

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI
MONDAY – JULY 14, 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, Harold Halbert, Jeff Bouse. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton. City Attorney present: Carolyn Buschjost.

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the agenda. All ayes.

Citizens participation: Terry Miles, demolition derby, stated that all the concrete blocks that were purchased for the last event were placed and are in need of fifty more. Miles stated that the park and recreation agreed to purchase thirty of them at \$40/block and then he himself will purchase the other twenty. The discussion will continue under park and recreation recommendations.

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the regular meeting minutes from July 1, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Bouse abstained.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Halbert, to approve the executive session meeting minutes from July 1, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Bouse abstained.

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the bills to be paid. Vote: All ayes.

Appointment of Alderman Ward 2: Mayor Copling recommended the appointment of Richard Hewkin for Alderman Ward 2 to fulfill the term. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Bouse, to approve the appointment of Richard Hewkin as Alderman Ward 2. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes.**

Clerk Garbo administered the Oath of Office and Hewkin took his seat.

President of the Board of Aldermen: There was a nomination by Hartzell to appoint Jeff Bouse as President of the Board of Aldermen. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve Jeff Bouse as the President of the Board of Aldermen. Roll call vote: Bouse-abstain, Hewkin-yes, Halbert-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes.**

Mayor's appointments: Mayor Copling stated that one change is being made, Bouse will serve on the natural gas committee with Mortimeyer, and then Hewkin will replace Hutson on the committees. Committees attached. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the Mayor's appointments. Vote: All ayes. Bouse abstained.**

Electric department:

Pole bids: None

Discussion of digger truck: Andy Simpson, electric supervisor, asked permission to go out for bids on a digger truck and then if something is found within budget, allow Ron Owsley, mechanic, to go and look at the truck. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Bouse, to approve bidding a digger truck and the mechanic to look at the truck. Vote: All ayes.**

David Minardi – natural gas call rotation: The council received a letter from David Minardi requesting to be taken off the natural gas call rotation list as of August 17, 2025. Minardi stated that the new hires have been training for here full months and felt that is adequate time for them to join the rotation schedule replacing him. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Lesesne, to approve removing David Minardi from the natural gas call rotation list as of August 17, 2025. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-no, Halbert-yes, Hewkin-yes, Bouse-yes.**

Natural gas supervisor position: Mayor Copling stated that the council needs to go out and look for a supervisor and see what the cost would be and recommended advertising the position. Lesesne stated that the advertisement needs to run in bigger places than just local for a bigger market from other cities and will help with other advertisement locations. **Motion by Lesesne, seconded by Bouse, to approve advertising for a natural gas supervisor. Vote: All ayes.**

Halbert stated that he has a son who has worked with OSHA and will turn in an application.

Natural gas truck: Jimmy Happel, natural gas department, found a work truck in Owensville at Maciejewski Heating and Cooling that is a F350 utility work truck with 88,000 miles for the price of \$46,000. Mortimeyer asked Jennifer Basham, accounting, if the addition \$6000 that wasn't budgeted could be funded and she replied yes, it could come from the capital improvement fund. Bouse questioned the cost for a truck with that amount of miles. **Motion by Mortimeyer, to approve the purchase of the truck, motion dies due to lack of a second.** Bouse recommends to keep shopping for a truck.

Desktop computers bid: Basham stated that it was recommended to replace eight computers as they will not be compatible with Windows 11. Mayor Copling asked if they were budgeted and Basham replied yes.

Net Engineers	\$1136.61/laptop = \$3409.83
Net Engineers	\$909.95/desktop = \$4549.75
Total	\$7959.58

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the purchase of eight computers from Net Engineers for a total of \$7959.58. Vote: All ayes.

Crawford County Museum signs: Hartzell stated that the park and recreation committee approved the purchase of four signs at \$80/sign totalling \$320 for the Crawford County Museum. Lesesne asked if park tax money can be used for this purchase and Basham replied yes as the asset is in the park fund.

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the purchase of four Crawford County Museum signs for a total of \$320. Vote: All ayes.

Park and Recreation recommendations: Hartzell stated that the park and recreation committee met July 8, 2025 and presented the recommendations.

Hartzell stated that Carl Duff Ministries House of Hope from Sullivan, MO requested the use of Tangle Creek Park to erect a tent for a Gospel on October 5, 2025 and will provide their own electric. It was also requested to use the Sports Complex as an alternate location but was stated that needed to be approved by Joe Moreland. Buschjost stated that a contract between parties and liability insurance is needed. **Motion by Lesesne, seconded by Hartzell, to approve working with the Carl Duff Ministries House of Hope for a contract for the use of Tangle Creek Park. Vote: All ayes.**

Hartzell stated that the park and recreation committee recommended purchasing thirty concrete blocks for a total of \$1300 for the arena area. Fifty blocks are needed and Terry Miles will purchase the other twenty. Buschjost stated that this was not an item on the agenda and will pass to the next meeting for approval.

Hartzell stated that the park and recreation committee recommended extending the existing half basketball court to a full court and add another full court next to it for a “basketball complex”. Buschjost stated that this was not an item on the agenda and will pass to the next meeting for approval.

Hartzell that the park and recreation committee recommended halting the construction of the new proposed parking next to the pool at Tangle Creek Park until the determination of its need can be made. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Lesesne, to approve halting the construction of the new proposed parking next to the pool at Tangle Creek Park. Vote: All ayes.**

Hartzell stated that the park and recreation committee made a recommendation that will be passed to the next council meeting to discuss in personnel.

Hartzell stated that the park and recreation committee recommended to change the Aquatics Manual to read “supervision of the pool be the responsibility of Cuba Parks and Recreation Board. This would be for the 2026 pool season. Buschjost would have to check the state statutes and recommended the attorney’s review before any authority be granted.

Hartzell stated that Derek Bouse submitted his resignation. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Lesesne, to accept the resignation of Derek Bouse. Vote: All ayes.**

Community Foundation of the Ozarks: Mayor Copling would like approval to look into this foundation for donations for the parks departments as the city can not be a 501(c)3 and this may be very beneficial. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Lesesne, to approve getting information on Community Foundation of the Ozarks. Vote: All ayes.**

Police Chief report:

Nuisance report: PC Shelton stated that the nuisance reports are kind of low but all officers are still working on them.

Purchase of police vehicle – Durango: PC Shelton stated that \$33,000 is what was budgeted and they can get a Durango from the Missouri State Patrol. Lesesne asked what year and how many miles. PC Shelton is unsure at this time as they haven't received the paperwork yet. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Halbert, to approve the purchase of a Durango from Missouri State Patrol for \$33,000. Vote: All ayes.**

Computer property damage: PC Shelton asked if the council wanted to start the investigation of property damage on the computer that was found. Bouse would like to move forward. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve moving forward with the investigation of property damage on the computer. Vote: All ayes.**

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Halbert, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2186 by caption only. Vote: All ayes. Garbo read Bill No. 2186 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri on behalf of the City of Cuba, Missouri to enter into an agreement with CM Archer Group P.C. for professional consulting services to prepare a water and sewer system rate analysis. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2186. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Hewkin-yes, Halbert-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes. Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2186. Vote: All ayes.** Garbo read Bill No. 2186 a second time. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Halbert, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2186. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Halbert-yes, Hewkin-yes, Bouse-yes.** Mayor Copling declared that Bill No. 2186 becomes Special Ordinance No. 944 on this 14th day of July 2025.

Halbert thanked Andy Simpson for taking a tree out that was struck by lightning.

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

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

Buschjost stated that the Board of Aldermen met in closed session to discuss attorney-client communications and real estate with no final actions taken.

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

Lainie Garbo, City Clerk

President of the Board of Aldermen

Jeff Bouse

ALDERMANIC COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS - 2025/202

Airport Committee	Lesesne - Mortimeyer
Animal Control Committee	Hewkin - Lesesne
Budget Committee	All Council
City Hall Committee	Bouse - Hartzell
Electric Committee	Bouse - Hartzell
EOC Committee	Halbert - Hewkin
Grounds Committee	Lesesne - Hewkin
Natural Gas Committee	Mortimeyer - Bouse
Park & Recreation Committee	Hartzell - Hewkin
Planning & Zoning Committee	Mayor - Lesesne - Hewkin
Police Committee	Bouse - Halbert
Property Mngmt Committee	Lesesne - Mortimeyer
Public Works Committee	Bouse - Halbert
Shop Committee	Mortimeyer - Lesesne
Street Committee	Bouse - Hartzell
Tourism Committee	Hartzell - Halbert
Water/Sewer Committee	Hewkin - Mortimeyer
Salary Committee	Hartzell - Halbert - Bouse

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

City Attorney	Emily Guffey	Lance Thurman
City Clerk	Lainie Garbo	
Treasurer	Jessica Baker	
EOC Director		
MRPC Representative		