

Council Proceedings for the City of Kennett, Missouri

March 3, 2026

6:30 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Kennett, Missouri met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall on Tuesday, March 3, 2026.

Those in attendance were Mayor Jake Crafton, Council Members Lisa Dry, Randy Carter, Harry Gaddis, Kevin Swain, Dennis Pelts, Steve Panousis, Jimmy French and Bob Young, City Attorney Terry McVey, City Clerk Mandy Lewis, Finance Director Jan McElwrath, and Chief of Police Kenny Wilson. Absent was Council Members Mark Bryant and James Waynick.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Crafton.

Rev. Mark Kaibourn gave the invocation.

Council Member Dry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the council proceedings of the regular meeting of February 17, 2026, was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Swain; motion passed.

A motion to approve the Kennett Board of Public Works January 2026 Accounts Payable was made by Council Member Carter, seconded by Council Member Gaddis; motion passed.

Kennett Chamber of Commerce Update – Executive Director Christian Johnson:

Chamber Executive Director Johnson provided an update to the Council regarding the banding logos as well as the new Chamber of Commerce website. He requests the Council approve the expense of \$175 for a billboard located in Jonesboro, Arkansas to advertise the Jacee BBQ Cookoff and the 100-mile Yard Sale. He requested this expense be taken out of the City's tourism account.

A motion to approve \$175 for the rental of a billboard in Jonesboro, AR to advertise the Jaycee BBQ Cookoff and 100-mile Yard Sale, having the expense to be taken from the tourism marketing account, was made by Council Member Panousis, seconded by Council Member Swain; motion passed.

Director Johnson reminded the Council of the Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Opera House. He stated that the Keynote Speak is Dr. Brad Hodson, President of Southeast Missouri State University.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

a. Reappointment of Kennett Board of Public Works Members

Mayor Crafton discussed the need to document the reappointment of two of the current KBPW Board Members due to the lack of information contained within past meeting minutes. City Attorney McVey stated that this vote would clear up some of the record keeping from past meetings.

A motion to appoint John Robertson to the Kennett Board of Public Works until November 2027 and Towny Sparks to the Kennett Board of Public Works until November 2028 was made by Council Member Carter, seconded by Council Member Dry; motion passed.

b. Approval of Bids for Demolition for Three Residential Properties

Mayor Crafton informed the Council that bids for demolition were accepted for 1016 Henderson, 1019 Henderson and 1000 Wayne. Discussion regarding the criteria used to determine what properties are selected for demolition. Attorney McVey stated the Fire Committee is responsible for the decision. Mayor Crafton stated he spoke to Code Enforcement Officer Mode and requested properties around the school be chosen.

A motion to postpone the discussion regarding the demolition of the residential properties located at 1016 Henderson, 1019 Henderson and 1000 Wayne was made by Council Member Carter, seconded by Council Member Young; motion passed.

c. NOVATECH Agreement

Finance Director McElwrath informed the Council that she, Fire Chief Davis and Street Superintendent Moss met with a representative from NOVATECH to discuss renewing an agreement for copiers. After discussion, it was determined that the Street Department did not need a large printer/copier. The quote presented for a printer/copier/scanner for the Fire Administration and City Hall was \$498.02 per month which is an annual savings of \$3,843.60. She stated the Agreement was for a five-year period.

A motion to approve the Agreement with NOVATECH for a 5-year term at \$498.02 per month was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member French; motion passed.

Comments from the Council:

Council Member/Police Committee Chair Pelts informed the Council that there was an outstanding invoice from the police academy for \$15,183.24 and an outstanding invoice for 23 bullet-proof vests for \$18,500, for a total of \$33,683.24. It is his recommendation that \$7,600 from the Police Department of Justice account, \$11,500 from the 911 account and \$14,583.24 from the Police Equipment Reserve be used to pay the total amounts due.

A motion for \$7,600 from the Police Department of Justice account, \$11,500 from the 911 account and \$14,583.24 from the Police Equipment Reserve in order to pay the outstanding balances was made by Council Member Pelts, seconded by Council Member Swain; motion passed.

Public Comments:

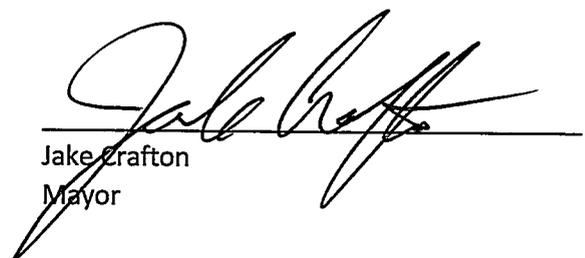
Dr. Chancellor Wayne addressed the Council thanking them for clearing up the reappointment of KBPW Board Members. He stated he is grateful to the members for their time and dedication to the community. He also stated that he believes Melissa Combs will be an asset to the City of Kennett.

A motion to go into Closed Session for Personnel per RSMO 610.021(3) was made by Council Member Carter, seconded by Council Member Swain. Vote: Yes - Council Members Lisa Dry, Randy Carter, Harry Gaddis, Kevin Swain, Dennis Pelts, Steve Panousis, Jimmy French and Bob Young. No - None.

A motion to go into Open Session was made by Council Member Pelts, seconded by Council Member Panousis. Vote: Yes - Council Members Lisa Dry, Randy Carter, Harry Gaddis, Kevin Swain, Dennis Pelts, Steve Panousis, Jimmy French and Bob Young. No - None.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Pelts, seconded by Council Member Panousis; motion passed.


Mandy Lewis
City Clerk


Jake Crafton
Mayor