

City of Plains Meeting Minutes May15, 2025

I. Call to Order

Mayor Joey Recker called to order the regular meeting of the Plains City Council at 7:00 P.M. on May 15, 2025, at Plains City Hall Council Chamber.

II. Roll Call

City Clerk Cindy Bagwell conducted a roll call. The following members were present:

- Mayor Joey Recker
- Mayor Pro Tem Jackson
- Councilor Eugene Edge
- Councilor Ellen Harris
- Councilor Amy Wise
- Councilor Terry Westbury (via zoom)
- Councilor Andrea Oates

III. Approval of Minutes

Councilor Harris made a motion to approve the minutes pending Councilor Westbury seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (4-0).

IV. Briefings NONE

V. Committee Reports

Public Safety (Councilor Westbury & Councilor Edge):

- Chief Johnson's report
 - 1 Vehicle Accident
 - 1 Suspicious Person Call
 - 4 Alarm Calls
 - 1 Domestic Call
 - 7 Traffic Citations
 - 11 Traffic Warnings
 - 6 Assist Agency Calls
 - 3 Miscellaneous Investigations
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- Chief Johnson reported that kids will soon be getting out of school and for people to be sure to lock their car doors. Air conditioner in Charger has been repaired.

Subdivision & Streets (Councilor Edge & Councilor Wise):

- Caleb has been sick and not gotten figures for some projects that need to be done on the roads. He is working on it now.
- Still working to get railroad crossing repaired
- Discussion of limbs growing in power lines. Need to get an estimate of cost to cut these limbs and then get GA Power to turn off electricity while it is being done.
- Councilor Wise to look into getting quotes for this project

Water & Sewerage (Councilor Westbury & Councilor Oates)

- LCRI 2027 Webinar for Councilor Oates and Councilor Westbury
- There is a lot that goes into sampling the water
- Turnipseed is to advise us on the bidding process
- Mayor to call Mrs. Thomas and talk to her about changing out pipes so we will be in full compliance.

Personnel (Councilor Wise & Councilor Harris):

- No applications yet for part time utility worker or police officer
- Mayor Recker stated we needed to sell working for the City of Plains
- Councilor Harris passed out a proposed Municipality Cell Phone Usage Agreement. Council to review and discuss at June meeting

Hospitality & Public Relations (Councilor Oates & Councilor Wise):

- All 7 employees took advantage of the meal certificates to Bonita's or Buffalo Café
- Get a copy of the part time job to Councilor Oates for website
- Work on getting newsletter out to the 50 customers who now receive their bill by email. QSI does not offer a way to highlight the website on the email bill

Industry, Trade & Tourism (Councilor Jackson & Councilor Harris):

- Mayor Pro Tem Jackson reported she enjoyed the tour of the home at Presidential Cottages. It is an asset to Plains. We need to do all we can to help them. They are have 40 in one place and 100 going to California.
- Still working to get work out about Summer Club for Boys and Girls Club.
- Applying for a T-Mobile and Sumter EMC grant to help with bathroom renovations
- Glen Pickle is preparing a quote for us on the bathrooms. Structure is very sound but inside needs serious renovation. Hope to put camera outside the bathrooms after renovation.

Finance (Councilor Jackson & Councilor Wise):

- Refer to the Cash Balance Report for financial details.

- Budget meeting June 12, 2025, at 6:00 pm

VI. Other Business for Approval/Discussion

Vote Item #1: City of Ethics Resolution

- A copy of an ordinance to denote Plains as a City of Ethics was passed out for council review. This will be voted on at next meeting.

Vote Item # 2: Establish a written policy specifying the maximum amount the Mayor may authorize for expenditures without requiring prior approval from the City Council

- Councilor Westbury made a motion to establish a written policy setting the maximum amount the Mayor may authorize for expenditures without prior City Council approval at \$2,500. Councilor Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (6–0).
- Councilor Westbury also made a motion to allow the City Clerk to authorize expenditures up to \$500 without prior Council approval. Councilor Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (6–0).

Vote Item # 3: Permit for July 4th Fireworks

- Councilor Jackson made a motion to provide a permit for the July 4th Fireworks. All approved (6-0) motion carried.

VII. Executive Session

- Councilor Harris made a motion to convene in Executive Session. Councilor Edge seconded the motion. All approved (6-0) motion carried. Entered Executive Session at 7:35 pm.

Councilor Westbury made a motion to reconvene in regular session. Councilor Edge seconded the motion. All approved (6-0) motion carried. During Executive Session, the Council reviewed all available data related to Sgt. Howell's conduct. The Council found that Sgt. Howell followed proper procedures and acted in accordance with his training in handling the situation involving Ms. Samantha Miller. The Council agreed that no further action was necessary and that no disciplinary measures would be taken against Sgt. Howell.

VIII. Adjournment

Mayor Recker adjourned the meeting at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Bagwell, City Clerk