

The City of Towanda

City Council Special Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 23, 2026, 7:00 PM, City Hall, 110 S 3rd, Towanda, KS

Special Council Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 7 p.m., Mayor Mike Hayes called the meeting to order.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Hayes, Jennifer Watkins, Chris Hunt, Kit Williams, Drew Shaults, Angel Ramsey.

Staff present included City Administrator Sarah Gooding, and City Attorney Rob Lane attended online.

3. ADOPT AGENDA

Jennifer Watkins moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Kit Williams. Motion passed 5-0.

4. 2027 BUDGET

Mayor Mike Hayes requested that City Administrator Sarah Gooding review the proposed budget. Sarah noted that Council conducted a budget workshop on September 8, after which some revisions were made, and the public hearing for the budget was conducted September 9, along with a vote to exceed Revenue Neutral Rate. Following these presentations, Council tabled the vote and requested revisions to the budget to increase the total mill levy by 8 mills, for a total proposed mill levy of 51.577. Sarah also provided an overview of each fund as presented for adoption.

Chris Hunt moved to adopt the City of Towanda 2027 budget as presented, seconded by Kit Williams. Motion passed 5-0.

5. STREET CLOSURE FOR HOMECOMING PARADE

City Administrator Sarah Gooding advised that a review of City Ordinances identified that Council approve proposed street closures. She said the City had received a request to close streets for the upcoming Circle High School Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 2.

Drew Shaults made a motion to approve the street closure on October 2 for the Homecoming Parade, seconded by Angel Ramsey. Motion passed 5-0.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Non-Elected Personnel

Jennifer Watkins moved that the Council recess into executive session for 45 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel, pursuant to the justification listed in KSA 75-4319(b)1 with attendance to include the Mayor, City Council, and City Attorney, with the open meeting set to resume in the Towanda City Hall Council Room at 8:35 p.m. The motion was seconded by Kit Williams and carried 5-0.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA, GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS AND
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY**

At 8:35 p.m. Jennifer Watkins moved to exit out of executive session, seconded by Chris Hunt. Motion carried 5-0.

Jennifer Watkins moved that the Council recess into executive session for 25 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel, pursuant to the justification listed in KSA 75-4319(b)1 with attendance to include the Mayor, City Council and City Attorney, with the open meeting set to resume in the Towanda City Hall Council Room at 9:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Kit Williams and carried 5-0.

7. ADJOURN

Chris Hunt made a motion to adjourn at 9:03 p.m., seconded by Jennifer Watkins. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,


Sarah Gooding, City Administrator/Clerk