

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI
TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 17, 2026 – 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, Richard Hewkin, Jeff Bouse. Attorney present: Emily Guffey. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton.

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

Citizens participation:

Jackie Hunt, Ward 2, stated that she received a letter from the Mayor and it stated that he is concerned with following the ordinances. Hunt stated that the Mayor used his power to repair the roof on Recklein and that is not following the ordinances. The proper process is for the aldermen to discuss and decide as a whole. The aldermen never heard from a contractor as that was interrupted by the Mayor and this is how the Mayor actually handles business. The Mayor uses employees from other departments with no safety devices and is pure recklessness by the Mayor. If an employee were to fall, then there could be a lawsuit and that would put the city in jeopardy financially. The words on paper aren't the same as the actions. Hunt asked if the roof on Recklein was an emergency or negligence.

Jim Ealer with the 100 Acre Woods Rally stated that the event is coming up and would like to see the participation and help provided as it will be great. Ealer reminded all that the event is March 12th at Hood Park to view the cars and encouraged all to attend. Ealer hopes the race will come back to Crawford County as it would be a great community event.

Dan Eidson asked the council what would happen if he were to go out and take possession of a police car. Mayor Copling stated that he would be stealing City of Cuba property and possibly arrested as there is proof of owning the car. Eidson questioned the football facility and the items that were taken. Guffey stated that will be discussed in closed session with no further comments.

Aimee Jones Halbert, treasurer of the Cuba Youth Football, wanted to address a few things. Halbert stated she wanted clarity on their behalf and focus on what matters, the kids. Halbert stated that Cuba Youth Football is still an active group and the buildings were cleared out and relocated and the items were all purchased or transferred with a new established 501c3 and will serve their program. Halbert stated that there is a growing concern of conversations being had and that no one had reached out for direct answers and welcome an invite for the conversations.

Cyndi Mercer stated there is a letter from the Mayor and asked who helped write the letter and asked if it was done on city time. Mayor Copling stated it does not matter who wrote the letter.

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Mercer stated that she has no dog in the fight with the football programs, but it is concerning with city property in question. Mercer stated that years ago in the concession stated there were things attached to the walls with it becoming city property and thinks that standards need to be set. Mercer stated that there was a scoreboard control panel and it should have remained with the facility. Mayor Copling stated it will be addressed in closed session. Mercer stated that there has not been communication with a lot of he said she said going on and they need to make good decisions. Mercer stated that they need to set a precedence with rules so they don't lose sight of importance for the children.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 3, 2026. Vote: All ayes.

Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the special meeting minutes of February 12, 2026. Vote: All ayes.

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

Cuba High School – Service Day at Hood Park: Garbo read a request from Cuba High School for a spring service day at Hood Park. This is a small group of upper class students working at Hood Park for some clean up on March 10th, from 8 am - 11:30 am. Garbo checked with the insurance company and there are no issues with the request. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the spring service day at Hood Park on March 10, 2026. Vote: All ayes.**

EOC bids to move equipment: Greg Hubbell stated that he reached out to the siren company and they can not give an accurate bid until they see the building the equipment is being moved to and from. Hubbell stated that the EOC system software bid is \$1915.00 from Storm Sirens, Inc. and they would install it at the current location and then bid moving it. Bouse stated that the system is important. Basham stated it can be done. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the bid from Storm Sirens, Inc for \$1915.00. Vote: All ayes.**

Lesesne stated that he met with the new county EOC Director and discussed Recklein Auditorium as a new location for the EOC office as it would give a central location for a command center, and there is already a back-up generator. Lesesne made the recommendation to move the EOC office to Recklein Auditorium. Mayor Copling stated it could be discussed at the next council meeting. Hubbell stated that he will keep the council notified of the computer system and have the company look at both locations. It was discussed that tourism could have the little building and it would work for both departments.

Airport committee recommendations – Appointment of board members and terms:

Lesesne asked Guffey if there were any conflicts of interest with the board consisting of airport hangar customers and no public members. Guffey stated no that they were probably the only ones interested and they just make recommendations with no voting powers or expenditures of funds. Bouse stated that since they are involved then they may bring better recommendations. Garbo read the airport

committee appointments and terms recommended of Jim Smith, Darren Heaton, and Jim Gaddis with their terms expiring May 4, 2026. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the appointments. Vote: All ayes.**

Garbo read the airport committee appointments and terms recommended of Richard Cole and John Fester with terms expiring May 3, 2027. **Motion by Lesesne, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the appointments. Vote: All ayes.**

Airport hangar project bid advertisement: Lesesne stated that there is a hangar project and they are going out for bid only as they have to have the amounts to move forward. Bid advertisement attached. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Lesesne, to approve bidding the airport hangar project. Vote: All ayes.**

Natural Gas committee update: Lesesne stated that the natural gas committee met on February 9, 2026. The budget was discussed. The McBride projects were budgeted but will need some items in the next budget also. The old truck is no longer needed and is ready to bid out. The two Tech 2 trainees pay was discussed and it was stated that they are not ready and will not get the raise yet. Bouse stated his concern that Matt Pigg, supervisor, is saying that the trainees are not ready for the next level, but are going on calls by themselves and if they are not trained then Pigg should be on all calls to supervise so nothing horrible happens. Bouse stated that if they are not trained for the next level then no emergency calls on their own. Mayor Copling did not think they were going on calls, Lesesne stated they can. Mayor Copling will address with Pigg.

Transfer from park fund to general fund from within FY26 budget: Lesesne stated that someone needs to explain how the transfer happened when the topic was tabled and not voted on at the June 3, 2025 meeting. It was stated that the council originally agreed to pay thirty five percent of payroll from the park tax fund and when discussed to pay all from the general fund it was tabled. Lesesne stated that the transfer was not covered at the June 17, 2025 meeting and they count on the revision sheets to show what is being changed within the budget. Lesesne stated that it got moved and is being paid out of the general fund and asked how it got moved. Mayor Copling stated that he did mention he did not want it paid out of the park tax fund. Mayor Copling stated that in the final budget that was approved it was on page fifty seven. Lesesne stated that they should trust the Jennifer Basham, comptroller, to inform them and should get revision sheets that show them exactly what is being done and they did not get them and they are not trained on how to read the budget. Lesesne asked again how the transfer was made and how it happened as someone told Basham to move it. Lesesne asked Basham prior to the meeting and there was a note that said transfer \$50,000 but she did not remember who asked for the transfer. Lesesne asked the council to not hang her out to dry and admit if they asked for the transfer. Mayor Copling stated he will take the blame. Lesesne stated that they are a council, an alderman and board and they made a decision to table and that means it can't be hanged unless they vote on it. Lesesne asked Guffey for her opinion. Basham stated that the transfer was approved in the final budget and does not remember who asked for the move but on page fifty seven it does show the transfer. There was discussion on where it says they are moving the grounds from the park tax. Lesesne stated

that no matter how it is tried to be justified, it can't be done because someone told her to do it and the only ones that can tell her to make the move is the council. Mayor Copling stated to blame him and to stop picking on the city employees. Lesesne again stated that someone told her to make the transfer and someone needs to take the blame as the council is the only seven people that can tell her to do something like that. Mayor Copling stated that he is glad it was moved as they can't put full time employees in a part time park tax. Bouse asked what would happen when the city goes broke. Mayor Copling stated that is why they are doing it, it is part time. Lesesne stated that they can't do a what if it fails scenario because it is still there as of now. Bouse stated that Basham was the loudest voice not to do the move at the June 3, 2025 meeting. Lesesne encouraged Guffey to watch the meeting video. Lesesne stated that if they abuse the park tax and don't do what it is intended for then it won't pass again and they have already violated it. Mayor Copling stated his opinion that they should still be paid out of the general fund and leave the park tax for the park stuff and kids. Lesesne stated at the next council meeting he will ask for the money to be moved back.

Hood Park building – items from within football facility: Mayor Copling stated it needs to be discussed in closed session for legal advice. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Halbert, to discuss in closed session for legal advice. Vote: All ayes.**

Hartzell stated that it was brought to the park and recreation board and they stated they needed to get more information and bring back for the next park and recreation meeting but they brought it to the council instead.

Crawford County Youth Football (CCYF) – facility update approval: Ciara Kitchen, CCYF president, presented some facility updates that are needed and asked permission to make some improvements to the Hood Park football facility being used as a concession stand. List of items are attached.

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Bouse, to approve maintenance to the facility by city employees and improvements by CCYF. Vote: All ayes.

Park and recreation committee recommendations:

Purchasing of 70 posts for the Demolition Derby for \$360.50:

The park and recreation committee made the recommendation to purchase 70 posts to put up the fencing for the Demolition Derby. Basham stated they were not in the budget and will need the money for supplies for the remainder of the year and that it was a non-city function. Bouse stated that they have donated a lot to the park like concrete and bleachers. Basham stated that she was just giving her opinion. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the purchase of 70 posts for \$360.50. roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Halbert-yes, Hewkin-yes, Bouse-yes.**

The park and recreation committee made the recommendation to advertise the manager and lifeguard positions for the pool. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the recommendation. Vote: All ayes.**

their own insurance and they have city employees on roofs and that is on the citizens and asked what would happen if one fell as it could have been bad. Lesesne stated that harnesses son't cost much and the electric department probably had them but they had employees on the roof without harnesses and it was not safe. Lesesne did not say the repair was not adequate, but wouldn't want that for his own house even if it saved money and can't treat the situation as an emergency when the roof had been leaking for six years. Lesesne stated that now it is a mismatched shingled roof and in 2017 a lot of money was spent on the building with now one of the structures that was painted torn down. Mayor Copling stated that they didn't have the money to fix the rood so they made a temporary fix to stop the damage. Lesesne felt it should have been done right the first time if it was an emergency and they don't know the cost because they didn't find out with bids. Lesesne stated that he is sure the guys did a great job but the process is broken and the aldermen should get to vote on major decisions. Mayor Copling stated there is no more damage and there was no money until the next budget. Bouse stated the roof is fixed and need to move on and maybe address it in the next budget. Lesesne stated that the guys did a good job with the repair.

Police Chief report: None

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Halbert, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2206 by caption only.

Vote: All ayes. Garbo read Bill No. 2206 – An ordinance establishing a code of public conduct to be observed at all meetings for the Cuba City Board of Aldermen. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2206. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes,**

Mortimeyer-yes, Halbert-yes, Hewkin-yes, Bouse-yes. Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Halbert, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2206. Vote: All ayes. Garbo read Bill No. 2206 a second time.

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2206. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Hewkin-yes, Halbert-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes. Mayor Copling declared that Bill No. 2206 becomes General Ordinance 1247 on this 17th day of February 2026.

Mortimeyer stated that they wouldn't even be discussing a roof if it were not an election year.

Bouse stated that he is not up for election but the City of Cuba is fortunate they have the group of guys they have that can fix anything and save money. Bouse thanked them all for a good job on the roof. Bouse stated that now they will have to contract all jobs out.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Mortimeyer, to go into executive session – closed to the public pursuant RSMo 610.021 – Section 1) legal advice. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Hewkin-yes, Halbert-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes.

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

The Board of Aldermen met in closed session to discuss legal advice and there were no final actions taken.

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

Lainie Garbo, City Clerk

REQUESTS FOR BIDS/INVITATION FOR BIDS

CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI
CUBA MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
State Block Grant Project No. 25-059A-1

Sealed bids will be received until **2:00 PM local time on Friday, April 3, 2026**, and then publicly opened and read at **City Hall, 202 N. Smith Street, Cuba, MO 65453** for furnishing all labor, materials and equipment and performing all work necessary for: **construction of a new aircraft T-hangar building at the Cuba Municipal Airport.**

Copies of the bid documents including project drawings and technical specifications are on file and may be inspected at:

City Hall, 202 N. Smith Street, Cuba, MO 65453,
Cuba Municipal Airport, 1312 State Highway DD, Cuba, MO 65453, and
at the office of Hanson Professional Services Inc., 1520 S. Fifth St., Suite 220, St. Charles, MO 63303.

A complete set of bid documents may be obtained from **Drexel Technologies online at www.drexeltech.com or at 60 Progress Parkway, Maryland Heights, MO 63043-3202, phone (314) 872-0900, fax (314) 985-8555** for a **non-refundable fee covering cost and delivery**, payable to Drexel Technologies.

A prebid conference will not be held for this project. Bidders interested in touring the project site may contact the Airport directly to schedule and coordinate access.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid guaranty in the amount of five (5) percent of the total amount of the bid. The bid guaranty may be by certified check or bid bond made payable to **City of Cuba**.

Bids may be held by the **City of Cuba** for a period not to exceed **120 days** from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of evaluating bids prior to award of contract.

The right is reserved, as the **City of Cuba** may require, to reject any bid and also the right to reject all bids.

In accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, and the Missouri Prevailing Wage Law, the Contractor will be required to comply with the wage and labor requirements and to pay minimum wages in accordance with the schedule of wage rates established by the United States Department of Labor and the Missouri Division of Labor Standards, respectively. The highest rate between the two (Federal and State) for each job classification shall be considered the prevailing wage.

The **City of Cuba**, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that for any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

This project is subject to the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation. The owner has established a contract goal of **zero (0)** percent participation for small business concerns owned and controlled by qualified disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE). The bidder shall make and document good faith efforts, as defined in Appendix A of 49 CFR Part 26, to meet the established goal.

Award of contract is also subject to the following Federal provisions:

- Executive Order 11246 and DOL Regulation 41 CFR PART 60 - Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Employment Opportunity.
- DOL Regulation 29 CFR Part 5 – Davis Bacon Act.
- DOT Regulation 49 CFR PART 29 - Government wide Debarment and Suspension and Government wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace.
- DOT Regulation 49 CFR PART 30 - Denial of Public Works Contracts to Suppliers of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Contracts to Suppliers of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors (Foreign Trade Restriction).
- TITLE 49 United States Code, CHAPTER 501 – Buy American Preferences.

Crawford County Youth Football - Facility Updates

February 17, 2026

We completed a walkthrough and review of the concession stand at Hood Park on Sunday, February 15, 2026 and found some concerns that we wanted to bring to the council's attention.

1. Outlets - We would like to replace or request that the city replace the outlets inside the concession stand with GCFI outlets.
2. Lighting - One ceiling light, the first one inside the door, holds water when it rains. We would like to have this light replaced.
3. Electric - There are some concerns with the electricity throughout the building and we would like to request that the city send someone from the electric department over to inspect all of the outlets and wiring in the facility. The conduit is pulled back on several outlets and the wiring is exposed.
4. Shelving - We would like to remove and repurpose the shelving units in the front left corner of the room. This will make space for a freezer and drink cooler and we will repurpose the shelves for gear storage in the shed.

We would like to ask for permission to install some items that have been donated to us in the last week. These items include:

- Cabinets
- Countertops
- One kitchen sink for handwashing
- One utility sink for dishwashing (this is required to meet health and safety codes)
- Slatwall panels for hanging merchandise (shirts, chips, candy, etc.)

And finally, we would like to ask permission to paint the following:

- Inside the concession stand (white base with a 1ft wide red and blue stripe around the perimeter of the room to bring in our brand colors of red, white and blue)
- Both goal posts (These will need to be pressure washed first to remove as much of the old chipped paint as possible.)
- Both metal concession stand window covers (These will also likely need to be pressure washed to remove old chipped paint.)