

Carlisle City Council
Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2026

The regular meeting of the Carlisle City Council was held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., in the council room of the Carlisle Civic Center.

Present

Mayor Jon Plafcan, Council Members: Andrew Silverman, Anne Anderson, Farris McClain, Caleb Swears, Mary Eddleman, City Attorney Mike Stuart and City Clerk Sissy Ingle. Council Member Chris Davidson was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Plafcan, who led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the opening prayer.

Mayor Plafcan reminded Council Members and audience that we would adhere to our procedures adopted for council meetings.

Mr. Larry Behnke was recognized in the audience by City Attorney Stuart.

Motion #20260421001

Motion made by Council Member Swears and seconded by Council Member McClain to allow Mr. Behnke to address the council and audience regarding his candidacy for Lonoke County Sheriff. Motion carried with all members voting yes (5-0).

March Minutes & Financial Reports

Motion #20260421002

Motion made by Council Member Eddleman and seconded by Council Member Silverman to approve the March financial reports and the minutes with the exception to the minutes. Minutes were revised to indicate Motion #20260325002 that the bid from First State Bank was accepted even though not the lowest bid. The lowest interest rate was from Huntington Bank, but their bid included an attorney fee of \$3000, penalty for early pay-off and was not in line with Arkansas law using Act 78 as the city normally uses in borrowing funds. Motion carried with all members voting yes (5-0).

Old Business

Mayor Plafcan informed the council the video was not completed this month due to the technician having a health issue. It should be done by our May meeting.

New Business

Resolution 385 – A Resolution Expressing the Willingness of the City of Carlisle Arkansas to Utilize Federal Aid Transportation Alternatives Program or Recreational Trails Program Funds. This is for the Rail to Trail project between Hazen and Carlisle to Lonoke. This is for the feasibility/planning stage.

Motion #20260421003

Motion made by Council Member Andrew Silverman and seconded by Council Member Anderson to approve Resolution 385. Motion carried with all members voting yes (5-0).

Resolution 386 - A Resolution Expressing the Willingness of the City of Carlisle Arkansas to Utilize Federal Aid Transportation Alternatives Program or Recreational Trails Program Funds. This is for the sidewalk projects that will be done in 4 phases if approved after the feasibility/planning stage. After a lengthy discussion from council members and audience, the resolution was amended to state it was for feasibility/planning.

Motion #20260421004

Motion made by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member McClain to approve Resolution 386 as amended. Motion carried with all members voting yes except for a no vote from Council Member Swears, (4-1).

Airport

Airport Commissioner Larry Pasley informed the council that 3 bids were received for the new terminal and opened on April 10, 2026. The lowest bid was accepted from Fargo bidding \$855,548.40. Funding for the terminal will be from the FAA grant of 95% and the State will fund the remaining 5%.

Parks & Recreation

Committee Chair Eddleman read Director Hayes report. Baseball season is ongoing. Appreciation was noted for 12 sponsorships.

Grants/Economic Development

Council Member Swears and Econ. Development Coordinator informed council they were looking into different grants and would continue research. Council Member Swears also informed the council and thanked First Methodist Church for their donation of an ice machine to the fire department.

Municipal Services

Chair Silverman informed council of city employees putting up signs/handicap at Rockefeller Park, cleaning up around the Welcome to Carlisle sign on the interstate and other task. City wide cleanup will be May 18-21. Council Member Eddleman thanked Superintendent Walters for his help with the Park/Rec.

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Officer Walters informed council there are ten (10) properties that will be sent condemnation letters. Some have already had resolutions approved, and the others will be ready for approval at the next meeting. This will be the process going forward to have a resolution, condemnation letter and citation going to the property owner when the initial resolution is approved.

A title search is needed for property at 115 E. Lilly that has already been condemned.

Motion #20260421006

Motion made by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member McClain authorizing City Attorney Stuart to negotiate to secure title to property owned described as Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7, Block 2, Perkins Addition to the Town of Carlisle, Lonoke County, Arkansas and further authoring Central Arkansas Title & Insurance, LLC to conduct a title search on the property. Motion carried with all members voting yes (5-0).

Emergency Services/Animal Control

Chief Frank let the council know the animal shelter is overflowing with dogs. Adoptions are needed!

Budget, Tax and Finance

Chair Anderson informed the council, Landmark CPAs will begin the 2025 Water and Sewer audit Monday April 27, 2026. We have not been notified by Legislative Audit at this time when the 2025 audit will begin. City Clerk/Treasurer Ingle indicated several have not submitted their Statement of Financial Interest forms that are required annually. She also informed council that the property insurance, \$74,776.74 and vehicle insurance, \$15,945.53, will both be due the first part of May.

Personnel

None

Guest: Rachel Stivers

Ms. Stivers addressed the council with her concerns regarding the Parks Director. Complainants about not being present at games when issues arise, notifying coaches of scheduling changes, uniforms being substandard, hats having to be bought again by parents, umpires and other issues. She was asked if others had issues and another guest said she did as well as others. Ms. Stivers said she was not the only one. Mayor Plafcan said he would address these problems with Mr. Hayes and hopes things will improve.

Adjournment

Motion #20260421006

There being no further business, motion was made by Council Member Eddleman with second by Council Member Swears to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was then adjourned at 7:40 p.m.


Jon Plafcan, Mayor


Sissy Ingle, City Clerk