

Regular Council Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2025
6:00 PM Central Standard Time

Present: Steve Cozart, Cade Diamond, Brent Freeman, Nina Hendricks, Michael Hutto, Denise McDonald, Shon Owens, Eric Seib, April Watson, Crystal Weatherington, Megan with Tri-City Ledger

Meeting Call to Order: Eric Seib

Prayer: Mike Hutto

Pledge: Brent Freeman

Approve Minutes: Mayor Owens made a motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes from July 7, 2025, as written. Seconded by Councilwoman Hendricks. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

1. Town of Jay Report:

Operations Report: Mr. Seib presented the operations report (attached). Discussion followed. He stated that he would like to meet with Panhandle Engineering to discuss the verbiage in their contract for services before signing. Mr. Seib discussed the upcoming RIF Grant categories (attached). Discussion followed.

2. Old Business:

Billing System Upgrade Option: Ms. Watson presented the council with options for an update to the billing system through Black Mountain Software. Discussion followed. The Town is currently paying over \$1,100 monthly in credit card fees. The new system would alleviate the cost to the Town and would change the credit card processing fees to 3.95%. It would also allow customers to sign up for autopay, text and phone payments and many other options. Mayor Owens made a motion to select Option 1, where customers would pay 3.95% per credit / debit card transaction and \$1.95 per electronic check. Seconded by Councilman Freeman. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Dr. Smith Day Proclamation: Mr. Seib presented the council with Proclamation 25-07-25 (attached) proclaiming July 25, 2025, as Dr. David Smith Day. Mayor Owens made a motion to accept the proclamation as written. Seconded by Councilwoman Hendricks. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Ad Valorem Rate and Budget: Mr. Seib presented the council with information regarding Ad Valorem rates and the upcoming budget. Discussion followed. Mayor made a motion to increase the Ad Valorem rate to 5.17%. Seconded by Councilwoman Hendricks. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

3. New Business:

Park Fountain Drinks: Mr. Seib stated that we needed to choose a company for the park fountain drinks for concessions. Mayor Owens made a motion to contact Pepsi for our servicing contract. Seconded by Councilman Hutto. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Livestock Market Cow Fencing: Mr. Seib stated that he had been contacted about selling the Livestock Market Cow Fencing. Discussion followed. Mayor Owens made a motion to allow the interested party to have the fencing with the understanding that they are responsible for all clean up and repair once fencing is removed. Seconded by Councilman Freeman. 4 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried. Councilwoman Hendricks abstained from vote.

Santa Rosa County School District Interlocal Agreement: Mr. Seib discussed the proposed interlocal agreement with Santa Rosa County Schools regarding the use of Bray-Hendricks Park. Discussion followed. The agreement has been sent to the school board for review.

4. **Council Comments:** None

5. **Visitor Comments:** None

Mayor Owens made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Hutto. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried


Donna Bullock, Town Clerk


Shon Owens, Mayor