

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI
TUESDAY – JULY 1, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.
CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM**

Mayor Kevin Copling called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Joyce Hartzell, Pitts Lesesne, Ray Mortimeyer, Tony Hutson, Harold Halbert. Aldermen absent: Jeff Bouse. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton. City Attorney present: Carolyn Buschjost.

Motion by Hutson, seconded by Halbert, to approve the agenda. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.

Citizens participation: None

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the regular meeting minutes from June 17, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.

Motion by Lesesne, seconded by Halbert, to approve the special meeting minutes from June 24, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.

Motion by Hutson, seconded by Mortimeyer, to pay the bills as presented. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.

Electric department – transformer bid: Andy Simpson, electric supervisor, stated that Mid-MO Truss is expanding and requested a bigger transformer so bids were presented for a 750 KVA transformer.

Sunbelt Solomon \$21,500.00

DSI \$38,100.00

Midwest Electric Transformer \$41,935.00

Motion by Hutson, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the bid from Sunbelt Solomon for \$21,500.00.

Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.

Simpson stated that there was a residence on Fleenor that their fence had to be removed for trimming and they don't want the fence back, but would like plants purchased of equal value instead. Buschjost stated it would have to be on the next agenda.

Crawford County Museum signs: Mortimeyer stated that he had asked for approval to purchase four signs to promote the museum and tourism as visitors spend money in Cuba. Each sign measures three foot by four foot and cost \$80/sign. Dan Eidson, park and recreation committee, stated that the park tax fund had been approached for funding and was ok with it, but asked about the tourism tax fund. Garbo stated that per Jennifer Basham, accounting, that either fund could be used but it would drain the supply fund in tourism and would recommend the park tax fund. Cyndi Mercer, park and recreation committee, would like it to be discussed by the park and recreation committee. Mortimeyer stated that the parks benefit from the museum advertising also as people coming through town bring more

business and visit park and recreation locations. Mercer stated that money here and there from their park and recreation budget starts to add up and would like to discuss items for approval moving forward. The council agreed that the park and recreation committee should discuss first and the discussion was tabled.

Eidson stated that he felt there could be a safety issue at the pool with a spot on pool floor being rough causing abrasions on feet and located the spot that feels like horrible sandpaper. It is recommended for those attending the pool to wear water shoes and some have been donated also to protect feet. Mercer stated that there was the same situation last year. Eidson spoke with Glen Shockley regarding the issue. Eidson would like the council to commit to draining the shallow end of the pool to do a comprehensive investigation of the pool floor to see if anything can be done. Shockley had mentioned to Eidson they could reach out to the company that did the work and see if there is any warranty first and work from there. Mercer and Hutson agreed that this is not a new issue. Hutson thanked Eidson for investigating the problem and hopefully something can be done. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Mortimeyer, to have Glen Shockley check the warranty with Vaughan Pools, then check into a calk to fix and smooth the trouble area. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.**

Eidson asked if the new fiscal year is in effect, yes it is, as they would like to start looking into umbrellas for shade at the pool and Mercer would like to start looking into the pickleball court.

Eidson asked about signs for Tangle Creek Park and playground equipment with rules and park hours and asked the council if they were handling or if the park and recreation committee was. Park and recreation will have a recommendation for the next council meeting.

Mercer stated that when the new park equipment is ready they will have a grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony. Mayor Copling stated that there are a few things to finish before opening.

Police Chief report:

Nuisance report: PC Shelton stated that the officers are still working on them.

Retirement/resignation – Betty Post: PC Shelton stated that he received the retirement letter from Betty Post and her last day working will be July 11, 2025. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Hartzell, to accept the retirement/resignation of Betty Post. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.** The council thanked Post for her time and wished her will with retirement.

PC Shelton asked to advertise for an officer to fill the vacancy. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Lesesne, to approve advertising for a police officer. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.**

Hutson thanked all the dedicated employees as each one of them serve our community every day whether it's working in the street or utility departments, the fabulous animal shelter, and gave a special thanks to the police officers for keeping the community safe. Public service is never an easy job, but wanted to recognize each and everyone's dedication. Hutson also thanked the 110 citizens from Ward 2

for their votes back in April 2024. Unfortunately, due to personal reasons, he will not be able to serve out the remainder of his term and resigned from City of Cuba Alderman effective immediately. Hutson wished the community, city employees, and the board of alderman the very best.

Mayor Copling thanked him for serving the community and hates to see him resign as he did a great job.

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to accept the resignation of Tony Hutson effective immediately. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.

Garbo stated that the pool employees would like to put a float in the county parade and \$200 was approved the prior year and is being requested again this year. It was discussed that the items purchased have to be retained by the pool. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Halbert, to approve up to \$200 for parade float items. Vote: All ayes. Bouse absent.**

Mayor Copling stated that the next council meeting falls on the county parade and moved it to Monday; July 14, 2025.

Mayor Copling wished all a happy 4th of July.

Motion by Halbert, seconded by Lesesne, to enter into executive session – closed to the public pursuant RSMo 610.021 – Section 1) litigation; Section 2) real estate. Roll call vote: Halbert-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes. Bouse absent.

Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hartzell, to go back into regular open session. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Halbert-yes. Bouse absent.

The Board of Aldermen met in closed executive session to discuss litigation and real estate and there were no final actions taken.

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

Lainie Garbo, City Clerk