



Public Works & Utilities Committee Meeting

Minutes

Monday, March 9, 2026 at 6:30 pm

CENTRALIA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

114 S. Rollins Street, Centralia, MO 65240

1. CALL TO ORDER

Minutes:

Alderman Deckerd called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE

Minutes:

Aldermen Jessica Orsini, Robert Hudson, Harold Deckerd, and Landon Magley answered roll call. Aldermen David Wilkins and Don Rodgers were absent. Others present: City Administrator Tara Strain, Public Works & Utilities Director Matthew Rusch, Water & Sewer Dept. Foreman Aaron Kroeger, Electric Dept. Foreman Clayton Crump, Street & Sanitation Dept. Foreman Deme Towne, Police Chief Harlan Hatton, Fire Chief Denny Rusch & Deputy City Clerk Beth Kable. Citizens present: Linda Bormann.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Minutes:

Alderman Deckerd led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

a. Activity Report

Minutes:

Water Foreman Aaron Kroeger reported that they have been flushing lines to try to clear the calcium in them. When the Slaker was not operating, calcium built up on the water lines and now that our water is soft again, the calcium is starting to come off. He says it is more common in neighborhoods that have C900 PVC pipe, so they are working with Rural Water on making a flushing plan in order to get as much sediment out as possible. He also reported that they have been working on changing out the registers on meters that are not transmitting readings to the office.

5. ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

a. Activity Report

Minutes:

Electric Foreman Clayton Crump reported that they have been replacing a lot of streetlights and have repaired the street light issue on Lakeview Street. They have also been installing several new services at new building sites lately.

6. PUBLIC WORKS

a. Activity Report

Minutes:

Street Department Foreman Deme Towne said that they have been grinding stumps from trees that were removed by the city. They have also been doing several concrete cuts and patches. They have been blowing out several culverts and drawing up bids for new culverts to be installed.

7. PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DIRECTOR

a. Monthly Report

Minutes:

Public Works Director Matthew Rusch reported that construction has started on the Fine Arts building at the High School and he has helped with moving some of the water service there to accommodate the new build. There have been several new land acquisitions throughout town, and he has been working with the new landowners on easements. He also said that the Mayberry subdivision will start construction in July, so he is working with the crews to make sure we have the supplies needed to start the project. He talked to Dan Braik and they are almost done cutting down trees and will be coming back to town to level off the stump areas and put dirt and sow grass seed on the affected area.

8. ADJOURN

Minutes:

There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Hudson made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Orsini seconded the motion. On a call by Alderman Deckerd for ayes and nays the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.