



General Government & Public Safety Committee Meeting

Minutes

Monday, February 9, 2026 at 6:45 pm

CENTRALIA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

114 S. Rollins Street, Centralia, MO 65240

The General Government and Public Safety Committee Meeting will begin at approximately 6:45 p.m., immediately following the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee Meeting. This meeting could begin sooner or later, depending on the length of the other meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Minutes:

Alderman Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE

Minutes:

Aldermen Robert Hudson, David Wilkins, Harold Deckerd, and Don Rodgers answered roll call. Aldermen Jessica Orsini & Landon Magley were absent. Others present: City Administrator Tara Strain, Water & Sewer Dept. Foreman Aaron Kroeger, Street & Sanitation Dept. Foreman Deme Towne, Police Chief Harlan Hatton, Fire Chief Denny Rusch & Deputy City Clerk Beth Kable. Citizens present: Centralia Chamber of Commerce representatives Betty Gooding & Ashley Cameron.

PUBLIC SAFETY

3. POLICE DEPARTMENT

a. Activity Report

Minutes:

Police Chief Harlan Hatton reported that they have the new police up and going and will have a car to put on Purple Wave soon.

b. Chief of Police Monthly Report

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT

a. Activity Report

Minutes:

Fire Chief Denny Rusch said that January was very busy. The department has started the new type of training that they are participating in this year. He also went to Boone County and met with Joint Communications about changing the radio frequencies to 800 megahertz. Denny reported that we are required to have a medical director on staff in order to respond to medical calls. The current director is going to retire, and he has been working without being paid. City Administrator Tara Strain said that our insurance company, MIRMA, is now requiring us to pay the medical director. Denny says we have someone to fill the role, and he will be getting paid, so the budget will have to accommodate this going forward.

b. Discussion about Medical Director**5. OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY**

- a. Emergency Management**
- b. Protective Inspection**

GENERAL GOVERNMENT & FINANCE**6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT****a. Chamber of Commerce Reports****Minutes:**

Centralia Chamber of Commerce member Ashley Cameron handed out Event Proposals for the year. This packet outlined the events for the year to let the city give approval for what is happening this year. City Administrator Tara Strain said that the only event they need approval for is the Wine and Whiskey Walk and there has to be an ordinance passed for it. She said that she would write the ordinance up to be voted on at next month's meeting.

7. PARK BOARD

- a. Park Board Agenda(s)**
- b. Park Board Minute(s)**
- c. Missouri Department of Conservation Agreement - Community Assistance Program**

8. LIBRARY BOARD

- a. Library Board Agenda(s)**
- b. Library Board Minute(s)**

9. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- a. Balance Sheet**
- b. Budget Report**

10. OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT**Minutes:**

City Administrator Tara Strain wanted to announce that the city has hired Donald Rodgers, as the new Code Enforcement Officer and he will start next week.

11. ADJOURN

Minutes:

There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Deckerd made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Rodgers seconded the motion. On a call by Alderman Hudson for ayes and nays the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0