

CITY OF CROSS PLAINS

CITY COUNCIL BOARD MINUTES

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

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This was a ***Regular Meeting*** of the Cross Plains City Council, Members of the council present were: Mayor Gary Moses, Darvel Hutchins, Homer Parson, Polly Beeler and Randy Strickland. Blake Cohorst was absent.

Employees present was Debbie Gosnell, City Admin., Kerry Mann, Asst. City Admin, Don Gosnell, Municipal Judge, City Secretary Teresa Kennedy, & Shannon Spate.

Members of the public meeting with the council was Terry Lichty, Rick Potter, Hank Ball, and Ruby Wilke, Chamber Director.

Moses called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

There were no citizen comments.

Hutchins moved to accept the minutes as presented apart from Moses calling the meeting to order, noting that Moses was not present for the meeting. Gosnell is to correct the minutes. Parson seconded and motion carried.

Beeler moved to accept the bills paid as presented. Hutchins seconded and motion carried.

Turner submitted her monthly Senior Citizen's report as follows. She reported serving a total of 686 congregate meals for the month of January. She also reported that there were 1,324 home delivered meals served, (1,176 for Cross Plains, 148 for May for an average of 91 meals per day. The 148 meals served for the May Senior Citizen for a total value of \$962.00. There was a total of \$1,879.00 in donations received, and \$200.00 in memorials were made.

Ruby Wilke, Chamber Director, met with the council to give an update on the Summer Bash. She discussed having the bash downtown in an effort to support the downtown businesses. She informed the council that she has not heard back from AEP as to how much electricity they are willing to install downtown. She also indicated that if they don't put in the necessary electricity, they will probably hold the bash at Treadway Park. AEP is also going to look at putting some 220 electricity at the Park as well. The council voiced their desire to see it remain at Treadway Park, however, by general consent the council approved the Chamber moving the bash downtown if that works better for the chamber.

Ms. Wilke also gave an update to the council on the Chamber applying for a license to hold bingo in Cross Plains. She stated that they have not come up with the permanent place yet and will have more information later once the location has been solidified.

Terry Lichty met with the council to discuss the heavy and fast traffic on NE 7th Street, the street that runs past the school in front of his home. Mr. Lichty presented pictures of the school zone signage and kids playing in the street. He commented that school kids as they are leaving the school parking lot are running 70MPH in front of his home. He asked the council to make traffic control on the back roads a priority for the new chief, once one is hired. Lichty commented that he knows that this is a problem all over town, and that he would like to see this made a priority when we get new law enforcement hired.

Kerry Mann, Asst. City Admin., gave the council an update on the Police applicants. He advised the council that we had received eight applications but had narrowed it down to two really promising applicants. He advised the board that we had a zoom meeting with the two applicants on January 27th and then scheduled in person interviews on February 4, 2025. Mann explained that TCOLE regulations have changed the way the hiring process takes place and what all is entailed in seeking a qualified officer. He explained that once we began the background investigation on both applicants, it became clear that neither applicant was what we are looking for and that we will continue to look further for qualified applicants.

Parson moved to order the election for May 3, 2025, Beeler seconded, and motion carried.

Parson moved to hold a joint election with the Cross Plains ISD, Beeler seconded, and motion carried.

Beeler moved to appoint Kathy Chesshir as Election Judge, Hutchins seconded, motion carried.

Hutchins moved to appoint Kerry Mann as a Public Investment Officer for the city. Beeler seconded, motion carried.

Parson moved to approve the annual review of the Public Invest Policy with no changes being made. Hutchins seconded, motion carried.

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Gosnell explained that all employees are looking for ways to save the City money by getting pricing for various items needed. She explained that the City has used the WolfePak aka PakEnergy accounting software for many years. However, in price comparison, she has found that by switching to QuickBooks can save the City over \$4,500 annually. Discussion was held concerning the time it would take to transfer all of the accounts, and it was recommended that I check with IT to see what it would cost to transfer all the necessary accounts.

Discussion of additional office space was tabled until the next regular meeting.

Gosnell advised the council that Sean Conway's shoulder surgery would take place on February 24, 2025.

Gosnell advised the council that bids for the sale of the excess equipment as well as the parcel of land next to Food Plaza is being advertised and will be ready for the next regular meeting.

Gosnell informed the council that she had invested and additional \$200,000 in municipal bonds.

Gosnell is to work with Gary Moses and Blake Cohorst to set a budget workshop date.

Parson moved to adjourn. Hutchins seconded, motion carried.

Gary Moses, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Debbie Gosnell, Secretary