

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI
THURSDAY – APRIL 9, 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, and Jeff Bouse. Alderman absent: Harold Halbert and Richard Hewkin. Attorney present: Emily Guffey. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the agenda. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.

Citizens participation: Debbie Martin with the Route 66 centennial celebration asked for assistance and permission to work with the street department with stenciling on the streets. **Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the street department helping with the Route 66 centennial celebration street stenciling. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Bible Baptist Church asked the council about passing out bibles and singing in the areas that would not interfere with traffic but would need council permission. PC Shelton asked what areas and it was stated vacant areas that wouldn't stop or interfere with traffic and some would be private property and if on city property would check first. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the request. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Dori Stubblefield stated that she has lived in the area her whole life and is involved in the pools water aerobics along with about sixteen other participants. Stubblefield had concern of some price discussions and stated that they are on a budget that they and kids may not be able to afford if the prices increase by much and asked the council to consider before any decisions are made. There was discussion of suggested pool costs and recommendations like punch cards with no decisions made.

Denise Besemer stated that she appreciates the pool and stated that Steelville pool is opening later in the summer and would like to advertise our pool and keep the prices low.

Dillon Scott with Duff Ministries, stated that the prior year they held a revival with a tent at Tangle Creek park and requested to have again this year June 11-21, 2026. Lesesne asked if the RV would be there again and Scott stated yes as he has to stay with the tent. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the request. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Cyndi Mercer stated to the council that the pool is an amenity for the community that has to be affordable for all to use and have to keep the costs down as this is a poverty stricken county. Mercer stated that punch cards that were discussed previously would work for sporadic users but compared to a pass, wouldn't work. There was discussion of suggested pools costs with no decisions made.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the regular meeting minutes from March 17, 2026. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the executive session meeting minutes from March 17, 2026. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Lesesne, to approve the special meeting minutes of March 26, 2026. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.

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

Street department: Assistant Supervisor, 2nd in Charge position:

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to move Jeremy Birkner to Assistant Supervisor position. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Bouse-yes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.

Street laborer position: Al Monda, Supervisor, would like to fill two positions open if the street department and one was an internal applicant Bryce Mounce. Bouse recommended not to move Mounce as they have invested money for training and they have the McBride project going on. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to not move Bryce Mounce from the water department. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Al Monda stated that he would like to hire Ryan Kitchan and Andrew Hewkin. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Mortimeyer, to hire Ryan Kitchen and Andrew Hewkin.** Jennifer Basham stated that there is an issue to hire two employees as they need to hire through attrition until the cash flow issue is resolved and there was no consult of hiring two. Monda stated that with the salary change with new hires then it should work out. Basham stated they would have to borrow from reserves and can't if it is their labor. Lesesne stated that there are laborers in several departments and asked if they could help if not being used at the time. Monday stated that they do borrow employees when they push snow, but now they are retiring and they need help in the summer. Birkner stated that if not enough drivers and pushing snow for hours it could become a liability. Monda stated that with McBride Development it is adding another subdivision to take care of. Hartzell stated that the positions are already budgeted. Basham stated that they have to absorb when losing an employee to lower salary costs per year or a lay off could have to happen. Lesesne stated that budget time is in June and can they hire one now to look at the budget for a second employee. Monda stated that they have to send them for their CDL and they need to be ready for snow season not wanting to wait until last minute to put them in trucks. Lesesne stated that could take six months and that they could survive until the budget is ready. Bouse stated that they can't cut the employees and expect to keep the city running. **Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Bouse-yes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Electric department – Journeyman/Apprentice position: Tabled

Natural Gas department:

Supervisor position: Tabled

Technician 2 positions and pay: Lesesne stated that both laborers Isaiah Woodson and Tyler Scharfenberg were both evaluated and recommend moving them to Technician 2 and pay. Lesesne stated that they are both taking call until Woodson leaves. **Motion by Lesesne, seconded by Hartzell, to approve Tyler Scharfenberg and Isaiah Woodson as Technicians 2 with pay. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Mortimeyer-no, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Grounds department – Summer help position: Jerry Montgomery stated that Hailey Shockley worked previous summers and would like to hire. Shockley would start once done with school at \$15/hour. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Lesesne, to hire Hailey Shockley for summer help at \$15/hour. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Bouse-yes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Police Chief report:

Nuisance report: It was stated that the house on Route 66 had been taken care of.

Road closure approval – NW Main St.: PC Shelton presented a road closure of NW Main from Buchanan to Green on May 9, 2026 from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. It was stated that it would also block the railroad crossing at Smith Street. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Mortimeyer, to approve the road closure. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Road closure approval – Fair St.: PC Shelton presented a road closure of Fair Street from Bound to Hickory for a track meet on May 9, 2026 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. except for local traffic. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the road closure. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Purchase safety vests: PC Shelton stated that safety vests will expire needing to purchase and they were budgeted for. The total cost came in under the budget amount of \$11,000.00. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to purchase the safety vests for under \$11,000.00. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

MRPC representative resignation – Ray Mortimeyer: Mortimeyer stated that he would like to resign and the new Mayor can appoint someone for the board. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to accept the resignation. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.**

Treatment Plant Operator David Minardi – license pay: Mortimeyer stated that Minardi received his operator license and for him to receive a raise they need to look at the ordinance and fix the salary policy as there is no place to justify the raise. Mortimeyer sated that Minardi did great with getting the license but recommended fixing the policy and then addressing.

Sports field agreement approval:

Cuba Soccer Association and Cuba Ball Program: Garbo read a statement on their behalf of not having enough time to property review for approval and requested it be tabled.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Lesesne, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2210 by caption only.

Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent. Garbo read Bill No. 2210 – An ordinance rezoning a pcel of land (corner of Davis Street and Grand Avenue) withing the limits of the City of Cuba, Missouri, from R-1 (residential single and two family district) to R-2 (multiple family district) (Spring Creek Holdings, Aldo Alu). **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2210. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Bouse-yes. Halbert and Hewkin absent. Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Lesesne, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2210. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.** Garbo read Bill No. 2210 a second time. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Haartzell, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2210. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.** Mayor Copling declared that Bill No. 2210 becomes General Ordinance 1248 on this 9th day of April 2026.

Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Bouse, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2211 by caption only.

Vote: All aye. Halbert and Hewkin absent. Garbo read Bill No. 2211 – An ordinance rezoning a parcel of land (303 E. Washington) within the limits of the City of Cuba, Missouri, from R-1 (residential single and two family district) to C-1 (commercial district) (Tammy Highley and Jacob Highley). **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2211. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Lesesne-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Bouse-yes. Halbert and Hewkin absent. Motion by Lesesne, seconded by Hartzell, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2211. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.** Garbo read Bill No. 2211 a second time. **Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the second reading of Bill NO. 2211. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Mortimeyer-yes, Lesesne-yes, Hartzell-yes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.** Mayor Copling declared that Bill No. 2211 becomes General Ordinance 1249 on this 9th day of April 2026.

Bouse stated that Connie Echols sold the Wagon Wheel Motel and is looking forward to the changes and what the new owners bring to Cuba.

Mayor Copling thanked the citizens for the last 22 years of him being in office.

City Clerk Garbo read the unofficial election results from April 7, 2026.

Mayor:

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| Kevin Copling | 263 votes |
| Pitts Lesesne | 311 votes |
| Write-In | 2 votes |

CITY OF CUBA – BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES – APRIL 9, 2026

City Marshal:

Doug Shelton 491 votes
Write-In 9 votes

City Collector:

Kim Roedemeier 506 votes
Write-In 4 votes

Alderman Ward 1 – 1 year term:

Ray Mortimeyer 92 votes
Dan Eidson 76 votes
Write-In 2 votes

Alderman Ward 1 – 2 year term:

Harold Halbert 66 votes
Louis Alan Raineri 98 votes

Alderman Ward 2:

Jeremy Rosemann 141 votes
Richard Hewkin 83 votes
Write-In 1 vote

Alderman Ward 3:

Chris Newcom 57 votes
Joyce Hartzell 58 votes
Ciara Kitchen 52 votes
Write-In 1 vote

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the election results as presented. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.

Motion by Mortimeyer, seconded by Hartzell, to adjourn. Vote: All ayes. Halbert and Hewkin absent.

RESUMED REGULAR MEETING FOLLOWING A 5 MINUTE RECESS

All new elected members were sworn in by City Clerk Garbo and seats were taken.

Mayor Lesesne called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Joyce Hartell, Ray Mortimeyer, Louis Raineri, Jeremy Rosemann, Jeff Bouse. Alderman Ward 2 seat open. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton. City Attorney present: Emily Guffey.

Mayor Lesesne congratulated all on their positions.

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

Lainie Garbo, City Clerk