



# Locust City Council Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM

## Joel Huneycutt Community Room

December 12, 2024

**Mayor**  
**Council Members**

**Mayor Steve Huber**  
Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Baucom, Mandy  
Watson, Roger Hypes, Harry Fletcher, Mike  
Haigler, Barry Sims, Rusty Efird, and De Dee  
Nathan.

### 1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm

### 2. Presentation of Colors, Prayer

Mayor Huber led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Mario Miller gave the invocation.

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Larry Baucom (6-0)  
Motion to excuse Council Member Roger Hypes

### 3. Oath of Office

City Clerk Amy Furr administered the oath of office to newly elected Council Member De-Dee Nathan, re-elected Council Members Michael Haigler, Rusty Efird, Larry Baucom, and re-elected Mayor Stephen Huber.

At this time outgoing Council Member Harry Fletcher stepped down from the dais and incoming Council Member De-Dee Nathan took her seat.

### 4. Adopt Agenda

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and Barry Sims (6-0)  
Motion to adopt agenda as presented

### 5. Minutes - adopt November 14, 2024

M/S/A Council Members Rusty Efird and Larry Baucom (6-0)  
Motion to approve the November 14, 2024 minutes

**November 14, 2024**

## **6. Financial Reports**

City Manager Cesar Correa gave an update on the financials. Notating that the General Fund revenues exceed expenditures by \$1,098,157.07. The Wastewater revenues exceed expenditures by \$1,458,913.47. The ABC distribution total amount was \$143,793.33, with the following breakdown: October distribution = \$23,390.42, final fiscal year 2024 distribution = \$112,607 and final fiscal year 2024 LEO distribution = \$2,536.25. Sales tax distribution was \$150,105.96. Next he introduced Nick Wicker, CPA with Strickland Hardee CPA firm. Mr. Wicker presented the fiscal year end 2023-2024 audit notating that a single audit was also completed this year. No material weaknesses were found and no deficiencies were found. He went through the audit explaining the different areas within the funds both revenues and expenditures in the Governmental Fund, General Fund and the Wastewater Fund. Stephania Morton, Finance Director was available as well to answer any questions Council had regarding the audit.

## **Financial Reports - November 2024**

### **Audit Report FY 24**

## **7. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Huber introduced Chief Jeff Shew who introduced the newly sworn Officer, Matthew Crosby. He gave a brief summary about Officer Crosby and his positive reputation during BLET. Mayor Huber then had a few remarks to say about Officer Crosby.

City Manager Cesar Correa reviewed Council Liaison appointments to the city departments. They will remain the same with the exception of Ms. De-Dee Nathan will be the Administration/HR liaison. Nominations were taken for Mayor Pro Tem.

M/S/A Council Members Rusty Efird and Barry Sims (6-0)  
Motion to elect Council Member Larry Baucom as Mayor Pro Tem.

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## **City Council Reorganization**

### **Introduction of new LPD Officer: Matthew Crosby**

## **8. Manager's Report**

City Manager Cesar Correa reviewed purchase orders. He then presented the 2025 Council Meeting Schedule and the 2025 City of Locust Holiday Schedule for approval. Welcome to newly elected Council Member De-Dee Nathan. Thank you to the City staff. It has been an incredible year. Merry Christmas.

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and Rusty Efird (6-0)  
Motion to approve purchase orders

M/S/A Council Members Michael Haigler and Barry Sims (6-0)

Motion to approve 2025 Council Meeting Schedule changing the August 2025 meeting to August 21, 2025 the 3rd Thursday

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and Rusty Efird (6-0)

Motion to approve 2025 City of Locust Holiday Schedule

## **Purchase Orders**

### **9. Administration/HR**

Nothing to report at this time.

### **10. Parks**

City parade was a successful event. Christmas activities going on like Light up Locust, letters to Santa, and reindeer bell hunt. Purchased additional property on N Central Ave to be able to expand the park in the future.

### **11. Facilities**

Looking forward to 2025 and seeing the senior center begin.

### **12. Public Works**

Council Member Larry Baucom gave an overview of the flow report. The comprehensive Sewer North Basin Improvement project is nearly finished! 3 of the components are now complete, and the 4<sup>th</sup> will be finishing up in early 2025.

## **Wastewater Report - November 2024**

### **13. ABC, Economic Development & Small Business Support**

Council Member Rusty Efird gave a brief overview of the disbursements of the ABC Store this month. He then spoke about Boba Cafe and encouraged residents to stop by and try them out and to shop local.

### **14. Public Safety**

Council Member Roger Hypes was not present so City Manager Cesar Correa reviewed the monthly report and statistics of the department. The Officer of the month was Officer Jerry Wallace.

## **Monthly Report - November 2024.**

### **15. Planning & Zoning**

Council Member Michael Haigler reviewed the monthly report. A public hearing is scheduled for the voluntary annexation of 9782 Quail Run Rd. This is the last property that Kolter Homes added to their project, which was included in the site plan amendment that Council approved last month. The voluntary annexation would become effective on June 30, 2025. The Crossroads project is officially complete. M/I Homes closed on the 200 acres on Meadowcreek Church Road and the project will be moving forward.

Public Hearing opened for voluntary annexation of 9782 Quail Run Rd at 7:53pm: No one spoke for or against.  
Public Hearing closed at 7:53pm

M/S/A Council Members Michael Haigler and Barry Sims (6-0)  
Motion to adopt voluntary annexation ordinance for 9782 Quail Run Rd effective June 30, 2025

## **Monthly Report - November 2024**

### **Voluntary Annexation: 9782 Quail Run Road**

#### **16. Public Comment Period:**

Mario Miller - 228 Whispering Hills Rd - addressed Council and gave praise to front office staff Mandy Thomas and Wendy Lowder. He wants to see Council recognize them publicly. He also spoke about the need for speed bumps on Tranquil Ct and Mission Church Rd as there are many speeders.

#### **17. Board Closing Comments**

Thank you to all who have come out. Congratulations to De-Dee Nathan on winning her election. Looking forward to working with you. Thank you to Mario Miller for coming out and voicing his concerns. This has been a great year and really looking forward to what the next year holds. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you to Finance Director Stephania Morton for all of her hard work with the audit. Thank you to the staff for all of their hard work. We are very fortunate and thankful at the caliber of personnel that the City has. Thank you for the warm welcome and all of those who came out to support Council Member De-Dee Nathan. Thank you to out going Council Member Harry Fletcher for all of his wisdom and leadership. He will be missed but we wish him well. Thank you to Jeff Claiborne and Mario Miller who continue to be involved with the City of Locust even after the election. Have a safe holiday season.

#### **18. Adjourn**

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and Michael Haigler (6-0)  
Motion to adjourn at 8:19pm

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Amy Furr, City Clerk

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Stephen Huber, Mayor