

City Council Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2025

7:00 p.m.

1. Call to order and announce quorum is present.

Mayor Cardwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced a quorum was present. Those in attendance were Mayor Crystal Cardwell, Mayor Pro Tem Chris Raines, Councilmember Richard Sidebottom, Councilmember Jen Hill, City Secretary Jenni Moore, Public Works Director William Allen, City Engineer Stan Hayes, Code Enforcement Officer Devon Kennedy, City Admin Staff Brittany Mayhue and City Admin Staff Michelle Peterson

2. Pledge of allegiance and invocation.

Mayor Cardwell led the pledge. Councilmember Hill led the invocation.

3. Issue Oaths of Office and Statement of Officers for City Council Places 4, 5, and Mayor.

City Secretary issued the Oaths of Office and Statement of Officers for Mayor Cardwell and Chris Raines for City Council Place 5.

4. Mayor Update.

Mayor Cardwell updated about library events coming up such as job skill workshops and art classes. Mayor Cardwell also shared about Family Day in the Park coming up on June 7, 2025.

5. Public Comments.

Susie Youngblood of 511 Berke St. within the city limits, presented Mayor Cardwell with a gift of a map to be hung in the new city hall building.

Rachel Massey of 230 CR 4850, outside the city limits, spoke to express concerns about certificate of obligations, the audit for 2022-2023 and about the MDD meeting having been cancelled.

6. Consider and act on the following items:

A. Council Meeting Minutes for April 7, 2025 and April 17, 2025

B. Accounts Payables for April 2025

C. Financial Statements for April 2025

D. Staff Reports- Municipal Court, Building Permits, Code Enforcement, and Public Works for April 2025

Councilmember Hill motioned to accept item number 6, A-D as a whole. Mayor Pro Tem Raines second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

7. Consider and act on Resolution No. 373: authorizing publication of notice of intention to issue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2025 and authorizing certain other matters relating thereto.

Ted Christensen, president of Government Capital Security Corporation spoke regarding the dates, details and process of the funding. Mr. Christensen shared that the notice of intention is to inform the city residents of the plan to issue certificates of obligation and allow them to be aware of the process. Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to approve Resolution No. 373: authorizing publication of notice of intention to issue

Certificates of Obligation, Series 2025 and authorizing certain other matters relating thereto. Councilmember Hill second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

8. Discussion, consideration, and action on the 2022-2023 Annual Audit.

Valerie with MWH presented the council with a summary of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Annual Audit. Councilmember Hill motioned to act on the 2022-2023 annual audit. Councilmember Sidebottom second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

9. Presentation and discussion with Debbie Bounds from the Wise County Committee on Aging/Meals on Wheels Capital Campaign regarding growing resources to meet the needs of the increasing number of seniors in Wise County.

Amy Pegues, Director of the Wise County Committee on Aging, presented information to the council regarding the Meals on Wheels program and the hurdles they are currently facing. Ms. Pegues stated that the program has lost a lot of federal funding, leaving them unable to provide the services the way they have in the past. Ms. Pegues shared that they are looking for support financially from the city as well as the need for volunteers to help deliver meals. Ms. Pegues stated that the funding needs would be near \$150,000 county-wide, but for just the Newark area, the need is around \$15,000 a year.

10. Discussion with City Engineer, Stan Hayes regarding a drainage plan.

City Engineer Stan Hayes shared with the council that many of the drainage issues that were observed during this last heavy rain seemed to have been on private property and were not the responsibility of the city. Mr. Hayes shared that he researched a plan for four major areas in the city and what a drainage system would look like or be needed and how these systems would work. He stated that what would be accomplished in this plan would not be worth the cost of around \$750,000 for each of the four areas. Councilmember Raines discussed waiting to address the drainage issues when funding allows for it to be done in the best and most efficient way possible, expressing the concern to spend the money and not have it done correctly and then have to come back and tear it apart and complete it again. Public Works Director Allen stated that eventually another public works employee would be an effect option in the future to have someone dedicated to cleaning out the ditches and culverts to prevent the pooling.

11. Discussion regarding future MDD projects.

MDD board member Kevin Steidel spoke with the council on behalf of the board, informing the council that the board would like the council to direct them on what projects to focus on as a board. Council presented some ideas for Mr. Steidel to take back to the MDD board. MDD board president Curtis Cardwell also presented a PSA (Professional Service Agreement) for the board to work with a company to develop an incentives program for new businesses and is asking the council to vote on this in the future to move this process along.

12. Consider and act on Resolution No. 374, a resolution setting dates, time and place for (2) Public Hearings on the proposed annexation of certain property.

Mayor Cardwell tabled this item until the June 18th meeting, per the attorney.

13. Discuss, consider and act on a recommendation and vote to elect the Mayor Pro Tem for time period from May 2025 through May 2027.

Mayor Cardwell tabled this item until the June 18th meeting for all councilmembers to be present for the vote.

14. Consider and act on scheduling budget meeting dates.

Mayor Pro Tem Raines motioned to set the dates for the budget meetings as discussed; May 28th at 5 p.m., June 18th at 6 p.m. and June 30th at 6 p.m. Councilmember Hill second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

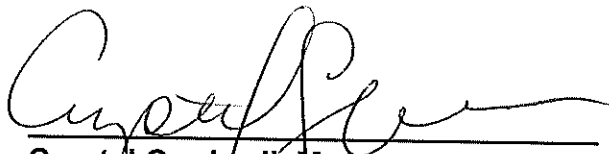
15. Discuss, consider and act on rescheduling the June 2025 city council meeting.

Councilmember Sidebottom motioned to reschedule the June 2025 city council meeting to Wednesday, June 18th at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Hill second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

16. Meeting adjourn.

Mayor Cardwell adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

APPROVED:



Crystal Cardwell, Mayor



Jenni Moore, City Secretary

6-18-25
Date

