MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - REGULAR SESSION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 02, 2026 at 9:00 AM

Bonifay City Hall Council Meeting Room – 301 J Harvey Etheridge St.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Call to order at 9:01 a.m.

PRESENT
Mayor Larry Cook
Council Member James Sellers
Council Member Shelley Carroll
Council Member Rick Crews
Council Member Eddie Dixon

Also present: Finance Director Tracy Walker; City Clerk Jessie Chaney; Executive Assistant Sierra Smith; Bonifay Police Chief Johnny Whitaker; Bonifay Captain Zach Sellers; Public Works Director Aaron Taylor; Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Matthew Perry

A. Invocation

Led by Reverend Ryan Martin

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Reverend Ryan Martin

II. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.
Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. October 19th, 2026 Regular Session

Motion made by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.
Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IV. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / TRANSFERS / FINANCIAL SHEETS TO REVIEW

Motion made by Council Member Sellers, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.
Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

V. VISITORS – PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

NON- AGENDA AUDIENCE
Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that "members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission." Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the Board. . THIS IS NOT A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION. It is NOT a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations and derogatory remarks to/or about City personnel. Those who wish to speak are reminded to observe proper decorum, and to avoid the use of profane or vulgar language. If you would like to address the City Council please come to the podium, state your name and address for the record

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Florida Firefighter Assistance Grant

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith presented the Florida Firefighter Assistance Grant, awarded in the amount of $28,145.00, for the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE). The grant will provide the Fire Department with five new sets of gear, bringing all gear up to date, with the oldest sets having been purchased in 2023.

Motion made by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.
Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

VIII. PLANNING & ENGINEERING

IX. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

A. Council Updates

Mayor Cook reminded everyone that the following day was Election Day and encouraged everyone to vote. He reported that Halloween was a success with no issues, attributing this to the presence of the Bonifay Police Department. Mayor Cook requested prayers for the Bonifay Fire Department following several motor vehicle accident. He also announced a Planning & Zoning meeting scheduled for November 10 at 6 p.m. and reminded everyone that City offices would be closed on November 11 in observance of Veterans Day.

B. Department Updates

Wastewater Treatment Facility New Hire

Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Matthew Perry announced the hiring of Bryan McDermont, who is dual certified and has 15 years of experience. Council Member Crews asked whether new hires require Council approval. Mayor Cook explained that Council approval is not required and that department heads present new hires to the Council as a courtesy. Attorney John Holloway confirmed that Mayor Cook's explanation was correct.

Bonifay Police Chief Johnny Whitaker introduced new employee Jordan Steele. Mr. Steele expressed his appreciation for the opportunity and stated that he looked forward to serving the City. Chief Whitaker informed the Council that Lieutenant Castro had been accepted to the Homeland Security Task Force, where she will assist with undercover work. He stated that a vehicle would need to be purchased for those assignments. Chief Whitaker also commended the Police Department for its work on Halloween, reporting a great turnout with no issues.

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith reported that the Bonifay Fire Department responded to 163 calls during the month, including 18 motor vehicle accidents.

C. Employee Spotlight

X. ADJOURN

at 9:13 a.m.

Motion made by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact City Hall at (850) 547-4238, at least five days prior to the proceedings.