

CITY OF COTTONWOOD FALLS COUNCIL MINUTES

July 7, 2025

The regular meeting of the City of Cottonwood Falls was called to order at 6:02 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, Stuart Symmonds, City Attorney. Utilities Supervisor, Scott Gumfory and Tina Andrews, City Clerk.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mike Hastings , seconded by Chris Carathers, motion approved.

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

Mayor Sisson called the Council meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Guests: Barry Worcester and Pat Larkin presented the water damage in the H20 building. They talked about the water drainage channel that is located near their building and the repair work that was needed. Mayor Sisson agreed to have the water drain investigated by engineers to review the situation and what the costs and procedure would be needed to fix the problem on the city side.

Ron Albers and Cindy Kelsheimer informed the council members of their prior meetings. The county has a plan to adopt a resolution for an additional mil levy for the pool replacement project. It will take at least eighteen months before funds are generated for the project. It will provide a county wide tax base. Recreation / Pool Committee was notified by a grant writer, Garrett Nordstrom, that a CDBG grant opportunity is available, the most the grant would be is \$650k, it is based on the size of the community. They will be asking for local donations for the pool project also. They have talked with a lawyer about the recreation to lease the property from the City of Cottonwood Falls for the maximum of ten years for the pool project. They will need an LMI Survey before they apply for the grant. They will need address information from the city for the survey for the grant funding. The costs of the survey would be incurred by the recreation. The Council agreed to share the information for the survey. Agreed by consensus.

Terry Porter came to discuss the Bill North Memorial Park. He reported on the grass situation, which grass is more drought tolerant. He spoke about how he spends the funds he receives on maintaining the park, work that has been done and projects in the planning process.

Mayors Report:

Reported on the summary of the prior meeting on the pool project. As explained by Cindy K. Core & Mann is increasing their rates by 27%. Mayor Sisson asked about Strong City's program they are using; Advantage – Jayhawk is what Terri has found out, he would like more details on their program and costs. Sensus is increasing their rate, which is the meter company that Scott will be using for the readings.

Chase County Mitigation Plan – Review – discuss.

Mike Hastings & William Sisson wrote letters of support for the SS4A for the county.

Susan Hardesty is requesting a Dead End Sign for the entrance of her road towards her property. Agreed by consensus.

Repair or replace roof estimate for 220 Broadway was discussed. Tina will do some research.

Jay Scott invoice was discussed; Scott will call Jay Scott about the bill. * Scott mentioned a blade for \$800. Chase County Sheriff Office report was discussed. Proceed in ordering the replacement of the light pole. The pole replacement, labor and installation will be invoiced once everything is finished. CWF Fall Music Festival – waiting for the applications for alcohol permit to be returned. Tina sent email to Steve Revare about the special event request to draw up a map with the street closing information requests.

City Clerk Report:

Budget information sent to Wright CPA. Cindy Jensen requested information for the audit.

- Call or email Janis to omit pool budget from 2026 budget.

Updated website on July 4th closing date & trash service schedule.

Try to collect an outstanding ticket, no progress.

Terri is posting information on Facebook on July 4th & trash service schedule. It was discussed to have Terri post on FB on the trash requirements of the city trash service.

A request for a mowing order of a lot, the citizen that called informed us of the condition of the lot. Sent letter, July 15th is the date the city can mow it.

Utilities Supervisor:

Scott explained about the battery charger & items needed for the pool lifts. He has priced them on eBay. Meter boxes lids, they need to have an opening on them to work. Pre-cut lids will cost about \$35 each, to save money he was going to price a plasma cutter for the process. It was suggested to call Ron Albers to see if the school can cut them for the city.

Scott has contacted Metro Courier of Wichita to pick up the water sample to be delivered to KDHE in Topeka. Tina called and set up an account for the city as asked by Scott. Scott will be handling the water testing since has received his water certification last month. Playground slide is cracked; Scott has closed off the slide. He will check on the cost of replacement.

Execution Session called to order at 7:33 pm by Mike Hastings, seconded Bill Kewley, motion carried. Mayor Sisson the session would be around 30 minutes. Executive Session ended at 7:45; regular meeting re-opened. Motion to open regular council meeting., seconded, passed.

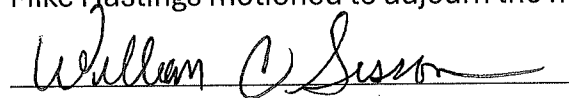
Ryan motioned to give the trash truck personnel who ride on the back of truck \$1.00 per hour raise, when performing those duties; seconded by Bill Kewley. Motion carried.

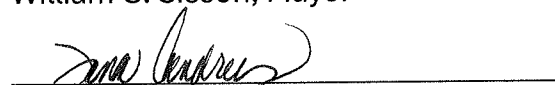
Ryan motioned to give a \$1.50 raise to city personnel, seconded Chris Carathers. Motion carried.

Ryan motioned to give a 5% raise to city personnel, seconded by Bill Kewley. Motion carried.

Mike Hastings presented the check numbers and voided checks; he motioned 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 Hastings motioned to approve those transactions, seconded by Bill Kewley. Motion passed unanimously.

Mike Hastings motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm, seconded by Bill Kewley. Motion carried.


William C. Sisson, Mayor


Tina Andrews, City Clerk