City of Stafford Council Meeting Minutes

The August 10, 2026, regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hardin, followed by the pledge of allegiance. Council members Kathie Lawrence, Nicholas Minks, Joan Newell and Mark Soria were present. City Staff present were City Attorney Knappenberger, City Administrator Downing, Utility Supervisor Holmes and Police Chief Wettstein. There were 6 guests present.

Consent Agenda & Minutes

Council member Soria made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from July 27, 2026, regular council meeting and appropriation ordinance #14-26 in the amount of $126,964.04; Council member Newell seconded the motion. Motion carried 3 – 0. Council member Minks arrived at 7:02. Pain quote and property review were added under new business.

Communications/Presentations

Myra Morrison was present to request permission for a parade for Myron Falks 100th birthday celebration in September. It was the consensus of the council for her to proceed with the parade if scheduling with his family and Leisure allowed for it.

Public Comment - None

Old Business

- Discussion was held regarding the 250-year celebration. Council members Lawrence & Newell as well as Mayor Hardin provided an update. The event was very well attended and expenses for the celebration were close to $2,000.
- City Attorney Knappenberger discussed the newsletter regarding e-bikes/scooters and informed the council that the new STO/UPOC books have been ordered, and an updated ordinance would be presented soon to include the changes requested as well as the updated statutory changes.

New Business

- Utility Supervisor Holmes presented quotes for a grapple bucket. After discussion, Council member Soria made a motion to allow purchase of a grapple bucket of Utility Supervisor Holmes choice through John Deere for up to $6,000; Council member Newell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 – 0.
- City Administrator Downing discussed the quotes for masonry work for installation of memory bricks. It was noted that the donation from Jim Stanford and profit from the brick fundraiser will cover the cost. It was the consensus of the council to have an additional bid for review and leave to staff discretion.
- Council member Minks discussed the museum, and their budget needs to maintain operations. It was the consensus of the council to try to work funds into the budget to help assist them in 2027.
- City Administrator Downing discussed the property resolution drafted from the previous public hearing. Council member Soria made a motion to approve Resolution No. 5-26; Council member Lawrence seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 – 0.

- City Administrator Downing presented a quote for the façade paint of the HEAL grant building. Council member Lawrence made a motion to approve $8,230 to Hood Construction; Council member Minks seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 – 0.
- Council member Minks discussed a shop for sale in town that could be considered for city equipment. It was the consensus of the council to gather quotes for a new build to review at a later meeting.
- Council member Lawrence made a motion to accept the resignation of Sergeant Smith and approve the financial agreement for Stafford County Sheriffs Department to purchase his patrol vehicle and K-9 Nitro for $35,000; Council member Minks seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 – 0.
- Department head updates were received from City Administrator Downing, Utility Supervisor Holmes and Police Chief Wettstein.

Adjourn

With no further business before the Council – Council member Minks made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.; Council member Soria seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 - 0.

Don Hardin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jami Downing, City Administrator