



MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - REGULAR SESSION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Bonifay City Hall Council Meeting Room – 301 J Harvey Etheridge St.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Larry Cook called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT

Mayor Larry Cook
Council Member James Sellers
Council Member Shelley Carroll
Council Member Rick Crews
Council Member Eddie Dixon

Also present

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith, Finance/HR Director Tracy Walker, and Police Chief Johnny Whitaker

A. Invocation

Vice-Mayor James Sellers gave invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Mayor James Sellers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion made to approve the agenda by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. October 6th, 2025 Regular Session

Motion made to approve the minutes of October 6, 2025 by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IV. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / TRANSFERS / FINANCIAL SHEETS TO REVIEW

Motion made to approve Accounts Payable, Transfers, and Financial Sheets by Council Member Sellers, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

V. VISITORS – PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

NON- AGENDA AUDIENCE

Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission.” Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the board. **THIS IS NOT A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION.** It is NOT a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations and derogatory remarks to/about city personnel. Those who wish to speak are reminded to observe proper decorum, and to avoid the use of profane or vulgar language. If you would like to address the City Council please come to the podium and state your name and address for the record.

Richard Wilsey, Happy Hollow Rd., stated he was curious to know if this Council has addressed the issue of Stephanie Cloud sitting on the City Planning Board or not. He asked "Do you allow people to sit on boards that have admitted to violating Sunshine Laws?" He questioned blue lights on City employee vehicles driving through town. Stated the Council must be meeting outside of public session or talking on the phone, because there is no discussions at the meetings.

Heather Shelby, Vice-Chair on the Tourist Development Commission, told the Council Members that they needed an elected official as a member on their board and asked if anyone would be interested in taking that on. They meet on the 3rd Monday at the Chamber of Commerce at 5:00 pm. Council Member Rick Crews volunteered.

VI. PLANNING & ENGINEERING

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Brock Ave

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith stated the Vice-Mayor Sellers previously mentioned the importance of widening and re-paving West Brock Avenue, especially for emergency vehicles. We are proposing MSCOP funds for paving East and West Brock Avenue, and would like the Council to approve going after funding and to make that our priority.

Motion made to approve going after funding for paving East and West Brock Avenue by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Motion made to also look for funding to re-pave Hamlin St. at Wisconsin Ave. by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Holmes District School Board Olympics Request

Motion made to approve Holmes District School Board's Special Olympics request to use the Rec Center by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

B. Bonifay Police Department DataPilot Grant

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith stated this grant covers about 70 % of the cost with the balance being \$5995.00.

Police Chief Whitaker said it will allow us to immediately download cell phone or computer records without having to wait.

Motion made to approve Police Department DataPilot Grant by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IX. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

A. Personnel Updates

B. Department Updates

Finance/HR Director Tracy Walker updated the Council Members on the system conversion. We have Accounts Payable, Payroll and General Ledger done right now. Occupational Licensees and Utility Billing are in the near future.

C. Employee of the Quarter - Q3

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith announced that the employee of the 3rd quarter was awarded to Captain Zack Sellers with the Fire Department.

Police Chief Whitaker stated on the incident the other night with an officer involved shooting, he wanted to make it perfectly clear, to everyone in this room and the Council, that we fully support the Correctional Officer that was there that night and the action that was taken. The investigation should be completed this week.

X. ADJOURN

Motion made for meeting to adjourn by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Mayor Cook declared the meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm.

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact City Hall at (850) 547-4238, at least five days prior to the proceedings.