



Locust City Council

Meeting Minutes

Joel Huneycutt Community Room

7:00 PM

February 13, 2025

Mayor
Council Members

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

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm

2. Presentation of Colors, Prayer

Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Baucom led in the Pledge of Allegiance and P&Z Director Scott Efird gave the invocation.

M/S/A Council Members Rusty Efird and De-Dee Nathan (6-0)

Motion to excuse Mayor Stephen Huber and Council Member Roger Hypes

3. Adopt Agenda

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

Motion to adopt agenda as presented

4. Minutes - adopt January 9th and 23rd, 2025

M/S/A Council Members Rusty Efird and Mandy Watson (6-0)

Motion to adopt minutes from January 9, 2025 and Special Joint Meeting from January 23, 2025

January 9, 2025

January 23, 2025 Joint Meeting

5. Financial Reports

City Manager Cesar Correa reviewed financials notating that General Fund revenues exceed expenditures by \$1,529,006.19, and Wastewater revenues exceed expenditures by \$3,358,171.68. North Basin improvements will finish up next month so please expect a list of budget amendments next month.

Financial Summary - January 2025

6. Mayor's Report

Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Baucom recognized Chief of Police Jeff Shew who presented the 2024 Chief Steven "Smitty" Smith Officer of the Year Award. The nominations were Corporal Ryan Tran-Thompson, Officer Eric Fore and Officer Adam Hartsell. He then recognized finalist Officer Eric Fore and gave a brief overview of his contributions this past year and then recognized finalist Officer Adam Hartsell and gave a brief overview of his contributions this past year as well. He then awarded Corporal Ryan Tran-Thompson with the 2024 Chief Steven "Smitty" Smith Officer of the Year Award and spoke about his contributions to the department and Locust this past year, notating tat he received 8 nominations from fellow officers within the department.

LPD - Officer Of The Year Award

7. Manager's Report

Purchase orders were reviewed. City Manager Cesar Correa explained that last year Council was made aware of a grant opportunity to improve accessibility and playground equipment at the Officer Jeff Shelton Memorial Park. While we met a number of the grant application requirements with our 2023 Master Plan for Parks & Rec, we needed a public input session for the purpose of accessibility for individuals with physical, mental or intellectual disabilities. Park Director Emily Jones and her team were able to collect feedback, which is being incorporated into the application. To be able to submit the application, we need for Council to approve the proposed certification. A copy of the application and site plan will be shared with Council once finalized. We would like to apply for the maximum \$500,000 to replace the playground equipment and improve accessibility around the memorial park. Actively working on our up coming budget for FY 2025/2026 and looking forward to our budget retreat. Met with department heads to go over requests and their 5 year plans. Tax Administrator Clinton Swaringen will be here next month.

M/S/A Council Members Barry Sims and De-Dee Nathan (6-0)
Motion to approve certification for the Accessibility Parks Grant Application

M/S/A Council Members De-Dee Nathan and Rusty Efird (6-0)
Motion to approve purchase orders

Accessible Parks Grant Application

Purchase Orders

8. Administration/HR

Council Member De-Dee Nathan noted there was nothing to report at this time.

9. Parks

Council Member Mandy Watson noted that Park Director Emily Jones is at the annual Parks Director conference. Last year Council approved for Scout John Owen Tucker to build an orientation map/course in the City's park facilities. Mr. Tucker spoke and presented to Council an update to the project. A 1 mile, 10 point, orienteering course. Laminated copies of the map and compasses are available to check out at the park.

Eagle Scout Project - John Owen Tucker

10. Facilities

Council Member Barry Sims stated bids go out next month for construction of the Senior Center. Finalizing the audio/visual system to make sure it is conducive for the facility and the seniors using it.

11. Public Works

Council Member Larry Baucom reviewed the flow report and thanked the department for all of their hard work.

Wastewater Flow Report

12. ABC, Economic Development & Small Business Support

Council Member Rusty Efird stated there was nothing to report at this time.

13. Public Safety

Council Member Roger Hypes was not present to there was nothing to report at this time.

Pubic Safety Report - January 2025

14. Planning & Zoning

Council Member Michael Haigler reviewed the monthly report. He then asked for Council to schedule a public hearing for the conditional rezoning request submitted by Greater Life Church for March 13, 2025. Also, the City received an application from Sharell Salzedo to serve as a P&Z Board Alternate.

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

Motion to schedule a public hearing for March 13, 2025 for the conditional rezoning request submitted by Greater Life Church

M/S/A Council Members Michael Haigler and De-Dee Nathan (6-0)

Motion to appoint Sharell Salzedo as an alternate to the P&Z Board

Monthly Report - January 2025

Schedule Public Hearing: Greater Life Church

P&Z Board Appointment

15. Public Comment Period:

No one signed up to speak

16. Board Closing Comments

Thank you to everyone who came out. This is an amazing community and excited to work with the board and citizens. Thankful for the quality of officers and leadership we have in Locust and congrats to the finalist for officer of the year and the winner. Thank you to Eagle Scout John Owen Tucker for his project at the park. Thank you to public works department for all they do especially in the nasty weather. Have a wonderful Valentine's Day. Thanks to Office Manager Wendy Lowder and Front Desk Staff Mandy Thomas for all they do for Locust.

17. Adjourn

M/S/A Council Members Michael Haigler and Mandy Watson (6-0)

Motion to adjourn at 7:49

Amy Furr, City Clerk

Stephen Huber, Mayor