

CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 25, 2021
6:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Augusta, Kansas met in a work session on October 25, 2021, with Council President Tom Leffler presiding to discuss an update on the Redbud Trail Project and the Notice of Interim Trail Use (NITU) and to review and discuss parking regulations and enforcement pertaining to vehicles, RV's, boats and trailers. Council present were Jake Marr, Eric Birk, Mike Huddleston, Bob Bailey, Kip Richardson, Ron Reavis and Bill Slade. Mayor Mike Rawlings was absent. Also present: City Manager Josh Shaw, Assistant City Manager Cody Sims, Director of Public Safety Bob Sage and Assistant to the City Manager Susie Geiger. Visitors present were: Micki Debbrecht, Christine Sims, Kelley Huxtable, Ben Bunck, Vicki Shepard, Robert Davis, Dianna Smith, Nancy Zavala, Vona Dean, Kathy Kehr, Jack Ritchie, Bill Hanson, John Moore, Shawn Davis, Andrea Davis, Kevin Smokorowski, Brian Edward, Ruth Holliday, Bryce Cook, Lori Cook, Amber Simon, Quincy Simon, Ava Simon, Karen Deaver, Terry Deaver, Brandon Debbrecht, Melanie Cox, Tim Lenz, Chris Lenz, Jayme Chapin, Mark Probert, Dave McDonough, Fawn McDonough, Carolyn Harrison, Paul Harrison, Richard Stephen, Craig Plank, Denise Loper, Shane Scott, Brad Loper, Sherry Jones, Boyd McPherson, Abby Bryan, and Doug Smith.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer: Councilman Richardson gave the invocation.

Business:

Update Discussion on Redbud Trail Project: Council reviewed and filed a staff presentation updating the City Council on various Redbud Trail project meetings and strategies and provided direction regarding a November 2nd Butler County Commission meeting on the NITU. Huddleston inquired about the two year requirement to build a trail and how the County has been able to hold the corridor for around 15 years. Richardson commented in support of the project and stated that it will bring people in to the community. Marr asked for clarification on what Shaw needs from the City Council tonight. Shaw stated that he would like to hear a consensus on whether or not the City is willing to consider taking on the NITU.

Ruth Holliday, representing the Andover-Augusta Rail Trail Initiative, spoke in support of the Redbud Rail Trail Project and said the organization is willing and eager to work with the City of Augusta to complete the project.

Leffler explained that, while the City Council cannot take formal action tonight, they can express a consensus to give Shaw direction on what to tell Butler County. Leffler asked the City Council members to each say whether or not they support the City considering adopting the NITU and engaging in the conversations with Butler County. All 8 Councilmembers in attendance expressed a support for considering adopting the NITU and gave a unanimous consensus to direct Shaw to discuss the possibility with Butler County.

At 6:48 p.m. Richardson made a motion to recess for 10 minutes. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition

At 6:58 p.m. Richardson made a motion to return to Council session. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition

Parking Regulation Discussion: Council reviewed and discussed parking regulations and enforcement pertaining to vehicles, RVs, boats and trailers. Shaw explained the difficulties/confusion staff has had with enforcing yard parking regulations for vehicles, RVs, boats, and trailers. Shaw gave an overview of current regulations on parking vehicles in yards in the City Code, Standard Traffic Ordinance, and Zoning Regulations.

Council discussed possible changes to the regulations to clarify enforcement. Shaw said that staff will examine these possible changes and update the presentation so Council can discuss the issue further and evaluate potential changes.

Adjourn: At 8:20 p.m., Richardson made a motion to adjourn. Reavis seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

City Clerk