Council Proceedings for the City of Kennett, Missouri
March 17, 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 17, 2026.

Those in attendance were Mayor Jake Crafton, Council Members Lisa Dry, Randy Carter, Mark Bryant, Dennis Pelts, Steve Panousis, Jimmy French and Bob Young, City Attorney Terry McVey, City Administrator Melissa Combs, City Clerk Mandy Lewis, Finance Director Jan McElwrath, Street Superintendent Gerald Moss, Assistant Fire Chief Tyler Roberts, Humane Officer Tena Petix, Code Enforcement Officer Victor Mode, and Chief of Police Kenny Wilson. Absent was Council Members James Waynick, Harry Gaddis and Kevin Swain.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Crafton. He welcomed Melissa Combs as the City's City Administrator.

Rev. Mark Kaibourn gave the invocation.

Council Member Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the council proceedings of the regular meeting of March 3, 2026, was made by Council Member Dry, seconded by Council Member Panousis; discussion by Council Member French regarding the accuracy of the vote for the reappointment of KBPW Board Members. City Attorney McVey stated the time to dispute the vote was at the last meeting. After additional discussion, motion passed.

A motion to approve the closed session council proceedings of March 3, 2026, was made by Council Member Dry, seconded by Council Member Panousis; motion passed.

A motion to approve the February 2026 Abstract of Accounts was made by Council Member Carter, seconded by Council Member Panousis; motion passed.

A motion to approve the February 2026 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures was made by Council Member Panousis, seconded by Council Member Bryant; motion passed.

Old Business:

a. MODOT Kennett Square Project

Mayor Crafton explains the suggested changes to the Northwest corner of Kennett Square Project. It is being proposed that a stop sign be installed at the southeast corner of North Court Square and North Main Street along with a concrete curb. Discussion regarding the need for an ordinance for the installation of a stop sign and City Attorney McVey was asked to prepare an ordinance.

A motion to approve the suggested changes to the MODOT Kennett Square Project was made by Council Member Carter, seconded by Council Member Young; motion passed.

b. Demolition Project

City Administrator Combs informed the Council and public that the demolition project presented that was discussed at the March 3, 2026, Council Meeting is currently on hold. She reminded the Council that this matter was postponed at the last meeting. She stated additional steps will be needed to take place prior to putting out the demolitions for bid. She recommended the Council reject the bids previously presented.

A motion to reject the bids received for the demolition of 1016 Henderson, 1019 Henderson and 1000 Wayne Streets was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Bryant; motion passed.

New Business:

a. Indian Park Asphalt

City Administrator Combs informed the Council that the Kennett Park Board received a bid in the amount of $23,552.05 for the installation of a handicap accessible path and repairs to two areas at the Indian Park sports complex. She stated $11,776.03 will come from the grant and she is recommending $11,776.02 come from the transportation tax. Council Member Pelts inquired why only one bid was received. Administrator Combs stated that the grant does not require multiple bids if the cost is under $25,000 and Robertson Asphalt is already contracted by the Park Board to perform work in another area.

A motion to approve the bid from Robertson Asphalt in the amount of $23,552.05 with $11,776.02 being taken from the Transportation Tax was made by Council Member Panousis, seconded by Council Member Carter; motion passed.

City Administrator's Report:

City Administrator Combs thanked the Council for their trust in her appointment as the City Administrator. She informed the Council and public that construction on the Floyd Street sidewalk project will run April – July. She announced that a public meeting regarding the 412-expansion project will be held on March 31, 2026, at the Senath High School hosted by MODOT. She encouraged all to attend as the project will benefit the City of Kennett. Administrator Combs stated information regarding a proposed pipeline project as well as an update from Riley Cook was provided in the Council packet.

Comments from the Council:

Council Member Carter stated that with a permanent City Administrator in place the Council Committees are no longer needed. He requested an ordinance be prepared to abolish the committees per Section 145 of the city code. City Attorney McVey stated he will work on an ordinance.

Public Comments:

Resident Marco Parr addressed the Council regarding the accuracy of the vote to approve Kennett Board of Public Works members held at the March 3, 2026, City Council Meeting.

Mayor Crafton made a statement to the public regarding the City Council members being volunteers who are trying to do their best for the City. He stated that there are many improvements to the City regardless of what some residents may say on social media. He thanked the City Council for their time and effort.

A motion to go into Closed Session for Legal per RSMO 610.021(1) Personnel per RSMO 610.021(3) was made by Council Member Carter, seconded by Council Member Panousis. Vote: Yes - Council Members Lisa Dry, Randy Carter, Mark Bryant, Dennis Pelts, Steve Panousis, Jimmy French and Bob Young. No – None.

A motion to go into Open Session was made by Council Member Dry, seconded by Council Member Carter. Yes - Council Members Lisa Dry, Randy Carter, Mark Bryant, Dennis Pelts, Steve Panousis, Jimmy French and Bob Young. No – None.

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

Mandy Lewis
City Clerk

Jake Crafton
Mayor