

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI
TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 4, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.
CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM

Mayor Kevin Copling called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Joyce Hartzell, Ray Mortimeyer, Richard Hewkin, and Jeff Bouse. Aldermen absent: Pitts Lesesne and Harold Halbert. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton. City Attorney present: Emily Guffey.

Mayor Copling announced that there would be no discussion of any sports contracts as they are not ready to be voted on.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the bills to be paid. Vote: All ayes. Lesesne and Halbert absent.

Citizens participation: Andi Harley on behalf of Halloween at the Hood wanted to thank all for the use of the Hood Park facilities. Harley stated that it is a yearly event that the Chamber of Commerce has hosted the last two years and it is held on the Saturday before Halloween. The event is free for the community that offers games, hayrides, costume contest, trunk or treat, haunted house and also vendors. Harley stated they are looking forward to continuing the tradition.

A representative from the demolition derby asked the council to waive the deposit for the use of Hood Park for the upcoming derbies. Bouse stated that the organization donates and upgrades the facility and agrees with waiving the deposit. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve waiving the deposit at Hood Park for the demolition derby. Vote: All ayes. Lesesne and Halbert absent.**

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the regular meeting minutes from October 21, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Lesesne and Halbert absent.

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the executive session meeting minutes. Vote: All ayes. Lesesne and Halbert absent.

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

Public Works update report: Discussion tabled.

Crawford County Youth Football: Ciara Kitchen gave the council new documents to review and asked when a decision would be made. Mayor Copling stated that they are unsure as they are still reviewing.

Park and Recreation recommendations: Hartzell read the recommendations from the park and recreation board.

The park and recreation board made the recommendation to reserve the dates May 9 & 10, 2026 and October 10 & 11, 2026 to host a demolition derby at Hood Park. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Bouse, to approve the recommendation. Vote: All ayes. Lesesne and Halbert absent.**

The park and recreation board made the recommendation to approve a new contract, based on all information submitted to the last city council meeting for the Crawford County Youth Football Program. Hartzell stated there would be no decision made at this time.

The park and recreation board made the recommendation that any new ball program contracts written and approved by the City of Cuba included identifying the parks and recreation board as a liaison for the purpose of helping connect the ball program wants and needs with the city. Hartzell stated there would be no decision made at this time.

The park and recreation board made the recommendation requesting that the city council make the determination as to what ball programs will be approved at the council meeting (i.e. what football program will expect to move forward with their plans). Hartzell stated there would be no decision made at this time.

The park and recreation board made the recommendation to have the city council create “designated smoking areas” in our city parks. Bouse asked who would patrol the areas and stated that the sports programs are their own programs and they can put their own signs and designated areas. PC Shelton asked if there were any concerns with that and there were none.

The park and recreation board made the recommendation to start the hiring process for all positions at Cuba Pool in February for the 2026 pool season. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the recommendation. Vote: All ayes. Lesesne and Halbert absent.**

Mayor’s appointments – Park and Recreation Board – removal and appointment of members: Mayor Copling stated that he has been looking into things and thinks it is in the city’s best interest to dissolve the board to allow more time to review. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to dissolve the park and recreation board.** Bouse stated that the city already has a park board and the city collects a park tax and by law have to have a board and it will take a few weeks to reappoint and they city would be in violation of the state statute. Guffey recommended to reappoint by the next meeting or within the same month and it would be fine. Mayor Copling stated that time is allowed to reappoint. Bouse asked the real reason for dissolving the board. Mayor Copling stated that it is in the city’s best interest and Bouse questioned how it is best as the park board has done a more than any other board. Bouse stated that he had the proof of the terms of each member and the decision is dumb for the city. Mayor Copling asked the board to trust him and believe in him and it will all be alright. Bouse thought it should be tabled until there is a full council. Mayor Copling stated that the matter is not open for discussion on the floor but for the board only and asked for a vote. Bouse disagreed with the entire situation and left the meeting stating that his vote would be no and that there was not a quorum anymore. Mayor Copling

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asked Guffey if the meeting was over. Guffey stated that if they accepted the no vote from Bouse then they could continue voting, but didn't recommend as a legal vote.

Mayor Copling stated that the meeting was over.

Guffey stated the meeting is adjourned by default as there is not a quorum.

Lainie Garbo, City Clerk