



CITY OF CHARLESTON

City Council Meeting September 9, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Mayor, Monica Goodin. Councilman Jason Oliver, Councilman Trent Lane, Councilman Jackie Whiteside, City Manager Greg Luehmann, City Attorney Tabatha Graham, City Clerk Ali Morris, and Public Safety Officer, Ie'Meion Giles were present. Councilman Rick Toon and Sergeant at Arms Robert Hearn Jr., were absent. Mayor Goodin asked everyone to stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance and read an opening statement.

Consideration of Prior Meeting Minutes: The City Council minutes of August 12, 2025, were presented. Councilman Whiteside moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, and the following vote was recorded: all were in favor, and none were opposed. The minutes of August 14, Public Hearing/Special Call Meeting were presented. Councilman Oliver made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Whiteside seconded the motion. All were in favor. None were opposed. The meeting minutes were approved.

Report of City Business: City Manager, Greg Luehmann, gave a report for the month of August.

Mr. Luehmann reported that both of the tennis courts had been power-washed.

He also reported that the new digital sign was installed at AD Simpson Park and that the feedback had already been very positive.

Mr. Luehmann mentioned that the preliminary drawing of the potential butterfly sanctuary was in each council packet. He explained that this project can be done in stages, and they are working on cost estimates.

The city manager said he had a meeting with Lester Gillespie to finalize the Labor Day event plans and Mr. Gillespie said there was a great turnout, and everything went really well. There was a copy of the thank you card and photos from the weekend included in the council packets.

Mr. Luehmann said he met with Rich Cochran and David Harris to discuss the response from Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and they seem happy with our plan moving forward and we are now in compliance.

The city manager reported that he met with the CPA, Ted Eftink, to go over the most recent audit and they discussed renewing his contract.

Mr. Luehmann explained the upcoming fishing event planned in coordination with the Missouri Department of Conservation. They will be stocking the pond at Hequembourg Park with catfish prior to the event. Councilman Lane said members of the football team and coaches plan on volunteering at the event. The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 27th and the times will be discussed and announced.

The city manager said that Symone Owens called to thank him for donating the 2012 Tahoe to help with running errands for her daycare.

Leonard Harrison with the City of Bertrand also expressed gratitude for the donation of the retired code enforcement car.

Mr. Luehmann said Barry Morgan with the Sheriff's Department also thanked him for donating a vehicle to them.

The city manager reported that he met with Marcie Lawson to discuss the importance of solutions for daycare in the surrounding areas.

Mr. Luehmann also mentioned he spoke with Kenny Hulshof to discuss the status of the tax abatement process, and they are fine tuning establishing the blighted areas.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Bill NO. 3979 / Ordinance NO. 3120- An Ordinance Authorizing Execution of a Contract for Audit Services was presented. Mayor Goodin read the ordinance by title two times. A motion was made by Councilman Whiteside to approve the ordinance and contract with Theodore Eftink, CPA. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. All were in favor. None were opposed.

The next item of business was to discuss changing the date of the November council meeting due to the Veterans' Day holiday. A motion was made by Councilman Lane to change the date of the November council meeting to Tuesday, November 18th. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. All were in favor. None were opposed.

Introduction of Visitors: Sherry Austin, Talisha Mays, and Trent Adams were present.

Adjournment: There being no further business before the City Council, Councilman Whiteside made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor