

City Council Minutes

Tuesday, May 26, 2026

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, Craig McRae, Mike Wigley, and Claudia Hartness were present. Allan Nichols was absent.

Minutes

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

Old Business

a. Update on 600 N Main St.

City Inspector Brian Rodgers came to the council with an update on 600 N Main. The property owner, Michael Urcino, was present and wanted to address the council. Mr. Urcino claimed that he never received any of the certified letters that were sent, except for the resolution that condemned his property. He asked the council for a 90 day extension on the house. He claimed to have the means to repair the property, he has a contract with a lawn service, the roof is repaired, and he is in the process of getting permits. Michael Wigley moved to allow him a 30 day extension, and as long as written plans and costs are given to the council, more time can be given, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called, Clarissa Pace abstained from the vote. The motion passed.

New Business

a. Discussion Regarding Historic Post Office Leak and Flooring

Mayor Akers explained to the council that while the roof of the historic post office was fixed, the damage that was caused was not. Now the damage is threatening the integrity of the wall and is needing to be repaired. One company has quoted \$15,210.00, and City Hall is waiting on 2 more quotes. The repairs would be paid for out of One Cent Sales Tax. Claudia Hartness moved to go forward with the repairs, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the motion passed.



b. Discussion Regarding Water Meters

Mayor Akers explained to the council that since 2023, there has been significant water loss due to water leaks, bad lines, and bad meters. The City currently has 871 meters that are not working. Last year, council members allocated \$150,000.00 for water meter maintenance, \$90,000.00 is left of that. The City water operator would like to spend the rest of the money on purchasing water meters and paying a contractor to install them. The contractor would be able to install the meters cheaper than what the City would be able to, and they would also do it faster. Mayor Akers is asking for \$250,000.00 out of the water/sewer fund to finish purchasing water meters and contract the water meter company for installation. Michael James moved to allocate money for repairs, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the motion passed.

Public Comment Section

John Washington, a Monticello Citizen, asked Mayor Akers and the Councilmen if certain houses on E McCloy would be rehabbed. Mayor Akers took the opportunity to talk about code enforcement procedures, and how you can now file a complaint with the City of Monticello app.

Jason White addressed the council, and claimed that his rights had been violated by the Monticello Police Department. He claimed that a complaint form was refused several times and preached integrity to the council.

Mayor Comment Section

Mayor Akers informed the council that Spring on the Square and the first annual fishing tournament was a success and thanked everyone who was involved. Firework and Food Truck Fest will be on July 3rd at the sports complex. Clarissa Pace informed the council that there will be 2 Juneteenth celebrations in Monticello. One will be June 14th from 2-5 and a service will be held June 19th at 12pm. Both events will be held on the square.

Meeting Adjourned

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

