

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 2024

The regular monthly City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Deborah Pinkerton after she declared that a quorum was present. A moment of silence was followed by the pledge of allegiance. Council members present were Alderman Odom, and Alderman Breshears. Alderman Johnson was absent due to surgery.

Alderman Breshears stated a correction needed to be made to the minutes stating that he had suggested a professional opinion from Forsgren for repairs to Dorothy Drive. A motion to approve the March regular monthly meeting minutes with the correction was made by Alderman Odom and seconded by Alderman Breshears. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

A motion to approve the March 25<sup>th</sup> special council meeting minutes was made by Alderman Odom and seconded by Alderman Breshears. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

The financial report was presented by Treasurer Sandy Cook. March end of month balances for each account were read and the April Financial Report was reviewed. A motion to approve the April Financial Report was made by Alderman Breshears and seconded by Alderman Odom. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

Department reports began with Grounds Supervisor Kenneth Brenton reported the department has begun repairs to Dorothy Drive. The department has to dig the affected areas out, place new rock down and cover with cold patch. Cold patch has been ordered to complete this project when weather permits. This will be a temporary fix until pavement at a later date.

Police Chief Ken Howard reported 23 citizen calls, 3 assists to other agencies, 11 citations, 3 warning citations, 1 alarm answered, 4 accidents, 2 arrests, 8 felonies and misdemeanor reports filed, 2 warrants served and 2 code enforcements on Dorothy Drive and Lucian Wood Road. Alderman Breshears stated that the code enforcement officer needs address the places on Highway 59 across from the post office and Harps. Chief Howard stated that the code enforcement officer has been sick and unable to work.

Fire Chief Cody Cooper reported 10 medical calls and 2 traffic accidents. Chief Cooper went to Pennsylvania to retrieve the fire truck the City purchased. Alderman Breshears asked when the newly purchased truck would be in service. Chief Cooper stated the fire truck is expected to be in service by the end of April. Alderman Breshears requested a list of fire calls be provided to aldermans similar to the list provided by the Police Chief.

The only announcement for April was that Mayor Pinkerton informed the Council that a Fire Department command vehicle, a 2015 Ford police interceptor utility vehicle, is being prepared for purchase. The lights are being installed and the vehicle should be ready by the end of April.

Citizen comments began with Priscilla May of Oakridge Drive who asked for a speed check in the vicinity of Oakridge Drive on Highway 59 and also stated that the gravel placed on the road was now in the ditches and causing ditches to overflow when it rains.

The mayor introduced the alderman applicants for the vacated position. Each Alderman was allowed to introduce herself/himself and state qualifications.

Ryan C. Hooper of Brauner Loop has lived here since the fall of 2023. He believes an alderman should represent what the citizens want and is an advocate for City awareness.

Jerrold Ricketts of Highway 162 is ex-military. He has experience in city government and was active in the Council in Greenwood.

William R. Saddler of Lorena Drive has lived here for 4 years. He is ex-military and has experience in development of policies and procedures, fundraising and believes in listening to the citizens and represent what they want.

Craig May of Oakridge has lived here since 2016. He is ex-military and has a background in intel. He has a strong desire to be a voice for the people.

Nina Prater of Creekway Bend has lived here since 2007. She was an appointed member of the City Council in 2015 to complete the term of a vacated position. She is very much an advocate for agriculture in Cedarville.

Mayor Pinkerton stated there was a fifth applicant but she removed her name from the list.

Unfinished business began with the tabled police on-call policy was discussed. Alderman Odom asked Chief Howard how his department was functioning with current conditions. Chief Howard stated he had contacted the Crawford County Sheriff's Office and the Sheriff has agreed to cover City of Cedarville calls when the Cedarville officers are unable to cover them. He also stated that he has many applicants to replace the two officers that resigned at the end of March. A motion to suspend talks of an on-call police policy was made by Alderman Odom and seconded by Alderman Breshears. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

Alderman Breshears requested the tax proposal issue be tabled since Alderman Johnson could not be present. Alderman Johnson was the alderman who proposed a tax increase. A motion to table until Alderman Johnson can be present was made by Alderman Odom and seconded by Alderman Breshears. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

The first item of new business was that Mayor Pinkerton stated that May was the month for spring cleanup. The City has been providing one dumpster every other month since the beginning of 2024. The mayor asked if the Council wanted to place two dumpsters or one. Alderman Breshears wanted to increase it to two dumpsters every other month. Treasurer Cook informed the council that the cost would be \$760.00 for two dumpsters. Alderman Breshears made a motion to place two dumpsters every other month for cleanup. The motion was seconded by Alderman Odom. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

Mayor Pinkerton had made flyers for the dumpster placement dates to be distributed. She asked if the Council wanted to indicate Cedarville Citizens only. Both Council members replied with a yes.

Mayor Pinkerton informed the Council that no additional buildings except buildings to house equipment can be placed on city grounds. The ground is no suitable for additional septic system needs. Since the Cedarville Citizen Center cannot be placed on city grounds as originally planned, Mayor Pinkerton researched alternatives. The current center sits on 1.6 acres owned by the City. Cedarville Public Schools owns 1.5 acres on Highway 59 past the Dollar General store. Mayor Pinkerton and Dr. Schneider discussed a possible swap of lands if the land on Highway 59 is suitable. If the City council approves the swap, Dr. Schneider will ask the school board for approval. Alderman Breshears stated that a survey needed to be done and a site elevation and the sewage test be made. Mayor Pinkerton stated these issues would be addressed by the Crawford County Senior Center Director if the swap was approved by both groups. Attorney Brister stated a swap would be very feasible. A motion to enter negotiation with Cedarville schools for a possible land swap was made by Alderman Odom and seconded by Alderman Breshears. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

Before council called for an executive session, Mayor Pinkerton thanked all the applicants for the alderman vacancy. She stated that the decision will be tough because all applicants appear to be well qualified for the position. The applicants that are not selected were encouraged to possibly run for a position in the November election.

A motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss the appointment of an alderman to fill the vacancy was made by Alderman Odom and seconded by Alderman Breshears Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

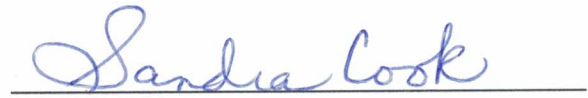
A motion to return from executive session was made by Alderman Odom and seconded by Alderman Breshears. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

A motion to appoint William R. Saddler as alderman to the vacant position was made by Alderman Breshears and seconded by Alderman Odom. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Odom and seconded by Alderman Breshears. Passed 3-0 Mayor Pinkerton voted to make a quorum.



Mayor



Recorder/Treasurer