

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL
MEETING**

April 14, 2026

7:00 PM

City Hall



CITY OF MILLS
EST. 1921

Mayor:

Leah Juarez

Council President:

Brad Neumiller

Council Members:

Cherie Butcher

Sara McCarthy

Tim Sutherland

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

ROLL CALL

Present:

Mayor Juarez

President Neumiller

Council Butcher (via phone)

Council McCarthy

Council Sutherland

APPOINTMENT

1. Appoint Interim Police Chief - Kate Acord

Mayor Juarez swore in Kate Acord as Interim Police Chief

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2. Liquor License Application - Big D Oil

Mayor closed the Council Meeting at 7:03pm

Mayor Juarez now declared the Public Hearing opened for the consideration of Liquor License Application for Big D Oil. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the state statues, Mills Council procedures and other applicable laws. The hearing has been set and advertised in accordance with the statues. I could ask those individuals who wish to address the council on this issue to approach the lectern and state your name for the record. Do I have a report from staff?

City Attorney Pat Holscher – Staff Comment:

Mr. Holscher explained that this is a full liquor license, commonly referred to as such, which permits the sale of packaged liquor. This type of license is the same classification typically issued to bars. He further noted that this is the last remaining unissued liquor license available to the City of Mills based on its current population. If approved and issued, no additional licenses will be available at this time.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Holscher for his report. She asked three times if there is anyone in the audience wishing to speak in favor of this item? No one spoke. She asked if three times if there is anyone in the audience wishing to speak in opposition of this item? No one spoke. There being no others for or against to speak on this item she declared the public hearing closed at 7:05pm

Mayor re-opened the Council Meeting at 7:05pm

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

3. Council Meeting Minutes

City Licenses

4. New / Renewal Business / Contractor Licenses and Home Occupation Permits

Financial Approvals

5. Financial Breakdown - Check Register & Future ACH/EFT Transactions
6. PAID ACH / EFT Transactions
7. Regular / Police Payroll
8. Fire Payroll
9. Transmittal Transactions
10. Reserve Transfers
11. Treasurer's Report
12. Voided Checks

Motion made by Council Member Sutherland to approve, Seconded by Council Member McCarthy. Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland. Motion passes.

OPEN DISCUSSION

No one spoke.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

13. RESOLUTION NO. 2026-12:

A RESOLUTION CORRECTING TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS IN CERTAIN RECENT RESOLUTION

Motion made by Council President Neumiller to approve, Seconded by Council Member Sutherland. Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland. Motion passes.

14. RESOLUTION NO. 2026-13:

A RESOLUTION REGARDING UNSERVED WARRANTS

Motion made by Council Member McCarthy to approve, Seconded by Council President Neumiller. Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland. Motion passes.

COUNCIL APPROVALS

15. Liquor License - Big D Oil

Motion made by Council Member McCarthy to approve, Seconded by Council President Neumiller.

Council President Neumiller stated that he would like to have further discussion on the matter. He noted that, since this is the final available liquor license, there has been a longstanding preference to reserve it for potential development along the riverfront.

Mayor Juarez concurred with staff's comments, noting that this is the final available liquor license and that it is important to ensure it is allocated in a manner that provides the greatest value and impact to the community.

The Mayor then asked if there were any additional comments from the Council. No more comments.

Voting Nay: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland. Motion fails.

16. Landscaping Bid Agreement

Motion made by Council President Neumiller to approve, Seconded by Council Member Sutherland.

Council President Neumiller stated that, after reviewing the agreements and associated pricing, he would recommend rejecting all submitted proposals. He noted that completing the work in-house would cost less than half of some of the bids received.

Mayor Juarez expressed appreciation for the time and effort invested by the businesses that submitted bids, acknowledging the challenges and costs associated with operating a business. She stated that he respects the work and business models of those who participated in the process.

She noted, however, that this may be a situation where completing the work in-house is the more cost-effective option. The Mayor reiterated her appreciation for the bidders' time and efforts.

She then asked if there were any additional comments from the Council. No more comments.

Voting Nay: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland. Motion fails.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

17. Personnel Matter

Council President Neumiller made a motion to go into executive session for a personnel matter at 7:10pm. Seconded by Council Member Sutherland, Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland

All of council returned from the executive session personnel matter at 7:15pm. Council Member Butcher via phone.

Action: No Action Necessary

18. Legal Matter

Council Member Sutherland made a motion to go into executive session for a legal matter at 7:18pm. Seconded by Council Member McCarthy, Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland

All of council returned from the executive session legal matter at 7:18pm. Council Member Butcher via phone.

Action: The City Attorney asked for a motion recommending two claims related to ambulance services on estates be excused and waived as uncollectible. Council President Neumiller moved the motion, Council Member Sutherland seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland.

19. Legal Matter

Council President Neumiller made a motion to go into executive session for a legal matter at 7:19pm. Seconded by Council Member Sutherland, Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland

All of council returned from the executive session legal matter at 7:57pm. Council Member Butcher via phone.

Action: The City Attorney asked council to consider a motion to approve ADR on a tentative basis and to authorize an update regarding the same. Council President Neumiller moved the motion, Council Member Sutherland seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland.

20. Legal Matter

Council President Neumiller made a motion to go into executive session for a legal matter at 7:58pm. Seconded by Council Member McCarthy, Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland

All of council returned from the executive session legal matter at 8:05pm. Council Member Butcher via phone.

Action: The City Attorney stated the motion would be to deny a claim and to submit it to LGLP. Council President Neumiller moved the motion, Council Member Sutherland seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member McCarthy at 8:05pm. Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council Member McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council President Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland.

AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

NEXT MEETING - April 28, 2026 at 7:00pm / May 12, 2026 at 7:00pm

NEXT WORK SESSION - April 28, 2026 at 6:00pm / May 11, 2026 at 9:00am

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons who need accommodation in order to attend or participate in this meeting should contact City Hall at 307-234-6679 within 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to request such assistance.

Mayor, Leah Juarez

City Clerk, Sarah Osborn