

CITY OF COTTONWOOD FALLS COUNCIL MINUTES

August 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the City of Cottonwood Falls was called to order at 6:00 pm in the Municipal Meeting Room.

Those present at the meeting were Mayor Buddy Sisson, Council Members Greg Campbell, Chris Carathers, Mike Hastings, Bill Kewley, Ryan Spinden. Utilities Supervisor, Scott Gumfory and Tina Andrews, City Clerk.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Bill Kewley, seconded by Chris Carathers, approved motion.

A motion was made by Bill Kewley, seconded by Greg Campbell to approve of the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

GUESTS: Nyla Gibbons & Denise Ulrich came in to talk about their Halloween event on October 17th & 18th. They informed the council they want to add a hayrack ride. The council just asked them to fill out the Special Request Form, so they can review the route and information before approving. They are also looking for a volunteer to run the event and someone to donate a tractor and trailer for the hayrack ride.

Aaron Dody, Superintendent of Chase County School District, has requested to discharge aerial display with a loud boom during home football games. He has a License/Permit with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. He explained his storage and removal of the fireworks he would be using and informed the Fire Chief Steve Filmore of this request. The council agreed by consensus of this request. The insurance will be provided by the school district under their umbrella was explained by Aaron Dody. The USD office will notify the community on Facebook and in the game programs of the aerial display and noise. Tina will issue a permit as required by Ordinance No. 941.

Chuck Maggard and the council discussed the Symphony of the Flint Hills Auction on September 6, 2025. Chuck is asking to barricade a portion of Pearl Street in front of the courthouse. They will be using the parking stalls for auction items.

The mayor integrated the fact the Symphony of the Flint Hills is now allowed to put gravel on the city sidewalk. The new sidewalk was paid for by a grant and the city wants to keep the sidewalks clear and in good condition. Chuck explained the need for gravel due to the vehicles being stored in the metal building. The Symphony of the Flint Hills is required to remove the gravel after the auction date of September 6, sometime within the next five business days. If the city removes the gravel it will be at a charge.

Mayor and the council reintegrated the zoning of Broadway Street; it is zoned as commercial property. City council requires prior approval of residential living in the downtown buildings. Chuck Maggard of Griffin Real Estate is required to inform the buyers of the zoning ordinance.

Mayors Report:

Commercial and residential zoning on Broadway Street. After much discussion, the city will need to decide whether to approve certain residential zoning in the business district on Broadway. The council wants to have commercial and retail businesses only on Broadway as zoned. A retail or commercial business with a storefront with set business hours is required before any residential living would be considered. Tina will research more information pertaining to zoning and regulations. Tabled until next meeting.

Trash and water rates were reviewed. The City of Emporia trash rates have increased with the landfill. Cottonwood Falls usage was discussed and Scott will do some research on rates and prior year amounts. Scott also talked about how the fuel and maintenance of the dump truck should be included. The council will review the figures at the next meeting.

KDOT Resolution: The Council reviewed the maintenance agreement with the City of Cottonwood Falls. Ryan Spinden motioned to approve the KDOT Resolution Maintenance Agreement, Bill Kewley seconded. Motion approved.

Scott Wiltse presented the Jurisdictional Mitigation Actions plans and changes at the last meeting. Bill Kewley motioned to approve the Mitigation Agreement, seconded by Chris Carathers. Passed unanimously.

Cottonwood Falls Music Festival update. Sheriff Jacob Welsh has contacted Steve Revare on their rates for security. They are unable to provide enough event staff for all the parking areas only for the Disability parking and VIP parking. The smoking section will be outside the barricaded section. ** Approval of permit is on hold.

Special Event Request for the Symphony of the Flint Hills Auction on September 6 was discussed prior. The council agreed by consensus.

Building Permit request from Chase County Recreation to build a new concession stand were discussed. Permit was approved by consensus.

Demolition Permit request from Philip and Stephanie Williams for a garage were discussed. Permit was approved by consensus.

Window film with a graphic image is being researched and an estimate with Kansas Graphics for the window and door entrance for 2201/2 Broadway.

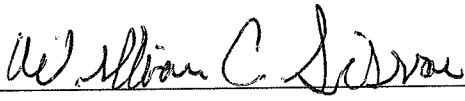
City Clerk Report:

Brenda Wessel is asking for the lift to be repaired by next swimming season. The nursing home is wanting to have some classes at the pool. Ordinance No. 999 has been posted on the city's website. Terri will be posting the ordinance on Facebook. Annual Boyce Baumgardner Disc Golf Tournament added to the city's website. A thank you was published in the newspaper for the donations. Agreement with Wes Cahoone was signed.

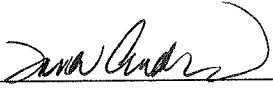
Utilities Supervisor Report: The tunnel was discussed and explained by Scott, he is waiting on the costs of the project. Scott talked about a truck he has been researching. No decision made.

Mike Hastings presented the check numbers and voided checks; he motions to approve checks and voided checks; Chris Carathers seconded it. Motion passed unanimously, Mike presented the payroll, payroll overtime and EFTs for direct deposits and payment of withholding taxes. Mike motions to approve those transactions, seconded by Bill Kewley. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 pm by Mike Hastings, seconded by Bill Kewley. Motion carried.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William C. Sisson", written above a horizontal line.

William C. Sisson, Mayor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tina Andrews", written above a horizontal line.

Tina Andrews, City Clerk