

New Strawn City Council

Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, December 11, 2025

PRESENT:

Mayor Jeanne Haas, council members: Stephanie Baker, Butch Gilkison, Dan Haller and Johnny Hernandez

Absent: David Christiansen

Staff: City Attorney Philip Wright, Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight, Code Enforcement Ray Wards and City Clerk Lana Johnson

Others: Mark Petterson, Deb Stukey and Tammy Petrie

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE:

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES:

ADD: Maintenance Operator: B: National Sign Company

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Baker moved, seconded by Gilkison, to approve the agenda with change. Motion carried 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA ADDITIONS: Correct typo

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Consent Agenda Items

MINUTES: Move to approve meeting minutes of October 9, 2025.

WARRANTS: Move to approve the Warrants dated October 7, 2025, through November 10, 2025, in the amount of \$55,057.68.

PAYROLL: Move to approve the October 2025 Payroll in the amount of \$17,201.33.

LICENSES: Move to approve 2026-CMB-01 Cereal Malt Beverage License for Casey's General Store

OTHER: Move to renew the Coffey County Chamber Membership for 2026 @ \$250
Move to renew the League of Kansas Municipalities Membership for 2026 @ \$472.57

Baker moved, seconded by Haller, to approve the consent agenda with typo correction.

Motion carried 4-0.

APPOINTMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Tammy Petrie with the New Strawn Branch of the Coffey County Library thanked the mayor and council for the donations and use of the community center and presented each with a sample container of chocolates that will be at the library open house next Thursday.

Mayor and council thanked Tammy for everything the library does for the community.

Mayor Haas: Welcome to Deb Stukey who will be taking her oath of office at the next meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- a. Additional Warrants – None

STAFF REPORTS

- **Zoning Administrator** – there has been a permit submitted for a greenhouse.
 - Approved 2025-Z-09, Tracey Moerer, 105 N 3rd St, 8' x 16' Greenhouse
 - Approved 2025-Z-10, CrossWinds, 187 Osage St, 25' x 40' Addition
- **Code Enforcement Officer**
 - Nuisance Property Update – the fence posts at Seneca Circle are still in place. It is to be removed by midnight tonight. Pictures will be taken tomorrow.
 - Dogs at Large – two larger dogs have been out and about. A citizen witnessed them getting into trash and was able to contact the owners.
- **Maintenance Operator**
 - Burlington Ordinance No. 917, Section 6 – Operator Dwight wanted the council to be aware of an ordinance passed by the City of Burlington regarding emergency water rates.
 - **ADDED:** National Sign Company

Hernandez moved, seconded by Baker, to approve the purchase of material to reface stop and yield signs from National Sign Company, LLC at the price of \$659.40. Funds to be used from Streets. Motion carried 4-0.

The Comm-Tronix system has been down for the last week. Two boards had to be replaced today. Costs are unknown at this time, but it was a necessity.

Mayor Haas: Steven, thank you very much for the signs. In the wind our signs take a beating and after the first of the year we will put this on the agenda for the new council.

- **City Clerk**

- City Hall Will Be Closed at Noon 12/24, All Day 12/25 & 26, 1/1/26 & 1/2
- Community Center Rentals

▪ *December – 3rd p.m. Private Event, 4th New Strawn Library Soup Supper with Republican Kansas State Representative Caryn Tyson, 6th Private Event, 10th & 11th Private Event, 16th p.m. I.B.E.W., 17th – 18th New Strawn Fire Department, 20th Private Event, 26th Private Event*

- January – 17th Private Event

- City Attorney – was contacted by a lawyer regarding a potential claim against the city this week. If it goes anywhere, it will be turned in to our insurance carrier. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mayor's Report

- a. Ordinance 2025-06 Emergency Weather Plan

Baker moved, seconded by Gilkison, to approve Ordinance 2025-06, Emergency Weather Plan as written. Motion carried by a show of hands 4-0.

- b. Cleaning Hourly Pay

Hernandez moved, seconded by Haller, to approve an hourly increase of \$5, starting January 2026 for Erin Pettersen for cleaning city hall, park restrooms and the community center.

Motion carried 4-0.

Finance & Economic Development Report – Stephanie Baker

Community Center Report – Stephanie Baker

Maintenance Operator Dwight reported he took the flag down during the high winds recently. He also reported that he will need to order more flags soon.

Utility Report – Butch Gilkison

- a. Water Usage & Loss Report

Street Report - Steven Dwight – everything is looking good. In a couple of months, we can get a plan together for 2026.

Public Relations Report - Lana Johnson

- a. Christmas Yard of the Month Judging 12/19-21

Parks & Recreation Report – Johnny Hernandez – keep replacing the trees in the plan. Parks seem to be looking good. Operator Dwight mentioned keeping an eye on the main park as it is aging.

New Business:

- a. Employee Evaluations

Haller moved, seconded by Hernandez, to go into executive session at 7:26 p.m. for 15 minutes pursuant to non-elected personnel under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and to discuss personnel for the purpose of performing employee evaluation with Mayor and Council. Motion carried 4-0.

Haller moved, seconded by Gilkison, to return to executive session at 7:50 p.m. for 5 minutes pursuant to non-elected personnel under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and to discuss personnel for the purpose of performing employee evaluation with Mayor and Council. Motion carried 4-0.

*Haller moved, seconded by Baker, to go into executive session at 7:50 p.m. for 10 minutes pursuant to non-elected personnel under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and to discuss personnel for the purpose of performing employee evaluation with Mayor, Council and Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight. **Motion carried 4-0.***

*Haller moved, seconded by Hernandez, to go into executive session at 8:01 p.m. for 10 minutes pursuant to non-elected personnel under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and to discuss personnel for the purpose of performing employee evaluation with Mayor, Council and City Clerk Johnson. **Motion carried 4-0.***

*Baker moved, seconded by Haller, that starting December 20, 2025, the maintenance operator's salary and the city clerk's salary each be increased by 3%. **Motion carried 4-0.***

Old Business:

- a. City Hall Remodel –The decision was made to table the remodel until the new council is in place.
- b. Code 15-107 Utilities- Landlord Liability – No changes will be made to Code 15-107.

Adjournment:

*Baker moved, seconded by Hernandez, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. **Motion carried 4-0.***