

**MERRIAM CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
CITY HALL  
9001 WEST 62<sup>ND</sup> STREET  
July 26, 2021  
7:00 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Sissom called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Scott Diebold  
Chris Evans Hands  
Bruce Kaldahl  
Brian Knaff  
David Neal  
Bob Pape  
Jason Silvers  
Whitney Yadrich

Staff present: Chris Engel, City Administrator; Ryan Denk, City Attorney; Jennifer Jones-Lacy, Assistant City Administrator; Jim MacDonald, Public Works Director; Jenna Gant, Communication and Public Engagement Manager; Bryan Dyer, Community Development Director; Donna Oliver, Finance Director; Darren McLaughlin, Police Chief and Juli Pinnick, City Clerk.

**III. PUBLIC ITEMS**

Members of the public are encouraged to use this time to make comments about matters that do not appear on the agenda. Comments about items on the regular agenda will be taken as each item is considered. ***Please note: individuals making Public Comments will be limited to 5 minutes.*** In accordance with the *Governing Body Rules of Procedure*, the City reserves the right to refuse Public Comments that are personal, impertinent or slanderous.

Al Frisby, 10121 W. 59<sup>th</sup> Ter., commented that he would like to bring before the council a speaker from the Citizens' Climate Lobby. Jennifer Brown had spoken briefly at a previous meeting during Public Comments, but he would like to have a formal presentation to the council. He is working with the Mayor to possibly make it happen.

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

All items listed under the heading are considered to be routine by the City Council and may be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these

items unless a Councilmember so requests, in which case that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separate.

1. Consider approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting held July 12, 2021.

**COUNCILMEMBER SILVERS MOVED THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 1. COUNCILMEMBER PAPE SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **V. MAYOR'S REPORT**

1. Presentation - MARC Climate Action Plan Presentation.

Karen Clawson, Mid-America Regional Council, presented information regarding the Climate Action Plan.

## **VI. COUNCIL ITEMS**

1. Consider approval of a resolution approving the 2022-2026 CARS application.

Public Works Director Jim MacDonald presented the background for this item.

The Johnson County Board of Commissioners recognized that one of the keys to the success of Johnson County is in its major transportation corridors that connect the cities of Johnson County. In response to the need of constructing and maintaining these major corridors, the Board created the County Assistance Road System (CARS) program.

The CARS program provides funds to the cities of Johnson County to construct and maintain their major roads. Each year the cities submit a 5-year road improvement program to Johnson County. Using a scoring system, Johnson County selects projects and allocates funds. The County pays 50% of the project's construction and construction inspection costs. Cities are responsible for design, right-of-way, and utility relocation costs.

Staff plans to submit the following projects for Merriam's 2022-2026 road improvement program:

2022 - 55<sup>th</sup> Street between west city limits to Merriam Drive. The scope of work includes the replacement of curb/gutters/sidewalk/ADA ramps as required, 2" mill/overlay, new pavement markings, storm drainage improvements, and streetlights improvements as needed.

2023 - Merriam Drive between Johnson Drive to 55<sup>th</sup> Street. The scope of work includes the replacement of curb/gutters/sidewalk/ADA ramps as required, 2" mill/overlay, streetscape improvements, storm drainage improvements, and new pavement markings

2024 - 49<sup>th</sup> Street between Switzer Road to Antioch Road. The scope of work includes the replacement of curb/gutters/sidewalk/ADA ramps as required, 2" mill/overlay, storm drainage improvements and new pavement markings.

2025 - Merriam Drive between 55<sup>th</sup> Street to Antioch Road. The scope of work includes the replacement of curb/gutters/sidewalk/ADA ramps as required, 2" mill/overlay, storm drainage improvements and new pavement markings.

2026 - Johnson Drive - Mackey Street to east city limits. The scope of work includes the replacement of curb/gutters/sidewalk/ADA ramps as required, 2" mill/overlay, new pavement markings.

There was some discussion regarding the timing of the projects on Merriam Drive with the on-going Planning Sustainable Places (PSP) grant projects. Depending on what recommendations arise from the PSP projects, the timing on some of those CARS projects may not coincide.

Mr. MacDonald commented that each of the projects listed in the resolution are all CARS eligible projects and are one-year projects and are applied for annually. The projects can be switched to different years if needed.

**COUNCILMEMBER HANDS MOVED THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2022-2026 CARS APPLICATION. COUNCILMEMBER YADRICH SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

2. Monthly Finance Report.

Finance Director Donna Oliver presented the Finance Report for the month of June.

3. 2020 Building Permit Report.

Community Development Director Bryan Dyer presented the 2020 Building Permit Report.

4. Community Development Update.

Community Development Director Bryan Dyer provided the following updates:

The Downtown Merriam PSP Grant Committee held their first meeting last week. The consultant is working on a website for that grant.

The Merriam Drive Corridor Grant PSP Committee has had three meetings to date. There will be an open house at the Merriam Community Center on Wednesday July 28. This grant, in partnership with Overland Park, Mission, and Kansas City, Kansas focuses on transportation and street design from W. 51<sup>st</sup> Street to Southwest Boulevard.

The bike connection plan is moving along; the committee met last week to get the project rolling.

The Downtown Exterior Grant Program has received one grant application.

Bob's Discount Furniture is nearly complete with their tenant finish and plans to open soon.

DS Bus Lines parking lot and intersection improvements are close to getting underway and they should be obtaining their building permit soon.

## VII. STAFF ITEMS

City Administrator Chris Engel reminded the council that Representative Sharice Davids will be touring the Turkey Creek area this weekend. Councilmembers can attend if desired.

## VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

## IX. ADJOURNMENT

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL, COUNCILMEMBER HANDS MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:56 PM. COUNCILMEMBER PAPE SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Approved: August 9, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

*Juliana Pinnick*

City Clerk