



ABILENE CITY COMMISSION - SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY, 209 NW FOURTH STREET

February 21, 2022

Immediately following the City Commission Study Session which begins at 4:00 p.m.

VIEW THIS CITY COMMISSION MEETING VIRTUALLY AT
www.abilenecityhall.com/watchlive

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call: ___ Marshall ___ Witt ___ Rein ___ Miller ___ Kollhoff

New Business

3. Consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with Dickinson County.

Adjournment

4. Consider a motion to adjourn the February 21, 2022 Special City Commission Meeting.



CITY OF ABILENE
Item for City Commission Agenda

Meeting Date: 02/21/2022
Special Meeting

Originating Department

Prepared By:

Approved For Agenda By:
(Office Use Only)

Administrative

Ron Marsh

AGENDA ITEM HEADING:

Consider Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Dickinson County

BACKGROUND:

As I informed Commissioners during the February 14, 2022 City Commission meeting, the City of Abilene is partnering with Dickinson County to submit an application for a Kansas Department of Commerce Building A Stronger Economy (BASE) grant. The grant will be for improvements to the NW 14th St. industrial park corridor from Van Buren to Fair Rd, to include the intersections at Van Buren and Fair roads, and infrastructure improvements to make the area more attractive to business.

Since the jurisdiction in this corridor is a mix of City and County, by submitting an MOU signed by both parties with our application this will show both Abilene’s and the County’s commitment to improvements in the industrial park corridor.

The BASE grant application is due February 28, 2022 prior to our regular scheduled city commission meeting. In order to meet the application submission deadline, the Mayor has requested a special meeting to consider the MOU.

FISCAL NOTE:

TBD The grant is a 25% match and administrative costs can be recouped through the grant. The city and county will share the costs.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Approve the MOU with Dickinson County

Memorandum of Understanding

**By and Between
Dickinson County, Kansas; and
City of Abilene, Kansas.**

This Memorandum of Understanding sets forth the understanding between the City of Abilene (City) and Dickinson County (County) on the current status of economic development opportunities as it relates to shared infrastructure, overlapping or adjoining jurisdiction, and mutually beneficial projects in the northwest area of Abilene from Vine Street to Fair Road and the industrial park area Northwest of Abilene. This also helps establish a renewed interest, focus, and effort on effective cooperation for the benefit of the broader community served by both jurisdictions.

Background and Current Status

With the opening of Love's Travel Stop, the Great Plains Manufacturing's expansion, and the extension of NW 8th Street from Washington to Van Buren, the Abilene Industrial Park area continues to draw interest for additional commercial, residential, and industrial development. Both the City and County have vested interests in the successful and orderly development of this area. Both the City and County have a shared interest in addressing challenges to help provide for the successful and orderly development.

In 2018 the City held a stakeholder meeting at the Abilene Civic Center for the property owners and governing jurisdictions near the Fair Road and 14th/I-70 area. From that and subsequent discussions and circumstances, initial challenges emerged in regards to the orderly development of the area. To begin addressing some of the challenges, the City and County Commissions held a facilitated and combined workshop in 2018, to discuss their vision for this area. Consensus was reached for both entities to work together to develop the NW14th Street Corridor and the Abilene Industrial Park.

Guiding Principles

The City and County seek a spirit of cooperation, collaboration, and coordination in the shared development of the Abilene Industrial Park. In order to maintain a productive working relationship, both the County and City commit to the following:

- Focusing on outcomes that are in the best interest of all taxpaying citizens and not just any one individual, business, organization, or jurisdiction.
- Conducting all business in an open and transparent manner through the proper channels of good governance.
- Maintaining open and productive communication between the entities to ensure the spirit of cooperation.
- Providing opportunities for both jurisdictions to share the cost and benefit of shared challenges and opportunities.
- Respecting the other jurisdiction's role, responsibility, and limitations when conflict emerges.
- Committing to working through conflicts in a productive manner, including the use of third-party support when deemed necessary by either jurisdiction.
- Holding staff accountable for the same spirit of cooperation, collaboration, and coordination.

Priority Issues

In line with these guiding principles, the City and County commit to pursuing the following priorities:

1. Help ensure the continued development of the Abilene Industrial Park and its infrastructure.
2. Commit to making long term plans for and providing for the funding of the improvement of 14th Street from Buckeye to Fair Road.
3. Continue to support the previously developed policy vision for economic development — establishing goals, defining targets, and clarifying roles of organizations.
4. Continue to support the established guidelines for interagency cooperation between the County and City, asking the County Administrator and City Manager to lead the effort.

Identified Challenges

The following is a working list of specific challenges to be addressed. This is not intended to be exhaustive or exclusive and it will change.

- Need for clear vision regarding the improvement of NW14th Street and access into the Abilene Industrial Park
- Develop strategies to enhance area traffic safety
- Provide for adequate and future water capacity (pressure and volume) within the park
- Determine and provide for adequate and future Sewer capacity
- Consider storm-water mitigation requirements for the industrial park area
- Land-use planning consistent with the Dickinson County Economic Development Corporations master plan for development of this area
- Promote the Industrial development of the area adjacent to I-70 in the Industrial Park area
- Clarify jurisdictional confusions and inconsistencies

Next Steps

The following is a list of action items proposed by the County Administrator and City Manager to begin addressing the challenges within the priorities and principles here.

1. Both Governing Bodies formally adopt this memorandum.
2. City/County staff meet and develop a plan for improving this area consistent with this MOU.
3. Project planning is developed with clear and concise goals for the project.
4. Both City and County agree to their roles in this project.
5. Determine projected costs of the development.
6. Identify potential funding sources, i.e. state and federal grants, highway funds, etc.
7. Both City and County agree to commit their share of funding to meet the needs of matching funds for funding sources
8. Both Governing Bodies agree to review this memorandum annually.

This memorandum of understanding shall be in effect upon execution and will continue in effect until such time as either party makes written notification to the other of termination of the agreement.

We the undersigned, as representatives of the respective government entity, have read, agree, and approve this MOU.

Dee Marshall
Mayor
City of Abilene

Date: _____

Lynn Peterson
Chairman
Dickinson County Commission

Date: _____