

City of Cottonwood Falls Council Minutes

May 5, 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 Cathers, Mike Hastings, Bill Kewley, Ryan Spinden. City Attorney, Stuart Symmonds, and Utilities Supervisor, Scott Gumfory.

Approval of previous minutes was motioned, seconded & passed.

Carrie Riggs presented their new program BCBS Pathways Grant, a \$100k grant (\$50k 2025 & \$50k in 2026) that benefits five of the communities' needs: Food Pantry, Health, Multi; Trails Package & Digital Data Dashboard, Community Residence Health/Mental Health. Benefits Chase County residents. This program is new to the community, and she was hired in February. To find out more go to: BCBS website. The C4 Pantry had a good return in the Match Day Fund Drive: received \$38k, using the funds for the Food Pantry and school supplies for all the grade school student needs.

Barbara Green informed the Council members of the condition of the Community building when she rented it in April. After she left the Council talked about the future procedure of checking the condition of the facility before and after each reservation, before their deposit check would be returned.

Scott talked about the Handi-cap sign and where he believed they wanted one posted. Cost and need of one being there by a ramp. Dan Potter was not at the meeting.

City Attorney Report: RHID / tax abatement program, it provides a temporary tax benefit to the developer.

- Side note: Tiffany Harshman reached out to Tina for the Development Agreement from Frontier RHID: County just set up RHID this year, so next year the city will receive a separate tax distribution to pass through Frontier.

Mayors Report:

- Event ordinance, we council should set up an ordinance pertaining to future gatherings and have an Event ordinance established. Discussed issues pertaining to a prior event.
- Bill Wilson, Fair Association, is asking the City to pay for the insurance and wants to reimburse the city for their share of their amount for their new building. Tina will find out how the building is registered, reach out to Tiffany Harshman at the courthouse and the Sheriff has a website they use to locate addresses. Talk to Dawn @ the Chase County Historical Society on this .The Harry Jr & Waneta Pendercraft Fair is located on city owned property; the former T-Building was torn down. Kirk Engle said the city can only insure properties and buildings owned by the city.
- Grass Ordinances need to be discussed & updated. Tina will bring in the prior year(s) ordinances, at the next meeting.
- Swope Park: upgrading playground equipment, pool improvements and developing shade areas for events. CDBG has checked out the pool and will be reporting back.

- Jones Trust, based out of Emporia, is an organization that might be able to help fund the playground equipment. City Clerk office will do some research.

City Clerk Report:

Informed the Council about items listed on the agenda on May 5.

Utilities Supervisor: Scott Gumfory talked about the Dump Day event on April 26.

An offer was made for the grader, from Jay Scott Construction. The Council approved the sale of the grader. Scott talked about some limestone left over by the sidewalk; the Council said they could have it free of charge. South Central Paving & Asphalt will start work next week.

Mike Hastings presented the check payment information, check voids, EFT's & Direct Deposits for Council members' approval. It was motioned to approve all that was proposed, seconded & passed.

Meeting Adjourned: 7: 35 pm

William C. Sisson

William C. Sisson, Mayor

Tina Andrews

Tina Andrews, City Clerk