

# CITY OF COTTONWOOD FALLS

## CITY OF COTTONWOOD FALLS COUNCIL MINUTES

March 2, 2026

The regular meeting of the City of Cottonwood Falls was called to order at 6:03 pm in the Municipal Meeting Room.

Those present at the meeting were Mayor Buddy Sisson, Council Members: Mike Hastings, Ryan Spinden, Nick Rogers, and Grant Edwards. City Attorney, Stuart Symmonds, Utilities Supervisor, Scott Gumfory, and Tina Andrews, City Clerk. Greg Campbell was absent.

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

Previous Minutes Approval: Greg Campbell motioned to approve prior minutes, seconded by Mike Hastings, passed unanimously.

No Guests – No Unscheduled Visitors

### City Attorney Report:

The Council members and Stuart Symmonds discussed the storm drainage. The Council and Stuart would like to visit the tunnel soon. Pat Larkin was ill and unable to attend. No action taken.

### Mayors Report:

Cottonwood Falls Housing Authority was discussed as per email from our accountant. It was decided that Tina should do more research on the grant funding and find out if they have their own FEIN or UEI number, and if they are 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Stuart recommends contacting the CWF Housing Authorities and/or ordinances to review.

Ordinance No. 1003 – Uniform Public Offense Code – 41<sup>st</sup> Edition: Mike Hasting motioned to approve Ordinance No. 1003, seconded by Ryan Spinden, motion carried. Tina will notify the Chase County Sheriff Office and the Municipal Court of this ordinance.

EMC Insurance roofing policy was discussed, and the council wanted more information on the notification from them. Tina was asked to contact Kirk Engle and explain the notice.

BCBS Update, Hadley Gillium of Freedom Choice responded about the United Health Care policy he offered. He recommends staying with BCBS due to the deductible & out of pocket from \$1,500 to \$8,500.

Kansas Collateral Pool - HB2152 – Matt Lindamood, Citizens State Bank. Stuart recommends contacting Kansas Bankers Association because the State of Kansas did not notify the city of these changes. Tina will call the KBA for more information.

Special Event Request: Fall Festival – Saturday, September 19, 2026.

Chelsea Harshman is planning the Fall Festival event with food vendors, arts & crafts vendors, boutique vendors, and local entertainment. Main entertainment will be Brick Horse Band from 5-8 or 6-9 pm. Event would start around 9:00 am and continue through the day. She has talked to Jacob Welsh about hiring security and Ryan Spinden about options for entertainment. They will be using the Common Consumption Area between Pearl & Friend Street on Broadway. She is checking in on the cost of porta-potties and is asking if the city council would consider donating the trash dumpsters and/or poly carts for the event. She will be asking for donations but at this time she is paying the costs herself. The city council liked the idea and any event that would benefit and promote the community. Mike Hastings motioned to approve the Special Event Request for the Fall Festival and the City of Cottonwood Falls donating the dumpsters and/or poly carts needed for the festival. (Barricades will be provided by city for the Common Consumption Area ) Nick Rogers seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Advantage Computer Software quote on the Sonic Wall costs explained in email. Tina called several other companies and a company out of Hutchinson will be arriving Tuesday morning to review our set up and equipment needs.

Profit & Loss were reviewed on the utilities. The comparison report was sent as shared link. The P & L discussed and more information about past minutes was requested.

Other Business:

Scott Wiltse, Justin Garr, Tony Hazelton, Williams Sisson met with Katie Sawyer, State Director from Senator Roger Marshall staff about the Cottonwood Falls River dam and the problems they are facing with repair work.

Vehicle Nuisances: A few residents have abandoned vehicles parked in front of their houses and yards. Tina will inform these residents of our Ordinance No. 999 Motor Vehicle Nuisances and to remove these vehicles that are not properly tagged and abandoned. Tina has asked about vehicles that are parked illegally, Sheriff Jacob Welsh will have to be notified and see what can be done. Mayor asked to prepare an amendment for the ATV for the Sheriff Office use.

City Clerk Report:

Tina updated the council on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July / 250<sup>th</sup> America Anniversary: Proposals, Letter, Parade Entry Parade Entry Waiver (Stuart reviewed & will adjust per his recommendations). Funds donated and posted information on cwkfs.org. Madison Davis has offered to have her graphic design class make examples for T-shirts for the event and design something for a city T-shirts and/or sweatshirts. Tina was invited to attend a Chase County Commission meeting on March 16 to explain more about the banner's proposal.

Terri & Tina attended the LEPC meeting at Strong City, see notes on discussions.

Terri has posted the yard sale on Facebook.

Utilities Report:

Scott talked about the original poly carts order, Cascade had personnel problems. He asked if the city wants to still order more, they said yes. Dump truck is being repaired and still in the shop and replacing the floor / bottom. Toni Schneider had banners to be used during the rodeo.

Pool needs scraped, power washed and painted, they are working on the process.

Grant mentioned a yield sign that might need to be replaced.

Scott talked about the crosswalk lights and those who are not obeying the sign telling the traffic to yield & stop and let the pedestrian cross. He has seen where people have been almost hit. A council member explained it is a state highway and people should be careful.

#### Streets & Alley:

Mayor Sisson asked about the slurry being used on the city streets. Scott will check on other options.

#### Parks & Recreation:

Some of the park equipment needs to be cleaned and interaction with community members said they would try to be available. Rubber mulch should be added in certain areas. Scott will check on the costs for some of the updates needed for the park.

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

Motion to adjourn by Mike Hastings & seconded by Nick Rogers @ 8:00 pm.