The City Council of the City of Gardner, Kansas met in regular session on October 5, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Gardner City Hall, 120 East Main Street, Gardner, Kansas, with Mayor Todd Winters presiding. Present were Councilmembers Mark Baldwin, Kacy Deaton, Mark Wiehn, Steve McNeer, and Kelly Johnson. City staff present were Deputy City Administrator Amy Nasta; Finance Director Matt Wolff; Police Chief Kelly Herron; Parks Director Jason Bruce; Community Development Director David Knopick; Public Works Director Kellen Headlee; Utility Director David Hunter; City Attorney Ryan Denk; Clerk Renee Rich. Others present included those listed on the sign-in sheet and others who did not sign in.

There being a quorum of Councilmembers present, Mayor Winters called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Winters led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **Presentation of a Citizen Award**
2. **Proclaim October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Gardner**
3. **Proclaim October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Gardner**

PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ryan Miller spoke about Gardner Lake. He feels the lake should remain a city asset and not be sold. A lot of money has recently been invested in the spillway. The lake is a community resource.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Standing approval of the minutes as written for the regular meeting on September 21, 2026**
2. **Standing approval of City expenditures prepared September 17, 2026 in the amount of $906,261.80 and September 24, 2026, in the amount of $1,427,729.40**
3. **Consider authorizing the execution of a contract with USD 231 for three (3) School Resource Officers for the 2026-2027 school year**
4. **Consider authorizing the execution of the KDOT Airport Modernization Supplemental Grant Agreement for CIP project AP3012, Replace Fuel Facility**
5. **Approval of the Aviation Facilities and/or Equipment Grant Agreement with KDOT for CIP project AP3012, Replace Fuel Facility**
6. **Consider authorizing the execution of an agreement with Lochner to perform design services for the Gardner Municipal Airport Fuel System Replacement Project**
7. **Consider authorizing the execution of the 2026 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) agreement**
8. **Consider authorizing the City Administrator to approve additional expenses related to Substation 1 - Transformer 2 Load Tap Changer (LTC) maintenance**

Councilmember Deaton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Johnson Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING CONSENT AGENDA

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Consider authorizing the City Administrator to execute Change Order No. 1 related to the Unit #1 Turbine-Generator Overhaul to address required generator rewind work, rotor repairs, turbine/compressor deficiencies, and the omitted 9th Stage Hook Fit Modification**

Utility Director Hunter said the increased costs are due to unexpected repairs during teardown. The contractor uncovered several critical issues in both the turbine and the generator systems that must be completed to return unit number one to service. The last major turbine repair was more than 20 years ago. When turbines and generators sit for long periods of time, deterioration accelerates. The problems are only visible when the unit is open, and compressor blades are fully open. This must be repaired for reliable operation. We have extreme temperatures and this unit helps to keep our city away from the volatile market. Unit 2 has already been overhauled. Theoretically we should be good for another twenty years after the completion of this overhaul.

Councilmember McNeer made a motion to move to recommend that the City Administrator be authorized to execute Change Order No. 1 for the Unit #1 Turbine Generator Overhaul, including the generator stator rewind, rotor refurbishment, turbine and compressor corrective repairs, and the required 9th Stage Hook Fit Modification, in the total amount of $2,751,942, and to incorporate the associated project costs into the final bonding package upon completion of the overhaul.

Councilmember Wiehn Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

2. Consider adopting a resolution authorizing the offer for public sale of certain general obligations of the City of Gardner, Kansas

Finance Director Wolff said the city is scheduled to sell approximately $10.225M principal amount of taxable general obligation bonds series 2026D and approximately $46.25M of tax-exempt general obligation bonds series 2026E bonds on November 2nd, at 10 am. Series 2026D is to reimburse or pay the cost of certain electrical system improvements including substation 4 and represents the first series of bonds planed for these improvements. Series 2026E is for the reimbursement or to pay the costs of two different projects. Hillsdale Lake water intake structure improvements is approximately $22.305M and the remaining is associated with the Kill Creek Water Resource Recovery Facility expansion.

Since the last debt sale in August, estimated interest rates have increased significantly. Discussions with our bond council and our municipal advisor determined there's no clear indication that delaying the sale would result in lower borrowing costs.

Councilmember Deaton made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2206, a resolution authorizing the offer for public sale of certain general obligation bonds of the City of Gardner, Kansas.

Councilmember Baldwin Seconded.

With a majority of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the Resolution passed and was assigned number 2206.

Deaton: Yes
Wiehn: Yes
Johnson: Yes
McNeer: Yes
Baldwin: Yes

3. Item 3 has been postponed to the following meeting.

COUNCIL UPDATES

Chief Herron recognizes Detective Odle for her work on the proclamation and the garden. Wednesday is National Coffee with a Cop and Gardner is hosting at Groundhouse Coffee.

Parks Director Bruce said Winwood basketball court is getting resurfaced this week. The playground will hopefully be done by the end of the week. The only thing we are waiting on for this project is the memorial plaque. Discovery meeting on Thursday with Cahills who was awarded the contract for the ADA restroom at Veterans Park.

Councilmember Johnson thanks Mr. Miller for speaking tonight. Reminds everyone to take care of themselves as we move into the holiday season.

Councilmember McNeer said Gardner is a great place to live and is a community that always steps up for its neighbors. Gardner Edgerton football is having a great season.

Councilmember Wiehn thanks the Chief and staff for the flags going up at the Justice Center for the Domestic Violence Memorial Garden. Thanks the Mayor for giving the citizen award. Thanks to Mr. Miller for bringing the lake to everyone's attention.

Council Vice-President Deaton said kudos to the young gentlemen who was willing to run into a burning building. Encourages everyone to view the garden at the police department.

Mayor Winters said congrats to Mr. Haff for his heroic effort. He was awarded the very first Mayor Citizen Hero Award.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Consider entering into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel

Councilmember Deaton made a motion to recess into executive session discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) beginning at 7:31 pm; returning to regular session at 7:46 pm.

Councilmember McNeer Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

Councilmember Deaton made a motion to resume regular session at 7:46 pm.

Councilmember McNeer Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

2. Consider entering into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel

Councilmember Deaton made a motion to recess into executive session discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) beginning at 7:46 pm; returning to regular session at 7:56 pm.

Councilmember Johnson Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

Councilmember Deaton made a motion to resume regular session at 7:56 pm.

Councilmember Johnson Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, on a motion duly made by Councilmember McNeer and seconded by Councilmember Deaton the meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

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City Clerk