

CITY OF COTTONWOOD FALLS COUNCIL MINUTES

August 4, 2025

The regular meeting of the City of Cottonwood Falls was called to order at 6 pm in the Municipal Meeting Room. Mayor Sisson added an amendment for an Executive Session for fifteen minutes for essential personnel.

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

A motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the Executive Session was made by Mike Hastings, seconded by Chris Carathers, approved motion.

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

GUESTS: Terry Scott explained the situation with his drainage culvert with a new pipe he purchased. He has asked for reimbursement of the materials. Mayor Sisson discussed the invoice with the council members and agreed to pay for the materials the city would have used if they had done the work.

Pat Larkin came by to stop by to talk about the storm drain progress. Scott Gumfory has called a company about a procedure. An engineer has looked at the drain and the report has not been received.

Scott Wiltse explained the condensed version of the updated review of the Mitigation Action Plans. Ranging from purchasing and installing backup generator, protective film and creating buffers for wildfires. New storm sirens have been purchased to replace the current sirens and plan. The new sirens will have a two year warranty. The maintenance plan was mentioned for the new sirens. He has an online seminar on October 12th. He reviewed and explained the mitigation action plan with the council members. More information is available on the website:

<https://www.chasecountyks.com/index.php/.news-notice/kansas-region-local-hazard-mitigation-plan>

Jared Roberts, owner of Jim Bell & Sons, talked about the commercial and retail stores on Broadway. He is asking the Council to review the residential living on Broadway. Keeping the main floor for only retail and commercial, second floor could be used for residential space.

Mike Hastings called for Executive Session at 6:59 for fifteen minutes for non-elected personnel, seconded by Bill Kewley. Executive Session was called to end by Mike Hastings at 7:14 pm, seconded by Greg Campbell. No action taken.

The council discussed that Pat Larkin has asked for a discount on sewage on his water bill that is manages due to malfunction with sprinkler attachment. It was agreed by consensus to give Pat Larkin a credit of \$11.00 on his next bill for the residence.

The trash and water rates will be discussed at the next meeting.

- Side note: Terri confirmed there was a 2% trash increase and 6% water in November 2023.

Ordinance No. 999 was reviewed and discussed for Motor Vehicle Nuisances. Bill Kewley gave the motion to approve of the ordinance and seconded by Ryan Spinden. Motion carried.

Stuart Symmonds will review KDOT Resolution. Information discussed in the resolution will be tabled until next meeting.

Building Permits:

Philip and Stephanie Williams, 415 Plumb Street. Approved through email.

Peggy Zeismer, 508 Maple Street. Discussion on the project to be built by the high school. Motion to approve by Greg Campbell, seconded by Chris Carathers. Motion carried.

Cottonwood Falls Music Festival agreement was reviewed and approved to be sent to Steve Revare.

Mayer Specialty Services – Sanitary Sewer Maintenance agreement was discussed. Mike Hastings motion to approve the renewal agreement with Mayer Specialty Services, seconded by Chris Carathers. Motion passed unanimously.

City Clerk Report:

The Consumer Confidence Reports for Cottonwood Falls & Public Whole WSD 26 2025 for the Calendar Year of 2024 was posted on the cwfs.org website, published on July 28, 2025, in the Council Grove Republican newspaper, and on the July utility bills for reference to obtain information to go to the cwfs.org website. Custodial Agreement with CSB was updated. William Sisson and Mike Hastings were listed on the agreement. Fireworks update & the new council chairs were discussed. Mayor Sisson would like a thank you published in the newspaper for the donations for the fireworks fund. Received an email from Janell Kewley about the crosswalk that is malfunctioning, Scott will investigate the situation.

Utilities Supervisor Report:

Wes Cahoone requested the council to review the bid on installing a fence along the city and his property. The council has agreed to pay half of the installation, construction, and materials of the fence line along the property line of the city and Wes Cahoone property line. Wes Cahoone will be responsible to remove all brush and trees along the property fence line of the city for the installation of the new fence.

Wes Cahoone will maintain the fence after the fence has been installed and constructed. Cottonwood Falls will not maintain the fence. Agreement will be drawn up and signed by Wes Cahoone. Bill Kewley motioned for the above agreement, seconded by Ryan Spinden, motion carried.

- Side note: on August 5th, 2025, Wes Cahoone came in and signed the agreement. The fence will not begin construction until the fall of 2025.

Scott explained the crosswalk issues. Scott requested an iPad for the mapping of the water pipes in case breakage and improvements. Council agreed to his request. He informed the council there have been improvements with the trash pickup and poly carts. A letter may need to be sent for a situation about the trash pick up to remind them of the city's policies.

Parks & Recreation:

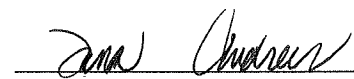
Chris Carathers discussed the dates available for the Annual Boyce Baumgardner Disc Golf Tournament. Date decided will be Sunday, October 19th, 2025.

Mike Hastings presented approval for Payroll Taxes, EFT's and bills. Mike Hastings motioned it to approve the information, Chris Carathers seconded, the motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:56 pm by Mike Hastings, seconded by Bill Kewley. Motion carried.

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

William C. Sisson, Mayor

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

Tina Andrews, City Clerk