

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI**  
**TUESDAY – JUNE 3, 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, and Jeff Bouse. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton. City Attorney present: Emily Guffey.

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to move agenda item #6-Animal Control Manager contract bid to item #3. Vote: All ayes.**

**Motion by Halbert, seconded by Bouse, to approve the agenda with amendment. Vote: All ayes.**

Bouse stated that at the last meeting, there was controversy over the contract for employment of an Animal Control Manager and the wording of supervising of employees within the bid. Bouse stated that he called MOPERM and was told that a contractor can't supervise employees and Lance Thurman had stated in the past that can't be done. Bouse stated that on the last meeting agenda there was a line item of possibly giving employees a bigger raise and because that was approved, then will now make more money. Bouse stated that the attorney advised to accept or reject the contract bid and he rejected because of the working in the contract.

**Animal Control Manager contract bid: One bid was received for Animal Control Manager.**

Missy Mullally \$2577.84/month \$30,934.12/year

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the Animal Control Manager bid from Missy Mullally for \$2577.84/month, \$30,934.12/year. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes.**

Mayor Copling thanked all in the audience for attending.

Hutson thanked Mullally for her work, a great establishment, and thanked the community for their support.

Mortimeyer stated that Mullally's job was never in doubt, just a screw up on their part for her pay.

**Citizens participation: None**

**Motion by Bouse, second by Halbert, to approve the regular meeting minutes from May 20, 2025. Vote: All ayes.**

**Motion by Halbert, seconded by Mortimeyer, to pay the bills as presented. Vote: All ayes.** Some on the council would like to have a committee meeting to go over the bills to discuss what they are as there isn't enough description.

**Airport Manager contract bid:** One bid was received for the Airport Manager.  
Robert Travis Pritchett \$2175.00/month

**Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the Airport Manager bid from Robert Travis Pritchett for \$2175.00/month. Vote: All ayes.**

**Airport committee recommendations/update:** Mortimeyer stated that he had a walk through of the airport with the manager and reported that all the hangars are rented and the grants are moving along. Mortimeyer stated that for a better efficient billing of the hangars, Pritchett could assist as he is in contact with them and could help collect or possibly bill by 6 months or a year. Pritchett and Garbo will work together for a solution. Mortimeyer also stated that he would like to look into the fuel purchasing. Currently, the city buys from a supplier in Springfield and the purchases go directly to them and then they send a check with the fees taken out. Mortimeyer would like to cut out the middle man and look at having the money go directly to the city instead and adding a credit card machine at the airport. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to allow the hangar billing and the fuel pumping system changes to be looked into. Vote: All ayes.**

**Electric Department – transformer bid:** Andy Simpson, electric supervisor, stated that the bid he presented that the last meeting was cancelled as the transformer was not big enough, so it had to be rebid with the correct size. Three phase pad mount 225 KVA is needed.

Sunbelt Solomon	\$13,095
DSI	\$14,780
Midwest El Transformer	\$16,430

**Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the bid from Sunbelt Solomon for \$13,095. Vote: All ayes.**

Lesesne asked Simpson what they do with a transformer when it goes bad. Simpson stated that it can be sent off to be fixed for another use or they will recycle it for a credit. Lesesne stated that there is a company in California that will buy transformers no matter the shape they are in. Simpson stated that they aren't big enough to sell transformers and normally recycle them with Solomon for a credit toward another purchase.

**Grounds Department – pay from general fund verses park tax fund:** Mayor Copling would like to see the grounds department paid from the general fund instead of from the park tax fund as the grounds department has to be paid with or without the park tax. Basham does not recommend this as the general fund is already over and pulling from the other funds. Basham stated that she spoke with the auditor and if the employees are working in the other funds such as parks, then the tax can reimburse for the work being done and the budgeting has to be done off today's work not the futures. Basham asked why the parks tax can't pay their part to keep the parks maintenance done. Mayor Copling stated

that the employees are full time and the tax is part time and how are they going to be paid of the park tax fails. Basham stated if the park tax fails, then will address it then along with other things like how to afford the parks. Hutson stated that if the park tax fails, there will be some tough decisions to make as to how to afford a lot of things. Mayor Copling stated that every time a raise is given, then more comes from the park tax and the fund is sinking. Mayor Copling stated that he doesn't want the transportation tax to fund any salaries either. Hutson stated that now isn't the time to discuss but the council should trust Basham's decision and they should utilize the park tax to pay some for the grounds department and may have to revisit and then adjust accordingly. Hutson stated that using the park tax for grounds department salary is already in today's budget and can't talk about taking it out and has talked to Basham many times and understands the need for it and that the grounds department maintain the grounds and the town gets that benefit. Bouse stated that they could look at the FY 2027 budget and see where things are at then. Mayor Copling tabled the discussion.

**City Hall – city website:** Bouse stated that a new city website was looked into last year. Bouse stated that a new website is needed that is user friendly and the current one is outdated and the staff currently doesn't have full access making it difficult to use. Bouse stated that a new website is budgeted. Jessica Baker stated that the old website will merge with the new one. City websites were researched and a bid was received from Revize for a total of \$9400.00. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve and move forward with the bid from Revize for \$9400.00. Vote: All ayes.**

**Condemnations:** Mayor Copling listed the addresses being requested to begin the process of condemnation.

302 W. Washington, 506 Park Ave, 306 Bazil St, and 1005 E. Washington

**Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Halbert, to approve beginning the process for condemnation of the listed addresses.** There was discussion that some had already begun. **\*\*motions rescinded.**

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Lesesne, to approve beginning the process for condemnation of 506 Park Ave and 306 Bazil St. Vote: All ayes.**

Mayor Copling tabled 1005 E. Washington and 302 W Washington.

**Park and recreation recommendations:** Hutson stated they had a park and rec meeting on May 27, 2025 with some recommendations to present.

Hutson stated that another demolition derby event is being planned and asked the council to reserve Hood Park on October 4 and October 5 for the event. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to approve reserving Hood Park on October 4 and October 5 for a demolition derby. Vote: All ayes.**

Hutson stated that Chris Spurgeon with the MMRA youth rodeo would like to reserve Hood Park on October 17 and October 18 to put on a youth rodeo. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to approve reserving Hood Park on October 17 and October 18 for a youth rodeo. Vote: All ayes.**

Hutson stated that the new playground equipment is being installed in Tangle Creek Park and the ball backstops are still up and recommended to have them removed and stored to figure where to reuse them. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to approve removing the ball backstops and storing them for reuse. Vote: All ayes.**

Hutson stated that the pool would benefit from a credit card system for payment. Hutson is aware it is a process to add a merchant but would like permission to change the merchant agreement for credit cards at the pool. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to move forward with a credit card system at the pool. Vote: All ayes.**

**EOC committee recommendation/update:** Hutson stated that an EOC committee is scheduled to discuss the position and the sirens. Garbo gave an update on the sirens that Greg Hubbell and the police department have worked with the siren technicians and hopefully solved the issues. The monthly siren test worked.

**Surplus bid – 2011 Dodge Charger:** One bid was received for the 2011 Dodge Charger.

Ronne & Patrice Pyatt                      \$2500.00

The bid did not meet the reserve price and was not accepted.

Mortimeyer recommended to give the Nissan truck currently being used for the treatment plant to the natural gas department and give the 2011 Dodge Charger to the treatment plant. There was discussion of a truck for the natural gas department being cut from the budget, purchasing a different truck bed and if the truck would be what the natural gas department needed. Lesesne stated that they can try to see if this will work. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Bouse, to trade the Nissan truck to the natural gas department and the 2011 Dodge Charger to the treatment plant. Vote: All ayes.**

**Police Chief report:** PC Shelton stated their department is working on nuisance complaints, doing their best and asked if there was any discussion on a nuisance officer yet but none at this time. Hutson asked how living in a RV is handled. PC Shelton stated that it is not allowed.

PC Shelton stated that usually every year there is a kids camp, but due to the budget they are creating their own camp with different activities at different locations in Cuba and asked the council for permission to use the Cuba Pool on August 4 and August 5 from 12:00 to 3:00 and close the public.

**Motion by Halbert, seconded by Bouse, to approve the use of the Cuba Pool on August 4 and August 5 from 12:00 to 3:00 closed to the public. Vote: All ayes.**

Lesesne asked PC Shelton if anything was resolved with the person living at the Visitor Center commuter parking lot. There was discussion of MODOT or the city owning the lot and who was responsible for the property. It was stated that city employees do not want to maintain the property due to the waste in the area. PC Shelton and Captain Scharfenberg will address the situation.

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2175 by caption only.**

**Vote: All ayes.** Guffey read Bill No. 2175 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into an agreement with Charter Internet Services for internet services with the city at City Hall and the Airport. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2175. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes.** **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2175. Vote: All ayes.** Guffey read Bill No. 2175 a second time. **Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2175. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes.** Bill No. 2175 was declared Special Ordinance 935 on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2025.

**Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2176 by caption only.**

**Vote: All ayes.** Guffey read Bill No. 2176 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into a supplemental agreement with Hanson Professional Services Inc. for additional aviation project consultant services for construction of a new hangar. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2176. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes.** **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Bouse, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2176. Vote: All ayes.** Guffey read a second time. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2176. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes.** Bill No. 2176 was declared Special Ordinance No. 936 on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2025.

**Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Bouse, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2177 by caption only.**

**Vote: All ayes.** Guffey read Bill No. 2177 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into an agreement with Hanson Professional Services Incorporated for the construction of a new hangar. **Motion by Halbert, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2177. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes.** **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2177. Vote: All ayes.** Guffey read Bill No. 2177 a second time. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2177. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes.** Bill No. 2177 was declared Special Ordinance No. 937 on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2025.

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2178 by caption only.**

**Vote: All ayes.** Guffey read Bill No. 2178 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to award the bid for construction of a new water main and execute any and all documents necessary to enter into an agreement with Don Maggi, Inc for construction of a new water main. **Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2178. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes.** **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2178. Vote: All ayes.** Guffey read Bill No. 2178 a second time. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Bouse, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2178. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Hutson-yes,**

**Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes.** Bill No. 2178 was declared Special Ordinance No. 938 on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2025.

Bouse stated that he has been in contact with a neon sign company that says Route 66 Travel center for the new location and that the new location is looking good with the new windows and doors. Bouse will keep the council posted.

Mayor Copling stated that he is having surgery and the doctor told him to stay home for a couple of weeks and because of that would like to make Jerry Montgomery the liaison from Public Works to take the information back to the employees for better communication. Hutson asked if that was just for this meeting or indefinitely. Mayor Copling stated it would be for a while. Lesesne asked if it would require overtime and Mayor Copling replied no. Hutson stated that if the council is asking for the service then it would need to be compensated for. Montgomery stated that he can't do his job as efficiently with no extra help, then may not have a job because of the budget and it is not a good feeling. Bouse stated that they would make cuts in the budget before that would happen. Lesesne stated that they have committees and a Mayor, and they can be the liaison instead of an employee leaving less room for error. Lesesne stated that the council opted for on Public Works Director and have to live with the consequences. Lesesne stated that between the committees and the council it will get done.

Hutson stated that he hates what Montgomery is taking and hearing from the conversations of his position ,but it will have to be addressed if the park tax doesn't pass and does not want him to think his job is in jeopardy. Hutson encouraged all to pass the importance of the park tax. Bouse stated that in the past they contacted the grass mowing and then the city took it on and it looks amazing and is needed. Mortimeyer stated it will be discussed when the crisis hits.

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hutson, to go into executive session – closed to the public pursuant RSMO 610.021 – Section 1) Attorney-client communications; Section 2) Personnel. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes.**

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

Guffey stated that the Board of Aldermen met in closed session to discuss attorney-client communications and personnel and there were no final actions taken.

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