

CITY OF COTTONWOOD FALLS COUNCIL MINUTES

November 17, 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, Scott Gumfory, Utility Supervisor, Terri Davis, Utility Clerk and Tina Andrews, City Clerk.

Agenda Approval: Bill Kewley motioned, Chris Carathers seconded, passed unanimously.

Previous Minutes Approval: Bill Kewley motioned, Greg Campbell seconded, passed unanimously.

Guests:

Lisa Vega presented the ad information for the Country Christmas for 96.1 BOB-FM & 99.50 Thunder Country. It was discussed and the council approved the advertisement package.

Cindy Kelsheimer and Felicia Sidler from the Chase County Recreation explained to the Council that Brenda Wessell will be retiring from the school district. Because of this she was told there would be a KPERS conflict with the City of Cottonwood Falls. The city would not be able to employ her, and she would need to be paid by the Recreation for her summer job as pool manager at the city pool. The council did not see any problem with this and agreed to their request.

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City Attorney Report: No report.

Mayors Report:

The 2026 Trash Rates were reviewed and discussed. Terri Davis explained the reason for some changes and the council agreed to her request on the Type B Service. She also talked about the utility bills arriving late due to the postal service. The Council discussed the situation and agreed to change the due date to the 15th instead of the 11th. After the 15th there will be late charges applied to their account. Request on pausing the water & trash service was made by a customer. After a discussion, the customer would need to call the city office and talk to the utility clerk. The city would turn off their meter and pause the trash service. It would be the customers responsible for caring for their own plumbing issues if there were broken pipes due to drop in the weather temperatures which might freeze the pipes, and the city would not be liable for any damages.

The Council reviewed the figures for the 2026 Trash Rates figures for additional pick-ups and dumpster rates, and no changes were made.

City Ordinance No. 1001 was reviewed, the council made some updates and changes would be made and be presented at the next meeting. The contract was reviewed, and updates and changes were to be made. Modify the letter.

Old Business:

Storm Sewer Tunnel Rehabilitation was discussed. Ryan Spinden motioned not to get the storm tunnel epoxied or rehabilitated. Bill Kewley seconded, motioned carried.

Zoning Districts map was reviewed. The council reviewed the map and tabled the discussion until the next meeting.

City Clerk Report:

Tina reported on the QB payroll and direct deposit. A new procedure for having direct deposits information was discussed and a form will be prepared.

Sue Alexander Old School Christmas Silent Auction- asking for a pool pass and rental for a community building.

Terri Davis sent a letter about the portable potty removal of the structure and their past due bill.

Road & Maintenance Agreement delivered to office and filed.

Murphy Agri has returned their building permit and paid the fee.

Letter to PPT about the signage, and with help from Linda Starkey we removed the Velcro strips off the graphic design.

Fine received from the district clerk's office.

Utilities Supervisor:

Scott discussed the benches that are deteriorating due to water damage were removed at the park and the river bridge. Scott does not believe they could be repaired; Bill Kewley and others will visit the shop to see if anything could be salvaged.

Scott reported on the poly carts prices and hot stamping the city information. The council approved his requests.

Veteran's banners have been removed. They will be working on the Christmas wreaths this week.

Street sweeper is running, and he is working on a tire repair.

Pool canopy has some repairs with wood. Replacement cover for the pool was discussed.

Scott will check on prices.

Trash will be picked up on Wednesday, due to Thanksgiving holiday. City office will be closed on Thursday & Friday.

Other Business:

The Cereal Malt Beverages dealer retail licensing was discussed for both Casey's Retail Store #1410 and Dollar General Retail Store. Ryan Spinden motioned to approve both requests for the cereal malt beverages dealer's retail licensing was given, seconded by Bill Kewley, motion carried.

It was discussed to approve the \$100 bonus for the Thanksgiving holiday and \$300 Christmas bonus. It was approved by consensus.

Parks & Recreation:

Chris Carathers discussed the Baumgardner Disc Golf tournament. It was decided to have Connie set the date in the future due to changes to their family scheduling. She will need to contact Dynamic Discs on this matter. No check received yet from Dynamic Discs.

A discussion about the cats in the city limits. If cats are not registered with the city, they are not considered pets. The smell of cat urine and feces around the post office and city building was reported by a citizen.

Other Business:

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 7:52 pm, seconded by Bill Kewley, passed unanimously.