

Tony Craig, Mayor
Elizabeth Craig, Councilmember, Place 1
Scott Baker, Councilmember, Place 2
Claude Lang, Councilmember, Place 3
Terry Mann, Councilmember, Place 4
James Mann, Councilmember, Place 5



Christie Eason, City Clerk
Jason Dobbins, Police Chief
Bruce Swanson, Fire Chief
Matt Balch, City Attorney
Tom Jarvinen, City Attorney
Jake Roth, City Engineer

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:	CITY STAFF PRESENT:	GUESTS PRESENT:
Scott Baker Elizabeth Craig Tony Craig, Mayor Claude Lang ABSENT: James Mann Terry Mann	Teresa Carpenter, Revenue Clerk Jason Dobbins, Police Chief Christie Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer Jeff Graves, K-9 Police Officer Lora Martin, Planning Department Clerk Bruce Swanson, Interim Fire Chief Brandy Wilson, Court Clerk Scott Worsham, Police Lieutenant	Matthew Balch, City Attorney Nick Ballenger, WAFF 48 Demetrius Hurry, WAAY 31 Nicki Marker, WHNT 19 Barbara Saunders Miranda Steele Family of Bruce Swanson Mike Wilson ~73 additional community members

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Tony Craig @ 6:00 P.M.

- INVOCATION** – Doug Browner, Cove Baptist Church
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Led by: Councilman Scott Baker
- APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S) & BANK BALANCES**
 - City Council Minutes of the Work Meeting held February 18, 2025
 - City Council Minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 18, 2025
 - Bank Balances as of March 18, 2025**Sponsor & Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer

Motion to Approve Minutes and Bank Balances: Claude Lang; 2nd Scott Baker

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Minutes & Bank Balances Motion Carried

- ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS** –
 - RESOLUTION No. 25-007: Appointing Bruce Swanson, Current Deputy Fire Chief, as Fire Chief**

Motion to Approve RESOLUTION No. 25-007: Scott Baker; 2nd Claude Lang

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion Carried

- Oath of Office: Bruce Swanson**

2. Mayor Craig requests to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a subject that involves potential litigation.**Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session: Claude Lang; 2nd Elizabeth Craig**

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion Carried**Adjourned to Executive Session at 6:08****Reconvened City Council Meeting at 6:20**

Mayor Craig stated that the City Council has just received the transcript from the Public Hearing while in Executive Session. This will be reviewed and the Council will report their vote to Christie Eason, City Clerk on Friday.

1. Public Comments Regarding Pathway of Madison County, LLC Business License Renewal

Commenters are limited to those who signed up with the City Clerk prior to noon on Friday before the council meeting. Please wait until your name is called then come forward to the lectern.

Speakers have up to 3 minutes to speak. This time is not for debate or questions, only to state your concerns.

- i. Nathan Nickelson – lives close to facility, listed many reasons he is against renewing
- ii. Carole Albyn (comment read by Clerk on her behalf) – wants Pathway to provide better oversight
- iii. Tim Taymon – not in attendance
- iv. Karen Watson – not in attendance
- v. Lynn Anderson – part of Empowering Women’s Causes, been working with girls, concerned of what will happen to girls if the facility closes
- vi. Miranda Steele – lives close to facility, listed many reasons she is against renewing
- vii. Mary Marley Latham - part of Empowering Women’s Causes, been working with girls, concerned of what will happen to girls if the facility closes

3. ORDINANCES FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR ADOPTION –**a. ORDINANCE No. 25-004: Providing for the Election of Municipal Officers**

Sponsor & Presenter: Christie Eason, City Clerk

(1st reading)

Motion to Consider ORDINANCE NO. 25-004: Claude Lang; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion to Adopt ORDINANCE No. 25-004: Scott Baker; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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MOTION PASSED - ORDINANCE No. 25-004 ADOPTED

b. ORDINANCE No. 25-005: Establishing the type of Voting Machines Used for Municipal Elections to be held FY 2025

Sponsor & Presenter: Christie Eason, City Clerk
(1st reading)

Motion to Consider ORDINANCE NO. 25-005: Scott Baker; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion to Adopt ORDINANCE No. 25-005: Claude Lang; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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MOTION PASSED - ORDINANCE No. 25-005 ADOPTED

c. ORDINANCE No. 25-006: Establishing the Qualification Fee for Municipal Elections

Sponsor & Presenter: Christie Eason, City Clerk
(1st reading)

Motion to Consider ORDINANCE NO. 25-006: Claude Lang; 2nd Scott Baker

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion to Adopt ORDINANCE No. 25-006: Scott Baker; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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MOTION PASSED - ORDINANCE No. 25-006 ADOPTED

d. ORDINANCE No. 25-007: Numbering Council Places for the City of Owens Cross Roads

Sponsor & Presenter: Christie Eason, City Clerk
(1st reading)

Motion to Consider ORDINANCE NO. 25-007: Scott Baker; 2nd Claude Lang

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion to Adopt ORDINANCE No. 25-007: Claude Lang; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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MOTION PASSED - ORDINANCE No. 25-007 ADOPTED

- e. **ORDINANCE No. 25-008: Establishing a Single Polling Place for the 2025 Municipal Elections**
Sponsor & Presenter: Christie Eason, City Clerk
(1st reading)

Motion to Consider ORDINANCE NO. 25-008: Scott Baker; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion to Adopt ORDINANCE No. 25-008: Claude Lang; 2nd Scott Baker

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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MOTION PASSED - ORDINANCE No. 25-008 ADOPTED

- f. **ORDINANCE No. 25-009: Designating the City Clerk as Absentee Manager for the Municipal Elections and Establishing Compensation for said Position**
Sponsor & Presenter: Christie Eason, City Clerk
(1st reading)

Motion to Consider ORDINANCE NO. 25-009: Claude Lang; 2nd Scott Baker

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion to Adopt ORDINANCE No. 25-009: Scott Baker; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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MOTION PASSED - ORDINANCE No. 25-009 ADOPTED

4. RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

- a. **RESOLUTION No. 25-003: Authorizing the Cancellation of Court on 04.17.2025**
Sponsor: Brandy Wilson, Court Clerk **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk

Motion to Approve RESOLUTION No. 25-003: Claude Lang; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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MOTION PASSED - RESOLUTION No. 25-003 ADOPTED

- b. **RESOLUTION No. 25-004: Electing Voting Delegates for Annual Business Meeting at ALMC**
Sponsor: Tony Craig, Mayor **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk

Motion to Approve RESOLUTION No. 25-004: Claude Lang; NO 2nd

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig n/a	Scott Baker n/a	Mayor Tony Craig n/a	Claude Lang n/a	James Mann Absent
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MOTION FAILED - RESOLUTION No. 25-004 TABLED – WILL BE REVISITED

~~c. RESOLUTION No. 25-005: Authorizing the Purchase of a Server & Rack for Owens Cross Roads Fire & Rescue~~

~~Requestor: Bruce Swanson, Fire Chief & James Mann, Councilman~~

~~Presenter: Christie Eason, City Clerk~~

~~TABLED UNTIL NEXT COUNCIL MEETING~~

d. RESOLUTION No. 25-006: Authorizing the donation to the New Hope Recreation League in Support of Youth Sports

Requestor & Presenter: Christie Eason, City Clerk

Motion to Approve RESOLUTION No. 25-006: Scott Baker; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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MOTION PASSED - RESOLUTION No. 25-006 ADOPTED

5. DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

a. Building and Planning Department

Lora Martin - nothing

Tim Gaines - absent

b. Business Licenses

Teresa Carpenter – wrapping up insurance tax premiums and business licenses

c. Fire Department

Bruce Swanson – left after Oath of Office

d. Local Government

Christie Eason – elections are starting to heat up; audit still ongoing; many other things happening

e. Municipal Court

Brandy Wilson – recalling warrants that are over 10 years old; court this week

f. Police Department

Jason Dobbins – requested permission to hire Alex Monson, Reserve Police Officer, who recently graduated from the Academy, part-time: Polling Vote Taken-

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion Passed.

Scott Worsham - nothing

g. Sewer Department

Teresa Carpenter – always working on collections

6. CITY ENGINEER COMMENTS

Jake Roth - absent

7. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Matt Balch - nothing
Tom Jarvinen - absent

8. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Terry Mann, Councilman, Place 4 – absent

Elizabeth Craig, Councilwoman, Place 1 - nothing

Scott Baker, Mayor Pro Tempore & Councilman, Place 3 – nothing

Tony Craig, Mayor – nothing

Claude Lang, Councilman, Place 2 – nothing

James Mann, Councilman, Place 5 – absent

4. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Claude Lang; 2nd by Scott Baker

Terry Mann Absent	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Absent
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Motion Carried – Meeting Adjourned at 6:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted by: *Christie D. Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer & Teresa Carpenter, Revenue Clerk*
