

HASKELL CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July, 20, 2026

The regular meeting of the Haskell City Council was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Haskell City Hall on Monday, July 20, 2026

Mayor Clyde Crookham Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Mayor Clyde Crookham Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance; prayer was given by Brad Cotten.

A Proclamation by Mayor Clyde Crookham was presented to the Harmony Grove Cardinals Baseball Team for winning the 2026 Arkansas Class 3A State Championship, as well as appreciation to the coaches and families. Congratulations Cardinals!

ROLL CALL: Council Members present were, Brad Cotten, Mike Krebs, Greg Rogers, Josh Helton, Dallas Wright, and Kaylee Breckling.

Members not present: Adam Ricketts, Jim Wells

Mayor Crookham declared a quorum present. (6/8)

Others in attendance: Mayor Clyde Crookham Jr., Clerk/Recorder/Treasurer Taylor Finley, Police Officer Everett Davis, Public Works Director Nancy Duren, City Attorney Ashley Clancy, and Fire Chief Brian Cotten.

Public in attendance: Harmony Grove Baseball Team Members, coaches and families. Zeke Jones, CPA with Yoakum & Lovell, Ray and Brandy Garner

Motion made by Brad Cotten seconded by Mike Krebs to accept the June 8, 2026 council meeting minutes, approved by all council members in attendance

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

1. WATER/SEWER/STREETS

- The report was given by Public Works Director Nancy Duren, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.

2. FIRE & RESCUE

- The report was given by Fire Chief Brian Cotten, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.

3. POLICE

- The report was given by Police Officer Everett Davis, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.
- Greg Rogers inquired about paper tags on vehicles and voiced concerns about seeing expired paper tags around Haskell. Officer Davis informed the council that individuals have 60 days to obtain permanent tags, and if someone tries to make their own paper tags that is considered a felony. He also informed the council that vehicle insurance can be obtained without permanent tags with the VIN or vehicle information.
- Greg Rogers made the comment that Flock Camera concerns have been posted on the community Facebook page and asked if there have been any concerns brought to the PD about this. Officer Davis stated that he has no knowledge of issues in the community pertaining to the Flock Cameras.

4. CODE ENFORCEMENT

- No Report was given

5. PLANNING COMMISSION

- The report for the Planning Commission meeting was given by Clyde Crookham, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.
- The PC is putting together a commission to update the Zoning Regulations and the Subdivision Regulations they asked that at least 2 members of the city council be on this to ensure open communication and equal input.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Yoakum, Lovell & Co. – CPA; Haskell Water and Sewer Department Annual Financial Report

- Overview of the Financial Audit Report was given by Zeke Jones, CPA from Yoakum, Lovell & Co.
- After a brief discussion about updated/increasing water rates, a motion to accept the report was made by Brad Cotten 2nd by Greg Rogers. Motion approved by all council members in attendance.

2. Monthly Income and Expense Statements for June

- Greg Rogers had questions pertaining to the Professional Services Line-item in the Water/Sewer fund, a breakdown of expenses which is included with these minutes. Public Works Director Nancy Duren informed the council that a portion of that expense will be reimbursed due to contractor expenses/fees that haven't been received yet. Mayor Crookham informed the council that it was high due to the Water/Sewer Improvement District that has to be paid by the city.
- Motion to accept the reports made by Mike Krebs 2nd by Greg Rogers. Motion approved by all council members in attendance.

3. **Resolution 20-2026** - A Resolution authorizing the removal of Laura Dempsey from accounts at Farmer's Bank and adding Leslie Westbrook to accounts at Farmer's Bank, in addition to Clyde Crookham, Taylor Finley, and Brad Cotten.
 - After a brief overview given by Mayor Crookham, Brad Cotten made the motion to approve Resolution 20-2026, 2nd by Mike Krebs. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 6 yes votes and 2 no/absent votes.
4. **Resolution 21-2026** – A Resolution authorizing the submittal of an application for ACEDP Grant Funds to the State of Arkansas
 - After a brief overview given by Nancy Duren and Clyde Crookham, Brad Cotten made the motion to approve Resolution 21-2026, 2nd by Greg Rogers. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 6 yes votes and 2 no/absent votes.
5. **Resolution 22-2026** – A Resolution authorizing an RFQ for engineering professional services.
 - After a brief overview given by Clyde Crookham, Greg Rogers made the motion to approve Resolution 22-2026, 2nd by Mike Krebs. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 6 yes votes and 2 no/absent votes.
6. **Resolution 23-2026** – A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into a wholesale water sale and purchase agreement with Southwest Water Users Public Water Authority.
 - A brief overview given by Mayor Crookham, Greg Rogers asked about the contract and certain wording, Attorney Ashley Clancy assured the council that it is a standard contract that the wording is very common with these types of contracts. Brad Cotten made the motion to approve Resolution 23-2026, 2nd by Dallas Wright. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 6 yes votes and 2 no/absent votes.
7. **Resolution 24-2026** – A Resolution waiving the competitive bidding process for street paving services; accepting the proposal from Redstone Construction Group; and for other purposes.
 - After a brief discussion pertaining to the state contract that is already in place, and questions about this being considered an emergency. Attorney Ashely Clancey stated that we could waive the bidding process even though it is not considered an emergency situation.
 - Greg Rogers made the motion to approve Resolution 24-2026, 2nd by Brad Cotten. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 6 yes votes and 2 no/absent votes.
8. **Resolution 25-2026** – A Resolution authorizing the mayor of the City of Haskell, Arkansas, to execute a service agreement with Betty J. Phillips and F.M. Phillips for property cleanup, debris removal, and related services; and for other purposes.
 - Discussion in the 3rd bullet point of the Public Comments section.
 - It was stated by Fire Chief Brian Cotton that this is a safety issue with gaining access through this area and the sooner it is cleared the better.

- Greg Rogers made the motion to add this to the agenda, 2nd by Brad Cotten. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 6 yes votes and 2 no/absent votes.
- Brad Cotten made a motion to proceed with Resolution 25-2026, 2nd by Greg Rogers. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 6 yes votes and 2 no/absent votes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Treasurer, Taylor Finley, completed the Mandatory Treasurer Training (MTT) at the Arkansas Municipal League's Convention 92 on June 17-18, 2026 to be in compliance with Arkansas Legislature Act 671.**
- **Water/Wastewater Advisory Committee Recommendation – Pursue funding with the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

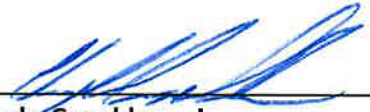
- Greg Rogers inquired about a financial distress classification that the city has been given. Public Works Director Nancy Duren told the council about the timeline and that we are just waiting for the report to be completed by the Arkansas Rural Water Association (ARWA), and what this means moving forward. Nancy was told that the information needed was provided in plenty of time, however until ARWA gets the report done we will be classified in financial distress.
- Mike Krebs asked about the new sewer annexation that has been discussed on the community Facebook page. Mayor Crookham informed the council that the Sewer Improvement District only applies to the annexed areas and the cost incurred.
- Kaylee Breckling asked for a progress report on the land at Roosevelt to be purchased by the city. Mayor Crookham brought a contract before the council to be able to adjust the total amount it would cost to purchase the land if the city clears the lot. After reviewing Resolution 15-2026 (passed at the May meeting) pertaining to Roosevelt, it was decided by the council to move forward with the contract to clear the lot.
See item #8 – Resolution 25-2026.
- Mike Krebs inquired about hiring a new Code Enforcement Officer, Mayor Crookham stated that we are in the process of looking for an officer.
- Kaylee Breckling asked if there was any update on obtaining information from different banks to possibly switch service. Mayor Crookham stated that hasn't been done yet due to time restraints. Greg Rogers inquired about the credit cards, and was told that nothing has changed and there is still only 1 card.

There being no further comments or questions motion to adjourn made by Brad Cotten seconded by Mike Krebs. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Taylor Finley
Treasurer, City of Haskell



Clyde Crookham Jr.
Mayor, City of Haskell

