

# City Council Minutes

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

## Call to Order

Mayor Akers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., City Clerk Taryn Wigley called the roll.

## Attendees

Council Members Clarissa Pace, Cedric Leonard, Michael James, Al Peer, Mark Tiner, Craig McRae, Mike Wigley, and Claudia Hartness were present.

## Minutes

Craig McRae moved to accept both regular and emergency meeting minutes, Clarissa Pace seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the May minutes passed.

## New Business

### a. Special Presentation

Mayor Akers presented Ted Williams Jr. with a wonderfully written speech and a plaque for his retirement after 29 years of law enforcement.

### b. Resolution Authorizing Overlay & Striping of City Streets & Amending 1998 One Cent Sales Tax

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mark Tiner moved to accept the resolution, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

### c. Resolution Amending 1998 One Cent Sales Tax Budget for 2025

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Clarissa Pace moved to accept the resolution, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

### d. Resolution Authorizing Replacement of City Water Lines & Amending City Water Fund Budget for 2025

Mark Tiner introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Michael

*[Handwritten signatures and date]*  
7/21/2025

James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

**e. Ordinance Updating City of Monticello Water Meter Deposit Fees - 1st Reading**

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mayor Akers explained that the rates have been updated, and the City has over \$300,000.00 of water deposits sitting in an account that they aren't able to do anything with. He stated that starting in 2026, if you make your water payment on time, with no "shut off" notices for 12 months, the next year, the citizen will receive that deposit back in the form of credit towards their water bill. Mike Wigley asked if this would only be for residential. Mayor Akers answered that this would only be for residential. Water Office Manager Jayna Endsley added that only the property owners would get the credit, not tenants, even if the water bill is in the tenants name. Cedric Leonard asked if the rates were different. Ashley Rodermund answered that the rental deposit and the commercial deposits were increased. Rental was raised from \$100 to \$150. Cedric Leonard asked why the rental rate costs more. Jayna Endsley answered that the customers that rent homes are less likely to pay their bill. Mayor Akers recommended that the council tabled the discussion to allow time for any other questions that may come from the ordinance. Michael James moved to table the discussion until next month, Cedric Leonard seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the ordinance was tabled to next month.

**f. Resolution Amending 1998 One Cent Sales Tax 2025 Senior Citizens Center Fund Allocation**

Michael James introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mark Tiner moved to accept the resolution, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

**g. Resolution Authorizing Contract with Area Agency on Aging of Southeast Arkansas**

Michael James introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Clarissa Pace moved to accept the resolution, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

**h. Resolution Accepting Arkansas Community Assistance Grant Program**

Al Peer introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mayor Akers explained to the council that this is the same resolution as last month, but fencing has been added to the scope of the work. Clarissa Pace

moved to accept the resolution, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

**i. Resolution Declaring 309 E Shelton a Nuisance**

Mark Tiner introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. City Inspector Brian Rodgers told the council that the property owner is asking for 30 days to demolish the property. Michael James moved to table the resolution for 30 days, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution was tabled.

**j. Resolution Declaring 300 N Main a Nuisance**

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Mike Wigley seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Brian Rodgers informed the council that he has not had any contact with the owner. Mark Tiner stated that he has been in contact with the property owner and she intends to do whatever is needed to fix the property. Mr. Rodgers stated that the main problem is the brick and two sides of the property. Clarissa Pace, who has rented the property in the past, stated that there is mold on the walls, the roof is in bad shape, and the wood floors in some areas also need repairs. Mark Tiner moved to table the resolution for 30 days, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution was tabled with Clarissa Pace in opposition.

**Mayor Comment Section**

Mayor Akers updated the council on ongoing projects and projects that will be starting soon. He is looking to replace the floors in the council chambers, Aristotle paid their entire outstanding balance of \$23,400.00, and the headworks project is nearing completion. He also informed the council that there will be a dedication ceremony for the racial reconciliation bench in front of City Hall and all are invited to attend.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Clarissa Pace moved to adjourn the meeting, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the meeting was adjourned.

