City of Stafford Council Meeting Minutes

The August 24, 2026, regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hardin, followed by the pledge of allegiance. Council members Jimmy Brozek, Kathie Lawrence, Nicholas Minks, Joan Newell and Mark Soria were present. City Staff present were City Attorney Knappenberger, City Administrator Downing and Police Chief Wettstein. There were 2 guests present.

Consent Agenda & Minutes

Council member Minks made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from August 10, 2026, regular council meeting, and appropriation ordinance #15-26 in the amount of $231,891.59; Council member Soria seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 – 0 with Council member Brozek abstaining. Library Board and Community National Bank payment were added under new business.

Communications/Presentations

Corrina with Adams Brown was present to deliver the 2025 audit report. She noted that the city received the highest opinion, which is an un-modified audit. A note to confirm and verify year-end encumbrances was made.

Public Comment - None

Old Business

- Council member Brozek made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to include the Council, Mayor and City Attorney until 8:00; Council member Minks seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Council returned to regular session at 8:00. Council member Brozek made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to include the Council, Mayor and City Attorney until 8:15; Council member Minks seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Council returned to regular session at 8:15. Council member Brozek made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to include the Council, Mayor and City Attorney until 8:30; Council member Minks seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Council returned to regular session at 8:30. Council member Brozek made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to include the Council, Mayor, City Attorney and City Administrator Downing until 8:45; Council member Minks seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Council returned to regular session at 8:45. Council member Lawrence made a motion to rescind the motion from the August 12th special meeting that approved moving the Police Chief position to a full-time status and motioned to put the Police Chief position back to a part-time status; Council member Newell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Council member Minks made a motion to give a $3.00/hr. pay increase to Police Chief Wettstein with him remaining a part-time employee under 32 hours and not utilizing a take-home vehicle outside of the city; Council member Soria seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0.

New Business

- Council member Minks made a motion to approve a CMB license for P.L.A.Y. with use of the city building and Resolution No. 6-26 for the temporary street closure of the 100 block of West Broadway for the duration of the annual event; Council member Soria seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- City Administrator Downing presented invoices to EBH for reimbursements from the USDA Grant and SRF Loan Program. Council member Brozek made a motion to approve $31,300 to EBH & Associates; Council member Minks seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- City Administrator Downing presented the invoices from Cunningham Sandblasting as they were in town to do cleaning on one tower and were able to include the second tower. Council member Soria made a motion to approve $5,890 to Cunningham Sandblasting; Council member Lawrence seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Mayor Hardin informed the council of a request from the Library Board to change residency requirements for board members. Council member Soria made a motion to allow them to make changes to their by-laws which would allow an opening for board member consideration to be within the boundaries of USD 349; Council member Newell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- City Administrator Downing informed the council of receiving payment for the Police Durango and K-9 Nitro from the County. The payoff for the 2020 Durango needs to be approved to obtain the title. Council member Lawrence made a motion to approve $15,727.77 to Community National Bank for payoff of the 2020 Durango; Council member Soria seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Adjourn

With no further business before the Council – Council member Soria made a motion to adjourn at 9:06 p.m.; Council member Newell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Don Hardin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jami Downing, City Administrator