

City of Bull Shoals Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday September 25, 2025, at 6:30pm
Bull Shoals City Hall Council Chambers
706 C.S. Woods Blvd Bull Shoals, AR 72619

Meeting Commencement: The meeting is called to order at 6:30pm, including the Pledge of Allegiance and reminders about appropriate conduct. In attendance were Councilman Hutchison, Councilman Meinking, Councilman Howell, Mayor Stahlman and Recorder Reynolds. Councilwoman Pucci and Councilman Bolen are absent. We have a quorum.

Council Member Absence: Councilwoman Pucci is absent in protest of treatment at a previous workshop.

Approval of Minutes from August 28, 2025: motion to accept made by Councilman Howell and 2nd by Councilman Meinking. Yes – 4, No – 0. Minutes passed.

Treasurers report: motion to accept made by Councilman Meinking, 2nd by Councilman Hutchison. Yes – 4, No – 0. Report passed.

various reports (police, fire, street, water/sewer, parks committee, planning and zoning, budget committee) are reviewed and motion to accept all reports made by Councilman Grede, 2nd by Councilman Meinking. Yes – 4, No – 0. All reports accepted.

Sewer Infrastructure Concerns: Discussion about the need to invest in sewer maintenance, specifically addressing issues with manholes.

Damsite Park Closing Date: Clarification on the closing date of Damsite Park, adjusted to October 19 to accommodate events.

Upcoming Events: Mentions of the "Tin Canners" event in 2026 and the "Dam Jam" event.

Volunteer Efforts: A call for volunteers to help with an upcoming event, highlighting that it's funded through grants and donations, not taxpayer money.

Animal Control Success Story: Acknowledgment of Phil's efforts in animal control, specifically finding homes for dogs whose owner passed away.

Executive Session: A motion is made to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

City Attorney Absence: Explanation that the city attorney is absent due to a family matter but is available by phone.

Ordinances:

Ordinance 2025-09 - Short-term rentals: Third reading. Motion to accept ordinance made by Councilman Meinking, 2nd by Councilman Grede. Yes – 4, No – 0. Ordinance

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accepted.

Ordinance 2025-12 - Clean premises: with concerns raised about the city's responsibility to maintain rights-of-way. Council members emphasize a flexible approach to enforcement, focusing on communication and assistance rather than immediate fines. Motion to accept 2nd reading made by Councilman Meinking, 2nd by Councilman Grede. Yes – 4, No – 0.

Budget Amendments: Several resolutions are presented to amend the city budget for court, solid waste, street department, fire department, police department, and city general. These amendments involve reallocating funds from underutilized line items to areas with deficits.

Police Department Credit Card Charges: A large amount of credit card charges from the previous administration is questioned, leading to explanations about the lack of oversight and the current administration's efforts to address the issue.

Citizens' Comments:

Concerns about the police department's credit card spending and the need for better oversight.

Suggestion to implement a system to fund future sewer plant replacements.

Criticism of the city's handling of FOIA requests and the lack of transparency in financial reporting.

Request for the Treasurer's Report to be read into the public record again.

Question about where police officers live.

Inquiry about the status of planning and zoning postings on the web and the water/sewer audit.

Support for a council member and criticism of negative social media posts.

Proposal for a drive-through Christmas light event at Damsite Campground.

Question about the removal of gas tanks at a gas station.

Mayor's Comments:

Announcement of a plaque mounting and an upcoming blood drive.

Details about the "Dam Jam" event.

Increase in trash pickup fees.

Discussion about millage and the possibility of allocating additional funds for police and fire pensions, subject to a public vote.

Update on the Village Mart property case and a refiled lawsuit by Nick Knopick

Plans to collect alcohol privilege tax, with concerns raised about the outdated ordinance.

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Conclusions:

The city council is actively working to address financial issues and improve transparency.

There is a strong emphasis on community engagement and volunteerism.

The council is considering ways to improve infrastructure and services.

There are ongoing concerns about financial accountability and the need for better oversight.

The council is committed to addressing citizens' concerns and promoting a positive image of the town.

The council is working to update outdated ordinances and procedures.

Adjourn: motion made by Councilman Howell, 2nd by Councilman Meinking. Yes – 4, No – 0.

Approved:

Mayor Bill Stahlman

Recorder Paula Reynolds