

City of Victoria
Council Minutes

August 21, 2023
Regular Meeting

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The Governing Body of the City of Victoria met in regular session on August 21, 2023, at 5:30 PM in the Victoria High School Cafeteria.

- Roll Call** Council Members Ryan Lichter, Harland Rupp, Matt Orr, Erica Dinges and Matt Sander
- Presiding** Honorable Mayor John Schulte.
- Also Present** James Robben, Tony Geschwentner, Karen Nowak, Jerry Schmidtberger, Gerold Knipp, Tom Karlin, Rachel Berg, Rachel VonFeldt, Marilyn Billinger, Sandra Karlin, Jeff Pfeifer, Kimberly Woolf, Marilyn Braun, Ryan Mauch, Shawn Sterling, Jami Benyshek, City Attorney Don Hoffman, Police Chief Cole Dinkel, City Superintendent Brad Schmidtberger, and City Clerk Jamie Sterling.
- Pledge** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- Minutes** Minutes of the July 17, 2023 regular meeting were presented for review. Motion by Matt Sander, second by Matt Orr to approve the minutes.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Minutes from the Victoria Fire Department and Victoria Housing Authority were also reviewed.
- Warrant Ordinance A-08-23** Ordinance A-08-23, consisting of bills against the City for the month of August was presented for review. Motion by Harland Rupp, second by Erica Dinges that Ordinance A-08-23 be approved and all bills paid.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Agenda** Motion by Erica Dinges, second by Ryan Lichter to approve the agenda as presented.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- RNR Public Hearing** Motion to open the hearing for the Revenue Neutral Rate for 2024 by Erica Dinges, second by Ryan Lichter
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried
- Close RNR Public Hearing** Mayor Schulte asked for any comments from the public. Tom Karlin inquired about the RNR. Mayor Schulte and Jami Benyshek were able to answer Tom's questions. Motion by Ryan Lichter, second by Harland Rupp to close the Revenue Neutral Rate hearing for 2024.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- 2024 Budget Public Hearing** Motion to open the public hearing for the 2024 Budget by Matt Sander, second by Ryan Lichter. We were able to keep the Mill Levy at 52.7.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Close 2024 Budget Hearing** Mayor Schulte asked for any comments from the public. Hearing none, Motion by Erica Dinges, second by Matt Orr to close the public hearing for the 2024 Budget.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.

- 2024 Budget Pass** Motion by Ryan Lichter, second by Erica Dinges to pass the 2024 Budget.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Audit Report 2022** Motion by Matt Sander, second by Matt Orr to approve the 2022 Audit Report.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Police Department Report** Police Chief Cole Dinkel gave his department report. Chief Dinkel stated there is now a VIN number associated with the pick-up for the Police Department. Chief Dinkel stated there was a neighbor complaint about stray animals at the Beckwith home. Rachael Berg spoke on behalf of this. She stated she feels it is unsafe and her cat was attacked by another animal she feels was coming from the abandoned home. The home is not on the Sheriffs list for Sale yet. Attorney Don Hoffman will get a letter ready in regards to the Beckwith home to send to the family. It was further decided to have an Inspector look at it in regards to safety.
- City Superintendent Report** City Superintendent Brad Schmidtberger gave his department report. Brad stated the City guys are planning to do some street repairs in the fall. Don's Electric will be fixing Well #8 from a storm. Brad received another quote from INR regarding solar cameras. It will cost an extra \$9,981.94 for solar. Council suggested Brad and Cole work together and find a couple primary spots that would be a good spot to put a solar camera. Brad will be contacting HFE regarding the lift station. Brad also informed Council that Jeff Dorzweiler passed his Water test.
- Rupp BZA-V-23-03** Council recommended this go back to the Zoning Committee. Motion by Matt Orr, second by Ryan Lichter to send this back to Zoning for re-consideration.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, 1 Abstention, Motion declared carried.
- Rupp BZA-CU-23-03** Council recommended this go back to the Zoning Committee. Motion by Matt Orr, second by Ryan Lichter to send this back to Zoning for re-consideration.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, 1 Abstention, Motion declared carried.
- Geschwentner BZA-CU-23-04** Motion by Matt Orr, second by Ryan Lichter to approve Geschwentner Conditional Use for the purpose of a metal storage building.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, 1 Abstention, Motion declared carried.
- Victoria Housing Authority** The Victoria Housing Authority submitted the names of Calvin Bleske was given to be appointed to the Board of Commissioners. Motion by Harland Rupp, second by Ryan Lichter to appoint Calvin Bleske to the Board of Commissioners for the Victoria Housing Authority.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Pool Raises** City of Victoria Pool Manager, Karen Nowak was in attendance regarding raising the starting pay for lifeguards. Motion by Matt Sander, second by Matt Orr to raise the Lifeguards starting pay \$1.00 starting in 2024. Karen also stated she is looking for a new slide.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Abstention, Motion declared carried.

VCC Marilyn Braun and Jeff Pfeifer were in attendance to give an update on what the VCC has been up to. They have applied for 4 grants. The VCC are unable to get insurance until they get the roof fixed on St. John’s Place.

Marilyn also gave Mayor Schulte information regarding a HEAL Grant for the revitalization of property in the downtown area. The grant has to run through a non-profit organization as a pass-thru. Mayor Schulte plans to send out letters to each business in our downtown area of Victoria. The grant is only available for one property per city.

**Ordinance
B-582**

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING PUBLIC OFFENSES WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA, KANSAS; INCORPORATING BY REFERENCE THE “UNIFORM PUBLIC OFFENSE CODE FOR KANSAS CITIES, “EDITION OF 2022, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NUMBER B-578.

Thereupon, Council Member Erica Dinges moved that said Ordinance be passed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ryan Lichter. Said Ordinance was duly read and considered, and upon being put, the motion for the passage of said Ordinance was carried by the vote of the Governing Body, the vote being as follows:

Yes: Erica Dinges, Matt Orr, Ryan Lichter, Harland Rupp, Matt Sander.
No: None

Thereupon Mayor Schulte declared said Ordinance duly passed and the Ordinance was then numbered Ordinance B-578 and was signed and approved by the Mayor and attested by the City Clerk. The City Clerk was directed to publish the Ordinance one time in the official newspaper of the City.

**Ordinance
B-583**

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING TRAFFIC WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA, KANSAS; INCORPORATING BY REFERENCE THE “STANDARD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE FOR KANSAS CITIES,” EDITION OF 2022 WITH CERTAIN OMISSIONS PROVIDING CERTAIN PENALTIES AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NUMBER B-579.

Thereupon Council Member Ryan Lichter moved that said Ordinance be passed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Erica Dinges. Said Ordinance was duly read and considered, and upon being put, the motion for the passage of said Ordinance was carried by the vote of the Governing Body, the vote being as follows:

Yes: Erica Dinges, Matt Orr, Ryan Lichter, Harland Rupp, Matt Sander.
No: None

Thereupon, Mayor Schulte declared said Ordinance duly passed and the Ordinance was then numbered Ordinance B-579 and was signed and approved by the Mayor and attested by the City Clerk. The City Clerk was directed to publish the Ordinance one time in the official newspaper of the City.

- City Clerk** Motion by Erica Dinges, second by Matt Sander to allow City Clerk, Jamie Sterling to attend Clerk Institute located in Wichita in November.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Herzogfest** Brenton Hoffman requested via a letter that Herzogfest be allowed to use the City ball field at no charge to them. Motion by Matt Orr, second by Ryan Lichter to allow this.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Victoria Alumni Donation** Motion to donate \$200.00 to the Victoria Alumni Association for the golf tournament by Ryan Lichter, second by Matt Orr.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, 1 Abstention, Motion declared carried.
- Citizen Comments** Tom Karlin spoke on behalf of BZA-V-23-03 and BZA-CU-23-03 regarding Harland Rupp’s vacant lot. Tom was representing himself as well as neighbors and their concern regarding a Duplex being built on the property.

Marilyn Billinger spoke as well regarding the above mentioned Variance/Conditional Use. She states 6 households didn’t get letters.
- Mayor Comments** There were no comments from Mayor Schulte.

6:35 PM Council member Erica Dinges left Council Chambers.
- Executive Session** 6:36 PM Motion to go into executive session for 3 minutes for the evaluation of Brad Schmidtberger by Matt Orr, second by Ryan Lichter.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, 1 abstention, Motion declared carried.
- Regular Session** 6:39 PM Return to regular session.

6:44 PM Council member Erica Dinges returned to Council chambers.
- Salary Increase** Motion to increase the salary of City Superintendent Brad Schmidtberger by 0.50 (fifty-cents) per hour for an hourly rate of \$27.75 by Ryan Lichter, second by Matt Orr.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, 1 abstention, Motion declared carried.
- Salary Increase** Motion by Ryan Lichter, second by Matt Sander to increase the salary of Public Works employee, Jeff Dorzweiler by 0.25 (twenty-five cents) per hour for an hourly rate of \$18.25 for passing his water test.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Adjournment** All business on hand having been discussed, Motion by Matt Sander, second by Matt Orr to adjourn the meeting.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.

John Schulte, Mayor

Jamie Sterling, City Clerk