

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

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

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 Randy Melton, Charlie Meeker, Argest Hyler, Summer Miner, and Angela Harris. Also present were Mayor Hall, City Attorney Chris Brockett, City Clerk Susan Stevens, and City Treasurer/Deputy City Clerk Marla Ward. The Invocation was given by Marcia Hillard. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vee Webb-Delesline, and Star Bell.

Charlie Meeker made a motion to approve the December 8th, 2025 City Council meeting minutes, This was seconded by Argest Hyler. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the minutes were approved. Summer Miner made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 12th, 2026 minutes and was seconded by Randy Melton. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the minutes were approved. Argest Hyler then made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special City Council meeting held January 22nd 2026. This was seconded by Angela Harris. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the minutes were approved.

Anagela Harris made a motion to approve the city financial reports and was seconded by Randy Melton. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the city financials were approved. Randy Melton made a motion to approve the water department financials and was seconded by Angela Harris. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the water department financials were approved.

The Water Department reports doing 26 locates for Arkansas One Call. There was 1 main break. They have repaired several small leaks and jetted several sewers. The Helberg and Butterball Vaults Project was awarded to M. Phillips Construction, and they have started materials procurement which may take a couple of months. Radio read meters are continuing to die and 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—one quote came in for a partial rebuild. Paperwork was sent to Arkansas Rural Water for the rate study.

The Ozark Police Department reports 18 arrests, 47 reports, 9 accidents, 21 subpoenas served, 36 city ordinance warnings, 1 city ordinance ticket, 1 motorist assist, 8 dogs/cats picked up, 65 traffic tickets, and 422 traffic warnings. The above numbers are approximate. With the

city offices being closed last week, we have not had a chance to key in all the numbers for exact totals.

OPD hosted SRT monthly training, the Arkansas State Police SWAT used our training facility, the FBI Regional SWAT used our training facility, we hosted the monthly DHS MDT county meeting, and a Chamber of commerce meeting. Code Enforcement Officer Patrick Hardy started the police academy on February 2nd. He will be in the academy for about the next 16 weeks. Donna Kirchner resigned and took a secretary position with County Line Schools. We are currently taking applications for a records clerk. We have ordered two new vehicles. It will be about three months before they are on the road. Our 2018 Ford Explorer needs a new transmission for \$6,877.85 plus another \$360.20 for spark plugs, an ignition coil, and vapor canister purge valve. We have already replaced the water pump on it this year. I think that is more than the vehicle is worth. It is my recommendation that we sell the vehicle at the online auction website. One of the new vehicles that we are waiting for will replace it. In 2025 the OPD Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) worked with Homeland Security Investigations and Arkansas State Police on a lead generated by Ozark PD. In January of 2026, 64-year-old Shelby Miller pleaded guilty to possession of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and was sentenced to 45 years at the Arkansas Department of Corrections. Miller had over 16,085 CSAM images/videos. In 2025, the OPD Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) worked with Homeland Security Investigations and Arkansas State Police on a lead generated by the OPD. In December of 2025, Daniel Childers, 21, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 5 years in Arkansas Department of Corrections for possession of child sexual abuse material (CSAM).

The Community Center reports that food truck space rental is FREE for now to possibly bring in more trucks. 20% off Full Facility Memberships in February! Fingers crossed, both pools are operating as they should. Parts have been replaced and service is complete. The CC will be closed March 2nd through March 6th for a cleaning & maintenance week. Plans for Spring Break, and the Underwater Easter Egg Hunt will be announced soon!

The Street Department reports that in the month of January, they dug four graves at Highland Cemetery. Last year's total was 41. A transformer went out that is on our side of the electric at the high school softball field. And then we had a week of lovely weather.

Working Council Meeting Regarding City Attorney Vacancy: present were Mayor Hall, City Clerk Susan Stevens, council members Angela Harris, Summer Miner, Randy Melton, Charlie Meeker, and Argest Hyler. Also present were Police Chief Devin Bramlett, Officer Shae Reed, and Attorney Chris Brockett. It was noted that attorneys cannot have input in their own contract. Devin questioned if the contract/job requirements can be done by Ordinance? Answer: Yes. If there is an attorney who has applied for and is a city resident they should be considered first. Argest stated that he had spoken with Caleb at the ARML. Our requirements should be the same for an appointed attorney as well as an elected one. They will fill the position until the next scheduled election and then run for the office. The applicant should also be in good standing with

the ARML. If there is a conflict between the City and the County the attorney would be expected to recuse himself from both sides. Our contract should be thorough and detailed on every aspect of employment expectations. An ordinance will set up these requirements and can be amended in the future if necessary. Annexation requests must have their own attorney. Benefits to be as follows” Salary \$38,000.00, Attorney Expenses \$3,000.00, City Health Insurance, and a city email address. Question: Do we need to call a Special Meeting? Answer: Yes. The meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 22nd at 5:30pm.

2. There was no public input.

3. Old Business

Angela Harris made a motion for the Council to enter into Executive Session to discuss the applicants for the Council Member vacancy. Argest Hyler seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the Mayor and Council left the meeting room at 5:37pm. The applicants to be considered are: Preston Anderson, Teresa Day, Tristan Haberer, and Rick Yates. The Mayor and Council returned to the open meeting at 5:54pm. Randy Melton made a motion to approve the choice of Rick Yates as the new Ward 1, Position 1 Council member. This was seconded by Charlie Meeker. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and Mr. Yates was approved. County Clerk Tammy Sisson was present and administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Yates as well as City Attorney Chris Brockett.

4. New Business

a. Artemus McElhaney, Cubmaster for Cub Scout Pack 74 (K-5th) presented a request for use of a piece of property that is adjacent to Reed Mountain Park and Overlook on Lock and Dam Road for Scouting activities, such as camping, a cooking/eating area, outdoor education events, and award ceremonies. It would be maintained by scouts and adult volunteers. Insurance will be covered by Scouting America. The property belongs to the US Army Corps of Engineers and is included in the land lease to the City of Ozark. More detailed plans would need to be provided to the Corps by the City to obtain a written agreement with the Corps to sublease the property. Argest Hyler made a motion to give tentative approval of the project subject to approval of the Corps of Engineers. This was seconded by Randy Melton. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the motion was approved.

b. OAYO representatives Taylor Kinney and Shane Ridenour were present to ask about the current lease of the OAYO softball fields or if there is a lease. A written lease agreement cannot be found. The Mayor stated that it could have been a verbal agreement done years ago and carried on. OAYO would like to have a current written lease agreement before putting any large sums of money into the upgrading of the fields. Michael Brasseaux pointed out that we do have a detailed lease with the high school for their fields which spells out who is responsible for what. A copy will be sent to the City Attorney to draw up a comparable lease with OAYO and it will be on the March Agenda.

c. Bank OZK Letter of Credit renewal: *No change to Amount : \$11,000.00, *New maturity date: 01/14/2027, *Rate if Advanced: 5.92% (2.50% over CD #6001026949 APY of 3.42%) *All Loan and Letter of Credit Fees to be waived by Bank OZK *Authorized Signers: Roxie Hall, Mayor and Susan Stevens, City Clerk (or revised as needed)

Angela Harris made a motion to approve and was seconded by Summer Miner. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and the motion was approved.

d. Resolution 2026-6 "A Resolution Adopting Amendments to the 2025 Budget for the City of Ozark, Arkansas." Argest Hyler made a motion for the Resolution to be read as amended (the year was incorrect). This was seconded by Randy Melton. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and Mr. Brockett read the Resolution. Randy Melton then made a motion to approve and was seconded by Angela Harris. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and Resolution 20226-6 was approved.

e. Resolution 2026-7 "A Resolution Adopting Amendments to the 2025 Budget for the Water Department; City of Ozark, Arkansas." Summer Miner made a motion for the Resolution to be read as amended (the year was incorrect). Angela Harris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and Mr. Brockett read the Resolution. Randy Melton made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Angela Harris. Upon a roll call vote, all council members voted aye and Resolution 2026-7 was approved.

5. Announcements

To the amazing employees that braved the ice, snow, and cold weather, THANK YOU for an OUTSTANDING JOB!! I received several compliments from citizens as well as two mayors asking what we were doing here because they were getting compliments on the streets in Ozark to which I answered they simply found out what they needed to do. It was a long 6 days, but our crew went above and beyond and WE THANK YOU ALL!!!

I also want to thank CARDS, Inc. for staying in touch daily and putting safety FIRST, for their drivers and for our residents. It took longer the second week but they have gotten it done.

A very special THANKS to ALL the citizens of Ozark for being so understanding about the trash by staying off the streets and staying home. GREAT JOB!!!

Spring will be here before we know it! Ozark Spring Clean-Up has been scheduled for the first full week in April. Be watching for information on what can be put out at curbside. Keep in mind, for residents inside city limits, with a copy of your Ozark water bill, you are allowed to take ONE truck load to the transfer station for FREE. The transfer station will be open all that week, just please remember you will need a copy of your City of Ozark water bill.

Reminder that ALL elected municipal seats are open this year which includes mayor, city clerk, ALL 6 city council seats, and city attorney. Filing period will begin on July 29th at 12:00 NOON and will close out on August 5th at NOON>

A special CONGRATULATIONS and a moment of being SUPER PROUD of our High School Cheerleaders, who placed 6th in the NATION!!!

Also, Congratulations to the Ozark High School Bowling team that is going to state competition of Friday of this week.

CONGRATS TO ALL OF THESE WONDERFUL YOUNG PEOPLE!!!

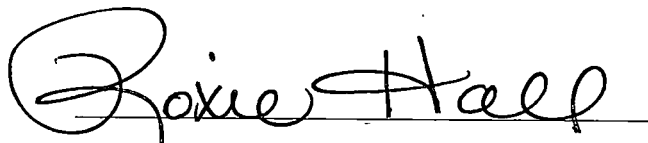
Business Licenses for 2026: 166 Businesses have paid, 30 Businesses have NOT paid, 7 Food Trucks have NOT paid, and there are 4 unpaid Seasonal Businesses.

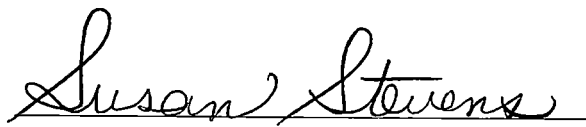
Run for the Fallen has been scheduled for March 13th through March 15th. It will start here in Ozark at 8:00am on Friday March 13th with a program starting at 7:45 at the Community Center and the run officially begins at 8:00am. Please help line the streets of Hwy 64 for a send-off.

If you are to have any questions, please contact me at 479-209-1299

A motion to adjourn was made by Angela Harris 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, February 9, 2026 were approved and passed this 9th day of March, 2026.


Mayor Roxie Hall


City Clerk Susan Stevens

