

City Council Minutes

Tuesday, November 25, 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

Clarissa Pace moved to accept the minutes for the October meeting, Mike Wigley seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the October minutes passed.

Old Business

New Business

a. Discussion Regarding Water Leak

Mayor Akers informed the council that city resident Allen Nichols owns a property that is primarily used for storage, but has been vandalised. Mr. Nichols installed cameras on the property and was able to figure out who the vandals were, but not before a water line was damaged. Mr. Nichols received a water bill of close to \$8,000.00. Mayor Akers asked the council's permission to dismiss this water bill. Council agreed to waive the water bill.

b. Resolution Adopting Solid Waste Policy

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 current ordinance is from the 1970's, and requires your home and your business to have separate bills for your trash/water bill. This policy will not require that rule since there are many businesses that are run from a residential house(work from home). Mayor Akers added that it is a goal of his to update several resolutions and ordinances pertaining to this subject. Mike Wigley moved to accept the resolution, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

c. Resolution Declaring 703 E Jackson a Nuisance

Craig McRae 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. The resident of the property was present, and stated that

the property belongs to her grandmother. She claims that the house was in bad shape when they moved in, but is trying to renovate that house as they have the funds. Her goal is to have the house in working order by Christmas. City Inspector Brian Rodgers told the council that the house was infested with roaches and was told by DHS that the house was unlivable. Mayor Akers added that he saw the house first hand, it was filled with roaches, the renovations being done to the house was nowhere near finished and the children were filthy. He asked the resident if the baptist home offered her a place to go with her children. The resident refused the help because she did not want to separate the children from their father, and that she is living with relatives until the house is finished. She also said that she is currently working to pay for the renovations while her partner is staying home to work on the house. Cedric Leonard moved to table the resolution for 60 days, Mike Wigley seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. They aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

d. Resolution Declaring 687 S Maple a Nuisance

Craig McRae 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. The owner of the property, Tommy Thornhill, was present and immediately asked for 60 days to clean up the property. He intends to rent the property out. City Inspector Brian Rodgers informed the council that this property does not have utilities on, there are feces on the ground, and is a known squatter house. Police Chief Carlos Garcia added that there have been several reports filed on the property relating to drugs. Mayor Akers has previous interactions with Mr. Thornhill and his rental business. He asked Mr. Thornhill if he has cleaned up the tires and appliances that he illegally dumped in a ditch. Mr. Thornhill answered that he has not, but was going to hire a few people to help him clean it. He also added that he will be doing most of the work on the house himself. Mark Tiner moved to accept the resolution, Clarissa Pace seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. They ayes had it, with two in opposition, and the resolution passed by majority.

Mayor Comment Section

Mayor Akers informed the council of several ongoing projects and new projects. He applauded the Praise in the Park event for a great turnout and great music, confirmed that all red lights in town now have battery backups, and reminded the council that the lighting of the square will be on November 30th. ArDOT is working on repainting and repairing street signs, and they are working on a plan to make the McCloy/Hyatt intersection safer.

Meeting Adjourned

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

