

CITY OF COTTONWOOD FALLS

CITY OF COTTONWOOD FALLS COUNCIL MINUTES December 1, 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, City Attorney, Stuart Symmonds, Utilities Supervisor Scott Gumfory, and Tina Andrews, City Clerk.

Agenda Approval: Mike Hastings motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Bill Kewley, passed unanimously.

Previous Minutes Approval: Bill Kewley motioned to approve prior minutes, seconded by Ryan Spinden, passed unanimously.

Guests:

Pat Larkin, H2O Church, and Bud Burkhardt came in to discuss the progress with the sewer storm tunnel. The council informed him they did not approve the contract with Mayer Specialty Services. Other options were discussed with Pat Larkin, he is asking for repair work for his business basement. Scott was asked to contact a few people and/or businesses to see if they would review the situation .

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City Attorney Report:

Stuart explained the situation with the dogs and the problem with finding a place to have them quarantine. Ordinance 997 was discussed to have either amendments or a revised ordinance prepared. The council asked Tina to do some research into future quarantines and setting up a contract with a veterinary business and/or kennel.

Mayors Report:

Building Permit for Terry Porter was discussed for a new car port, Ryan Spinden motioned to approve the permit, seconded by Chris Carathers, passed unanimously.

Building Permit for Shelby Linsea and Jamie Dekat was discussed for a new greenhouse. Ryan Spinden motioned to approve the permit, seconded by Chris Carathers, passed unanimously.

Ordinance No. 1001 was reviewed pertaining to Municipal Solid Waste Fees and Services. Tina explained the Special Accounts Rates, reviewing the list and the letters that need to be sent out to inform those accounts of the ten percent increase starting January 2026. Mike Hastings motioned to approve Ordinance No. 1001, seconded by Bill Kewley, passed unanimously.

Solid Waste Contract with Strong City was reviewed discussing the updates and changes made by their request. It was motioned by Greg Campbell, seconded by Mike Hastings, passed unanimously.

Strong City letter was reviewed and signed by Mayor Sisson.

Mayor Sisson informed the council that the July 4th fireworks display will need to be held on Friday, July 3rd. Due to the 250th Anniversary the 4th was unavailable.

The council reviewed the Christmas lights invoice received. It was discussed and agreed to pay the invoice.

Mayor Sisson asked Tina to order the new name plates for the newly elected council members.

Old Business:

The maps with the zoning districts were reviewed. It was decided for Tina to write a letter.

Executive Session:

Mike Hastings motioned to go into Executive Session for fifteen minutes at 7:17 pm, Bill Kewley seconded, motion carried. Mike Hastings motioned to end the Executive Session at 7:26 pm, seconded by Bill Kewley, motion carried. At 7:26 pm it was motioned to continue the regular session of the Council meeting by Mike Hastings, Ryan Spinden seconded, motion carried.

Mike Hastings motioned to approve a 3% payrate increase for all full-time employees of the City of Cottonwood Falls, seconded by Bill Kewley, motion carried.

City Clerk:

Tina explained that the direct deposit reversal was approved and funds were received.

Dynamic Discs check was received.

Matt Markley stopped by the city office, he was able to set up the login information for ARCGIS. He could not get the app set up.

Utility Bills have been received in a timely manner so far this month.

Utilities Supervisor:

Scott talked about the damaged benches and Bill Kewley agreed they were in terrible condition and could not be restored. He talked about the sewer drain tunnel and he would check into getting estimates for mortar work and patching.

Mike Hastings presented the bill payment checks, EFT's, QuickBooks payroll figures, and overtime. Federal, Medicare & Social Security, and State Withholdings EFT's. Motion to approve the information presented by Mike Hastings seconded by Chris Carathers. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn given by Mike Hastings at 7:38pm, seconded by Bill Kewley, passed unanimously.