

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE OZARK CITY COUNCIL**

NOVEMBER 10, 2025

OZARK CITY COUNCIL MEETING ROOM

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Roxie Hall. Upon a roll call, a quorum was declared. Present were Council Members Charlie Meeker, Summer Miner, Argest Hyler, Angela Harris, Randy Melton and Loren Maier. Also present were Mayor Hall, City Attorney Kevin Barham, City Clerk Susan Stevens and City Treasurer/Deputy City Clerk Marla Ward. The invocation was given by Mayor Hall and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Taylor Skolarski.

A motion was made by Randy Melton to approve the minutes of the Regular October Meeting and seconded by Argest Hyler. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the minutes were approved. A motion was then made by Summer Miner to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held October 28th and was seconded by Angela Harris. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the minutes were approved. Randy Melton made a motion to approve the financial reports and was seconded by Summer Miner. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the financial reports were approved.

The Water Department reports 35 locates for Arkansas One Call. They have repaired several small leaks and jetted several sewers. They have met with engineers about moving forward with some projects on the master water plan. The engineers will be bidding out the Helberg/Butterball vault job on November 18th. The radio read meters are continuing to die, they have started working on replacing them as we can with new meters. They are working to get quotes on rebuilding the clarifier at the sewer plant. There were 3 main breaks in October.

The Community Center reports that they will be closing a 7pm for home football games. Dates are listed on our website & Facebook page. Space rental is free at present for Food Trucks to possibly bring in more business. Various specials throughout the month will be posted on Facebook. A reminder to all Employees/Council Members that all employee memberships are free---family members are 50% off. Rentals are 50% off. This only includes family members living in your household. Christmas time is almost here. There will be a 20% off membership special for the month of December. Also, buy 5 Day Passes, get 1 free. Buy 10 day passes, get 2 free. Great for stocking stuffers. Hoping to do some kind of drawing or contest for membership. A "Black Friday Special" will be announced soon. Letters to Santa information will be sent out and posted online and on Facebook soon. We will have quotes for window tinting and to complete the flooring in both locker rooms at the next budget meeting.

Holiday Hours : Wednesday, November 26th we will close at 5pm. We will be closed on Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th.

The Ozark Police Department reports 48 arrests, 81 reports, 22 accidents, 63 subpoenas served, 42 city ordinance warnings, 0 city ordinance tickets, 3 motorist assists, 3 dog/cats picked up, 57 traffic tickets, and 270 traffic warnings. The OPD hosted an SRT monthly training, a 3-day Desert Snow Criminal Interdiction Class, a River Valley Child Advocacy Center (MDT) meeting and the Fort Smith PD SWAT used our training facility. We applied and received a \$2,500 grant from the Department of Justice toward vests. We collected 25 pounds of unused or expired medications for the Arkansas Drug Take Back. We handed out candy for the Scare on the Square and we turned the shoot house into a Haunted House to raise money for Shop With A Cop and raised \$5,136.00. Brayden English has turned in his two weeks' notice. He will be starting a new job as a Crawford County Sheriff's Deputy. Brody Bowles will be moving from Code Enforcement Officer into the patrol officer's position. We are taking applications for a new code enforcement officer.

The Ozark Fire Department reports that the new bullet proof vests arrived. All trucks passed the annual pump testing. They started using a new reporting system. The cost is just over \$1000.00 a year, which can be covered on the Communication budget line item. This system logs all man hours, training, and vehicles. A report can also be run for just about anything you would want to know. There were a total of 60 calls in October which came to 109 hours and 26 minutes of man hours.

The Street Department reports that mowing has slowed down. They have been working on cleaning everything up to make sure it is good for winter. They have fixed potholes and have done some tree trimming around town. The bathrooms downtown are complete.

Randy Melton reported for the Street & Water Committee meeting. Bob Wright of Crews & Associates presented a handout regarding financing of capital improvements to our water system. The Fire & Police Committee and the Planning Commission had no news to report. Kevie Haberer stated that everything was running smoothly with the A & P Commission. There was a Budget Committee meeting on October 28th to discuss needs for the upcoming year. The next meeting is scheduled for November 18th.

2. Old Business

a. Kevie Haberer spoke regarding the A&P Commission requesting that City Attorney Kevin Barham also represent the A&P. His position was appointed, not elected, and no contract or scope of work was ever drawn up. Mr. Barham stated that the A&P Commission is an independent commission with their own budget and why should the city pay for their administration expenses? One attorney cannot represent two entities. Mayor Hall asked if we wanted to have a contract drawn up. Argest Hyler asked if other commissions would be included in this and the answer was no. Angela Harris stated that we need to have a contract. Mr. Barham

stated that his duties have always been to represent the council and elected officials—personally or as a group and to prosecute cases in district and circuit court. Charlie Meeker made a motion to table the discussion and was seconded by Randy Melton. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the issue was tabled.

b. Resolution 2025-1

Jack Wells from River South Water has been contacted by persons unknown about providing water for the prison project. Mayor Hall has also been contacted by an “assistant to the governor”—not the DOC- who told her that since we passed a Resolution stating our non-support of the project, they would need a letter from the Mayor/Council that states that we are open to meet with prison representatives for discussion. Mr. Barham read Resolution 2025-1 aloud. Summer Miner stated that reaching out to them would put us under obligation and they should be the ones reaching out to us. Randy Melton agreed and added that the City is already in financial stress just to update our own water facilities. Water Superintendent Roy Sampley stated that the \$23 million in our proposal has nothing to do with the prison—just the city and we are at 85% capacity in City usage. Loren Maier stated that from a business standpoint we need the facts from an authorized, responsible person—not anonymous phone calls. Mr. Melton agreed that this just adds to the secretive agenda. Mr. Maier stated that their actions point to sneaking around. Randy Melton then made a motion that we will wait until we hear from an official from the Department of Corrections (DOC). This was seconded by Loren Maier. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the motion was approved.

3. New Business

a. Christmas bonuses are currently set at \$200.00 for full-time employees and \$100.00 for part-time employees. Volunteer firefighters receive the full-time bonus as they are on call 24/7. Argest Hyler made a motion that all bonuses should be the same (\$200.00). This was seconded by Loren Maier. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the motion was approved.

b. The Water Department Audit has been completed and had very few minor issues. Randy Melton made a motion to approve the Audit report and was seconded by Argest Hyler. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the motion was approved.

4. Public Input

1) Beverly Fox spoke against the prison issue, stating that we need to be heard as tax paying, voting citizens. Our resources will be strained to their max and we need to tell the Governor NO!

2) Cody Sosebee stated that transparency has been non-existent in the whole situation. Any representative from the DOC will lie and/or misrepresent the issue. The Franklin County/River Valley Coalition is available to provide information to anyone who asks. He also

invited everyone present to the Veteran's Day Parade in Charleston at 2:00pm on Tuesday, November 11th.

3) T.F. White had questions regarding the agenda and public input rules. He also stated that we need to be proactive not reactive in regards to the prison issue.

4) Theresa White yielded her time

5) Wade & Susan Dunn introduced themselves. Mr. Dunn is running for State Representative in Senate District 26. He stated he is a conservative and against the prison.

6) Jason Hughey stated that we need to remember why we passed Resolution 2025-1 which was because of the secretive nature of the issue and lack of transparency.

7) John Jackson spoke out against the prison stating that it has never been about Ozark—they are targeting Charleston and want a letter from Mayor Hall as a trophy to remove the City's Resolution against the prison.

8) Ronnie Duggar—was not present when called upon to speak.

9) Marilyn Moore from the FC/RV Coalition agreed with Mr. John Jackson that the DOC will put a spin on any letter that we might send them. She stated there is only so much water in the City lake and that the citizens of Ozark are already facing a rate hike for improvements just for City use.

10) Sarah Douglas spoke against the prison. She has Denning Water but has older relatives who live close to the area. She stated that tax revenues will go down, there will be tourism loss, real estate will be devalued as well as a huge tax increase and rate increase.

5. Announcements

*The Haunted House here in the city turned out to be fantastic. A total of \$5,136.00 was raised for the Shop With A Cop program. Thank you to all that helped make this happen and also to the outstanding job of the county. This will help lost of kids have a better holiday season.

*City Offices will be closed tomorrow, Tuesday, November 11, 2020 in honor and observation of Veteran's Day.

*There will also be a free meal tomorrow evening, Tuesday, November 11, 2025 sponsored by Ozark's Open Table at the Gardner Building from 5pm to 7pm. They will be serving chili and cornbread.

*The Model Café auction will take place on Tuesday, November 18th, 2025.

*For three days beginning on Monday, November 24th until Wednesday, November 26th, there will be 40% off on full Community Center memberships. It will only be on those three days.

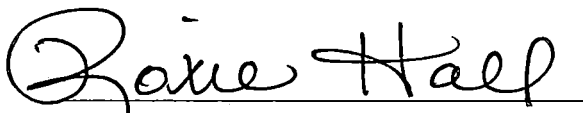
*City Offices and the Community Center will be closed Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

*On Monday, December 15th, there will be a meeting for those who request money from the city. For example: the Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Ozark, the Senior Center, and the Area Agency on Aging. The meeting will begin at 5:30pm in the conference room located in the police department.

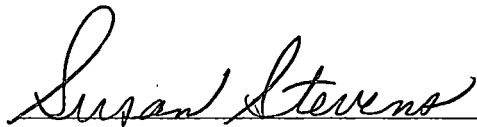
6. Adjournment

A motion was made by Argest Hyler to adjourn and seconded by Randy Melton. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes for the Ozark City Council meeting held Monday, November 10, 2025 were approved and passed this 8th day of December, 2025.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Roxie Hall", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Roxie Hall

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Susan Stevens", written over a horizontal line.

City Clerk Susan Stevens

