

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI
TUESDAY – JUNE 23, 2026 – 5:30 P.M.
CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM**

Mayor Pitts Lesesne called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Joyce Hartzell, Russell Crocker, Ray Mortimeyer, Louis Raineri, Jeremy Rosemann and Jeff Bouse. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Rosemann, to approve the agenda. Vote: All ayes.

Hiring of K9 Officer position discussion/approval: Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to hire Ben Weber for \$52,000. Crocker stated that he had concern with paying \$52,000 as it sets a precedent that they can't afford and would have no problem with the starting pay of \$46,000. Crocker stated that it is unfair to pay more as starting pay and not raising other employees and feels negotiating pay will cause issues. Raineri asked if the city had lateral pay policy with time and service. Mayor Lesesne stated that promotion are based on steps if an existing employee. Bouse stated that Weber brought eight years experience of a Cuba cop, is ready to work and is K9 certified. Bouse stated that he spoke with other cops and there were no issues with the requested pay. Hartzell asked if a cop had been hired before with more pay for experience and it was replied yes. Mortimeyer asked how many officers actually worked the streets and PC Shelton discussed the positions and days worked. PC Shelton stated that he doesn't normally recommend a higher starting pay but he did check and there will be no charge for the training facility. Crocker asked how old the K9 is, Pc Shelton replied two years. Mortimeyer asked what the K9 actually did and PC Shelton stated that it is a single purpose animal that sniffs narcotics. Mayor Lesesne asked about a payback on the K9 grant and Basham stated that there was no fall back and nothing had to be paid back and the animal could be retired at anytime. Hartzell asked if it was a benefit to have the K9 and PC Shelton feels it is a benefit and stated that the Missouri State Highway Patrol also utilized the K9. **Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Crocker-yes, Mortimeyer-no, Raineri-no, Rosemann-no, Bouse-yes.** Mayor Lesesne asked Basham if the city could afford the extra \$6000, Baham replied no. **Tie-breaker Mayor Lesesne – no. Motion did not pass.**

Mayor Lesesne stated that he will not set a precedent and the city can't afford the higher starting pay.

Hiring of Animal Control Officer discussion/approval: It was recommended to hire Timothy Isom for the position and the starting day would be June 30, 2026. The ACO position is part time and pays \$15/hour. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Crocker, to approve the hiring of Timothy Isom as part time Animal Control Officer. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Rosemann-yes, Raineri-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Crocker-yes, Hartzell-yes.**

****Bouse left the meeting.**

Mayor Lesesne stated that they are still looking for someone to fill the K9 position and could be discussed at the next meeting.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Mortimeyer, to adjourn. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lainie Garbo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Lainie Garbo
City Clerk**