

Council Proceedings for the City of Kennett, Missouri

February 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, February 3, 2026.

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Crafton.

Council Member Young gave the invocation.

Council Member French led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the council proceedings of the regular meeting and closed session meeting of January 20, 2026, was made by Council Member Pelts, seconded by Council Member Young; motion passed.

A motion to approve the December 2025 Kennett Board of Public Works Financials was made by Council Member Dry, seconded by Council Member Pelts; motion passed.

Old Business:

a. Agreement for Engineering Services with Waters Engineering

Council Member Pelts informed the Council that the Stormwater Committee met earlier and are recommending that Waters Engineering begin with the Snipes Slough area.

A motion to approve Waters Engineering to begin work in the Snipes Slough area was made by Council Member Pelts, seconded by Council Member French; motion passed.

b. 60-day Provisional License (R. Cook & D. Cunningham)

Mayor suggested the topic be postponed until the next meeting. Council agreed. City Clerk Lewis will place the topic on the February 17, 2026, meeting agenda.

c. Authorize City Attorney to Contact Sharp's Disposal for Removal of Residential Trash Containers

Mayor Crafton stated there are multiple Sharp's Disposal trash containers that remain within the city limits. He inquired about requesting City Attorney McVey to draft a letter to Sharp's Disposal advising that the city would consider the containers to be abandoned if not picked up within a specific time frame.

A motion to approve City Attorney McVey sending a letter to Sharp's Disposal informing them that trash containers must be removed within 30-days, and if they are not removed, the City would consider them abandoned was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Gaddis; motion passed.

New Business:

- a. Resolution No. 2026-2: A Resolution urging State Senators and State Representatives to oppose Senate Bill 1152, House Bill 1613, Senate Bill 1329, and/or any related or amended bill version, which would move all municipal elections to the November General Election date and/or require candidates to declare a political party affiliation when filing for office.

City Attorney McVey stated that currently candidates for municipal elections are not required to declare any party affiliation. However, Senate Bill 1329 would require candidates to declare a party. He explained that Senate Bill 1152 and House Bill 1613 will move the municipal elections from April to November. Attorney McVey stated that moving the

elections could impact the attention given to local issues. Mayor stated, if approved, City Clerk Lewis will forward Resolution No. 2026-2 to both Representative Cameron Parker and Senator Jason Bean.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-2 was made by Council Member Swain, seconded by Council Member Pelts; motion passed.

b. KBPW – Contract for Sale of Real Estate

Mayor Crafton explained that the 7-acre property being purchased will be a new water treatment plant for the Kennett Board of Public Works. KBPW CEO Chitester stated the current facility is 75 to 80 years old. He stated that he and other KBPW employees are researching other facilities, however, it will be some time before the project is completed. He informed that the property is located off Peanut Road.

A motion to approve the purchase of 7 acres for use by KBPW for a water treatment facility was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Young; motion passed.

c. Demolition of Three Residential Properties

Mayor informed the Council that bids were taken for the demolition of three residential properties. He stated that the bids were accepted with the contractor paying for the “dump fees” and with the City paying the “dump fees”. The bids were as follows:

Including “Dump Fees”:

- MMR Excavating LLC – 600 Hopper Street \$5,250; 406 King Street \$5,250; and 709 E. Fourth Street \$5,250 for a total of \$15,750
- Duncan Truck & Tractor - 600 Hopper Street \$3,920; 406 King Street \$2,250; and 709 E. Fourth Street \$3,480 for a total of \$9,650
- Jack of All Trades - 600 Hopper Street \$4,552; 406 King Street \$4,787; and 709 E. Fourth Street \$4,470 for a total of \$13,809

City Pays “Dump Fees”:

- MMR Excavating LLC – 600 Hopper Street \$1,700; 406 King Street \$1,700; and 709 E. Fourth Street \$1,700 for a total of \$5,100
- Duncan Truck & Tractor - 600 Hopper Street \$1,470; 406 King Street \$1,000; and 709 E. Fourth Street \$1,300 for a total of \$3,770
- Jack of All Trades - 600 Hopper Street \$2,451; 406 King Street \$2,605; and 709 E. Fourth Street \$2,489 for a total of \$7,545

A motion to have the city pay for the “dump fees” for the demolition of the three residential houses was made by Council Member Pelts, seconded by Council Member Gaddis; motion passed.

Discussion regarding the significantly lower quote from Duncan Truck & Tractor and the question of the bid specifics being relayed correctly. Mayor suggested the topic be postponed until the next meeting. Council agreed. City Clerk Lewis will place the topic on the February 17, 2026, meeting agenda.

d. Authorization of Missouri State Highway Safety Program

Mayor Crafton explained that the authorization allows the Kennett Police Department to received grant funds for work in connection with the State of Missouri Highway Safety Program.

A motion to approve signing of the Authorization of Missouri State Highway Safety Program was made by Council Member Swain, seconded by Council Member French; motion passed.

Comments from the Council:

Council Member Dry stated there will be a MoDOT Public Hearing held on February 4, 2026, at the Kennett City Hall Council Chambers from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. regarding potential changes to the traffic pattern around Kennett Square/Dunklin County Courthouse.

Council Member Young inquired about status of the bulk pickup that KBPW is supposed to be providing. KBPW CEO Chitester informed the Council that bulk pick up will begin the week of February 16th. Pick up will be every Friday and residents will call KBPW to schedule a pickup by 3 pm Wednesday. He stated that this service is for residential only and there will not be a pickup for landlord cleanout or commercial properties. CEO Chitester stated KBPW will inform residents of this service via the website and social media. Mayor Crafton stated he sees this additional service as a way to continue to clean up the city as there will be no reason someone should have items sitting in their yard.

Council Member Young inquired about the inoperable vehicles sitting in yards. Inspector Hufford stated warning letters have been sent.

Public Comments:

None.

Mayor Crafton thanked the employees from the Street Department, Park Department, Fire Department, Police Department, Kennett Board of Public Works and Council Members that helped during the recent snowstorm. He stated a Dunklin County Emergency Management meeting was held at the Fire Administration building preparing for the storm. Council Member Dry stated there were well over 300 hours of overtime put in by employees due to the storm.

Mayor Crafton announced that the Kennett Community Development Corporation (KCDC) were awarded Neighborhood Assistance Program Tax Credits that has allowed them to purchase the old Kennett Trust Bank building on First Street. He states that the building will be used as a community building housing the City Hall, Fire Administration and Kennett Chamber of Commerce. Finance Director McElwrath stated that community events will be held at the building such as fire and safety training, financial literacy education, etc. Mayor Crafton explained that little to no local sales tax dollars will go towards the completion of the project due to the award of the tax credits. Council Member Dry stated the Comprehensive Plan completed in 1973 suggested a City Hall should be located on a busy thoroughfare, so this is fulfilling a 53-year goal for the City.

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

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

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


Mandy Lewis
City Clerk


Jake Crafton
Mayor