

City Council Minutes

Tuesday, May 27, 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, Al Peer, Craig McRae, Mike Wigley, and Claudia Hartness were present. Michael James and Mark Tiner were absent.

Minutes

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

New Business

a. Special Presentation

Mayor Akers presented Larry Smith Jr. with a wonderfully written speech and a plaque for his retirement after 30 years of law enforcement.

b. Resolution Approving Final Payment to McClelland Consulting Engineers for West Plant Headworks & Pump Improvements

Finance Director Vickie Norris informed the council that there is not a resolution, and that this would need approval via voice vote. Cedric Leonard moved to accept the expenditure, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the motion passed unanimously.

c. Resolution Approving Change Orders for Sports Complex

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. 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 Amending Advertising & Promotion Commission Fund Budget for Salary Changes

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

*Signed at the order
of Mrs. Taryn Wigley*

e. Resolution Approving Grant Application for City Hall and Fire Dept. Buildings

Clarissa Pace 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. 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.

f. Resolution Authorizing Arkansas State Police Full Step Grant

Al Peer introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Clarissa Pace 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, Cedric Leonard seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

g. Ordinance to Set Fees to Connect to City of Monticello Water Distribution System

Mayor Akers informed the council that the city currently has the contents of the ordinance in a resolution, but it legally needs to be in an ordinance. He asked the council to suspend the 3 readings and enact the emergency clause. Mike Wigley introduced the ordinance 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. Clarissa Pace moved to waive the 3 readings, Cedric Leonard seconded. Cedric Leonard moved to enact the emergency clause and accept the ordinance.

h. Discussion Regarding Ideal Pump & Service LLC for Well #3 Repairs

Mayor Akers informed the council they went over budget around \$8,000.00 due to a pump part having to be custom made and a few unexpected repairs that were also needed. The total cost of the project came in at \$78,000.00. Mayor Akers is asking for a voice vote to approve the \$8,000.00 budget overage. Clarissa Pace moved to accept the budget change, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the budget was approved.

Public Comment Section

Clarissa Pace informed everyone that Drew County NAACP will have a Juneteenth celebration on June 15th from 2-4pm on the town square, and everyone is invited to attend.

Mayor Comment Section

Mayor Akers listed off several project updates that the city is currently working on. He met with Burton Pools & Spa to discuss possibly enlarging the pool. The Lemmons Engineering bid opening was unsuccessful with zero bids, they are looking into sidewalks at Jordan Park easements. City street paving is making progress. Many streets have been completed ahead of schedule, including Beverly St., Kays Ln., Slemmons St., and Allen Dr. Glenwood and Barkada will be repaired in the next month. He ended the updates with reminding the public

that the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Campaign and the City join forces to do a City Wide clean up. The clean up will take place on May 30th and 31st. He encouraged everyone to come out and show effort for your city. He also informed the council that the Aristotle check was received in full.

Meeting Adjourned

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