

**TYRONZA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
January 22, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Tyronza City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Jeff Woods. A roll call was taken, and the following council members were recorded as present: Willie Harris, Michael Hood, Barbara Ross, Patty Barger, and Kristina Woods. Absent: Daniel Brewington. A quorum was declared. City Attorney Jimmy Gazaway and Recorder/Treasurer Donna Wood were also at the meeting.

Barbara Ross gave the invocation.

Mayor Woods asked if there was a motion to suspend the reading of the December 18th, 2025, council meeting minutes. Kristina Woods, seconded by Barbara Ross, moved to suspend the reading of the minutes. Upon a voice vote, the voting was unanimous to approve.

Mayor Woods asked if there was a motion to approve the December 18th, 2025, regular council meeting minutes. Willie Harris seconded by Barbara Ross, moved to approve the minutes. Upon a voice vote, the voting was as follows unanimous to approve.

The expenditure reports were next on the agenda.

Mayor Woods asked for a motion to approve the expenditure reports for December 2025.

Michael Hood, seconded by Barbara Ross, moved to approve the expenditure reports.

Mayor Woods then opened the floor for any discussion on the expenditure reports.

Barbara Ross noted a correction. An amount of \$9,864.72 listed as interest in the general fund was actually state sales tax. The actual interest earned for December was \$483.64.

Michael Hood questioned a payment of \$400.12 to Brittany King. It was clarified as being for Brewster & Company who performed at the Christmas Festival.

With there being no further questions, a voice vote was taken to approve the December 2025 expenses with noted corrections. The voting was unanimous to approve.

In New Business:

Adoption of the 2026 Budget was first to be discussed by the council.

City Attorney Gazaway then read the proposed ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING 2026 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF TYRONZA, ARKANSAS" in full thereby placing it upon its first reading.

Barbara Ross, seconded by Kristina Woods, moved that the rule requiring the reading of any ordinance in full on three different days be suspended, and that the ordinance be placed on its second reading by title only.

The Mayor put the question on the adoption of the motion to the council, and the roll was called. The vote was as follows: Barbara Ross-yes; Willie Harris – yes; Michael Hood-yes; Patty Barger- yes; Kristina Woods-yes.

The Mayor declared that at least two-thirds of all members of the council having voted in favor of the motion to suspend the rule, the motion was carried and the rule suspended. The ordinance was then read by title only, thereby placing it upon its second reading.

Barbara Ross, seconded by Willie Harris, moved that the rule requiring the reading of any ordinance in full on three different days be further suspended, and that the ordinance be read by title only.

The Mayor put the question on the adoption of the motion to the council the roll was called and the voting was as follows: Willie Harris-yes; Barbara Ross-yes; Michael Hood-yes; Patty Barger-yes; Kristina Woods-yes.

Thereupon, the Mayor declared that at least two-thirds of all members of the council having voted in favor of the motion to suspend the rule, the motion was carried and the rule suspended.

The ordinance was then read by title only, thereby placing it upon a third and final reading.

Barbara Ross, seconded by Kristina Woods, moved to adopt the ordinance.

The question was put by the Mayor to the council on the adoption of the motion, and the roll was called, the voting was as follows: Barbara Ross-yes; Willie Harris-yes and Michael Hood-yes; Patty Barger-yes; Kristina Woods-yes.

The Mayor thereupon declared the ordinance adopted.

City Attorney Gazaway announced he would be joining a new law firm, Taylor King, starting February 1st. This change is not expected to affect his service to the city. Future payments would be made to the new law firm starting in February.

Planning and Zoning Board Appointments were next to be discussed.

The following members agreed to serve another term: Steve Griffin, Junior Smith, Joey Cavitt, Hank Emrich, and Sandy Carroll. David Wood has retired from the board, leaving one vacancy.

Sherry London was recommended as a potential replacement but has not yet been contacted.

The decision to appoint a new member was tabled until the next meeting.

Fire Department Officer Appointments was next on the agenda under new business.

Chief Daniels reported all current fire department officers will remain in their positions. The Officers include Chris Daniel (Fire Chief), Joe Byrd and Johnathan Drace (Assistant Chiefs), and Hunter Turner and Mark Wilhoite (Captains), Megan Wilhoite will also continue as Secretary of Treasury.

A voice vote was taken to approve the fire department officers; the voting was unanimous to approve.

Discussion then moved to hiring a VIN Verification Clerk

The council discussed the need to hire someone to help with VIN verifications to reduce the workload on Donna and Melissa.

The estimated annual cost for a full-time position is \$37,400, which includes an hourly rate of about \$14.00, taxes, and insurance.

The position would be located at the police station and require the person to be ACIC certified.

The council debated whether this would be a 40-hour-a-week job or if duties could be combined with a police officer role.

A suggestion was made to create a detailed job description and hold a special meeting to discuss the workload and potential budget cost.

A special meeting will be scheduled to further discuss the new position, including creating a job description and reviewing the budget impact.

The Walking Trail Bids were then discussed.

Bids for the walking trails project were opened on January 13th. Miller and Newell engineers recommended awarding the contract to Hawkeye Enterprises of Newport, Arkansas. The base bid from Hawkeye Enterprises for the complete job is \$64,251.

The council approved the recommendation to award the contract to Hawkeye Enterprises.

The Council the discussed winter weather and emergency preparations for predicted upcoming winter storm.

A potential major snow and ice storm was discussed, with forecasts of power outages lasting three to four days.

Barbara Ross seconded by Kristian Woods moved to grant the mayor authority to spend up to \$7,000 in emergency funds for clearing roads and other emergency services. Upon a voice vote, the voting was unanimous to approve.

Other actions that were being taken was that Chief Spain would clear snow from the senior building, city hall, and police station using salt/sand donated by Jason Simpson.

The senior building would be used as a heating center if the power goes out, with generators ready.

Poinsett County OEM Director Scotty Williams would be providing ten cots with there already being 3 at the center.

Blankets and soup supplies will be purchased.

Canned water would be available at the fire station.

The generator at the water pump needed a new battery. The senior building generator was operational. The well generator had one bad battery. The fire station's generator was running with new batteries and was fully fueled. All fire trucks were fueled and ready.

Chris McCorkle was available for hire with a skid steer for clearing, but the city must reimburse him for usage fees.

Information was shared on Facebook by the fire department to help citizens prepare, including a request for residents to clear snow from fire hydrants.

A concern was raised about ensuring the fire department was cleared as a top priority due to the increased risk of fires in cold weather.

The meeting then moved to Old Business on the agenda

Condemnation of Unsafe Properties and Nuisance Ordinances was first to be discussed in old business.

Three properties, one on Memphis Street, one on Main Street, and one on Pecan Street have been reported for condemnation, and the group discussed procedures for handling them.

City Attorney Gazaway gave procedural options on how to address the mentioned properties.

Option 1 (District Court): Cite owners to appear in district court, where a judge can impose a daily fine (e.g., \$50/day) until the property is cleaned up.

Option 2 (Condemnation): The city council can declare a property a public nuisance, give the owner a 30-day notice, and if there is no action, the city can demolish it at its own expense and place a lien on the property to recover costs.

Rodney Harrs, owner of the property on Main Street asked to address the council.

He expressed frustration about receiving complaints regarding his historic building, which is for sale, and a past incident where city personnel entered their property without contact.

Mayor Woods said before any action was taken, he would like for City Attorney Gazaway to review the City's ordinances concerning condemnation of property. He felt the ordinances needed to be update due to new laws being passed concerning condemnation of property.

Mayor Woods also encourage the city council member to take the online training on condemning property through the ACE Hub that the Arkansas Municipal Leage provides.

Kevin Skiper addressed the council about an update on the "Stars and Stripes" Committee Entertainment Contract

The committee discussed the contract for a Michael Jackson impersonator for an upcoming event, handled by Fusion Entertainment.

City Attorney Gazaway said he confirmed the legitimacy of the firm. An initial deposit of \$4,500 was due to Fusion Entertainment by March 13th, with the final balance of \$4,500 paid to the artist's group on-site.

He said he also needed a specific list of requirements from the entertainment company to finalize the contract. The contract must be approved by the council before the committee can proceed with event promotion.

Fire Chief Daniels then addressed the council on replacing the tanker truck that had been wrecked. The truck was totaled out by the insurance company. The insurance company would be paying \$15,000.00 for the truck and the city would be keeping the truck.

Chief Daniels said the fire department needed to replace its wrecked tanker truck to maintain its ISO rating.

He also said he had been offered \$5,000 for the wrecked truck.

The department planned on using the insurance money and proceeds from the sale of the wrecked truck to fund a used tanker truck for the department.

Chief Daniels said he would prefer a new poly tank instead of reusing the old metal one. He was still working on a quote for the poly tank.

Michael Hood, seconded by Willie Harris, moved to sell the wrecked truck to the highest bidder. Upon a voice vote, the voting was unanimous to approve.

Parts like a fifth wheel could also be sold.

In announcements:

Connie Harper introduced herself as a candidate for Poinsett County Treasurer. She is from Harrisburg and has 12 years of experience working for the county.

The council then discussed the Corn Patch.

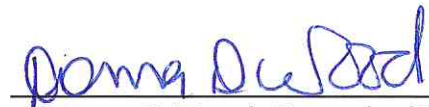
Michael Hood asked the council if the city planned to plant the corn patch that year. He said he was quoted a price of \$750 for a 50-pound sack of seed. He also said that Tommy Smith had agreed to plant the corn

The council decided to table any further discussion until there was a more accurate price and the quantity could be determined. The decision will be revisited next month.

With there being no further discussion, Michael Hood, seconded by Barbara Ross moved to adjourn the meeting. Upon a voice vote, the voting was unanimous.



Jeff Woods, Mayor



Donna D Wood, Recorder/Treasurer