p.m. and will be through the City in 10-15 minutes. Staff recommends approval of the permit.

Motion by Council member Murdock to approve the parade permit for the Kansas Law Enforcement Ride for the Fallen; second by Daniels.

Roll Call:	Lane	Yes	Ritter	Yes
	Daniels	Yes	Murdock	Yes
	Honomichl	Yes	Mayor	Yes

Motion carried.

- c. Receive and Discuss First Draft 2022 Budget. Administrator Brungardt provided comments and said this is a much different scenario this year than last year. Tax revenues for 2020 exceeded 2019 and the only revenue decline was in the Parks & Rec Department due to the COVID. He discussed the budget timeline and provided Council a copy. The Property Tax Lid law has changed, and it now called a Tax Neutral law, which eliminates the need for a public vote if cities want to raise the mill levy. Letters would be sent to residents if that need arises. It is good news this year on the revenue side. He commented on the five-year projections.

Administrator Brungardt commented on the County's error in November 2020 and that means that the 2020 tax bills that came out in November were incorrect because the County mistakenly exempted about \$15,000,000 in appraised valuation, which caused the mill levy to increase from the 24.029 Mills as published in our budget to 25.15 Mills. Despite imploring the County to correct the error and adjust tax bills, the erroneous calculation remains. He said the County Appraiser has given an estimated \$96,201,294 in total valuation for 2022.

The sales tax revenues once again well exceeded the budgeted amounts, even during COVID shutdowns. Most of the city's sales tax is derived from retail trade, food and accommodation services with other areas coming in below these top contributors. The debt service fund has become very healthy in the past several years. The overall mill levies have declined over previous years. The proposed mill levy for 2022 is 23.233 as drafted currently. Administrator Brungardt commented on the law enforcement fund and said costs will be down for 2022 due to less calls during 2021.

Administrator Brungardt then commented on the General Fund expense considerations and initiatives. The CIP program is 'beefier' for 2022 and projects total \$2.7 Million.

The Water Fund health can largely be attributed to a 10% water rate increase in 2016 that was necessary for the \$7 Million renovation of the treatment plant. The expenses in the Water Fund are up. The budget also allows for a new employee in the Water Department. He commented on future projections for the Water and Sewer Funds.

Mayor Walker asked about an additional employee budgeted for 2024 for the sewer department.

5. Executive Session: N/A

6. Advisory Reports:

- a. City Administrator, Mike Brungardt, said the roundabout project has started. Discussion.
- b. City Attorney, Patrick Reavey, no report.
- c. City Planner, Brad Weisenburger, was not present.
- d. City Clerk, Lana McPherson, said she has issued three mobile food vendor licenses this week.

Council member Honomichl commented about the mobile food vendors always going to the Dollar General parking lot. He would like to create a food truck area by using the spaces along 83rd Street in the downtown area. Discussion ensued among Council to help bring more traffic to the downtown area.

7. Council & Mayor Comments:

Council member Honomichl gave a 'shout out' for the newsletter that goes in the utility bill.

Council member Daniels asked about the electrical sub-station that is being built near Sunflower Road. Council member Ritter commented on the size and the 25 megawatts that will start out.

Council member Daniels asked if there is an update on the clerk's replacement. Administrator Brungardt said he will have something to share next week.

No comments from Council members Murdock and Lane.

Council member Ritter asked if the construction crew on the roundabout project could add some reflectors or safety signage on the equipment when parked as it is dark at night.

Motion by Council member Murdock to adjourn at 8:01 p.m.; second by Honomichl.

All Council approved by "ayes."

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Lana R. McPherson, MMC, City Clerk