

Mayor: Ethan J. Barnes  
Recorder-Treasurer: Willow R. Sharp

Council Members: Tony Berry, Amy Clay-Thomas, Natalie Quintana-DuBois, Ginni Kauffman, Sue Taylor, Laura Smith

City Attorney:

City of Hardy, Arkansas



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**Hardy City Council  
Regular Business Meeting Minutes  
November 10, 2025  
Hardy Civic Center – 301 W. Main Street Hardy, Arkansas 72542**

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Mayor Ethan J. Barnes. Mayor Barnes asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was offered by Councilmember Dr. Tony Berry. Recorder-Treasurer Willow Sharp called the council roll: Berry, Clay-Thomas-*excused*, Kauffman, Quintana-DuBois, Smith, and Taylor. Five council members were present; Quorum was established. The R/T and Mayor were also both present.

Minutes from the October 20, 2025, Regular Business Meeting were presented for approval by Mayor Barnes. A motion was made by Councilmember Taylor and seconded by Councilmember Berry to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2025, Regular Business Meeting. Mayor Barnes called for a voice vote—the ayes were in favor and the motion to approve the minutes passed.

Mayor Barnes presented the agenda for the evening's meeting. Councilmember Smith made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Quintana-DuBois seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Mayor called for a voice vote—the ayes were in favor and the motion to approve the agenda passed.

**Reports:**

*City Financials:* Recorder-Treasurer Sharp reported that all bills had been paid and that sales tax revenues were up to date. R-T Sharp reported that the 2026 Budget(s) were placed in the council's packet and will later be presented for review and discussion in this meeting. Councilmember Kauffman had a question regarding the Fire Department's vehicle purchase. Mayor Barnes explained the purchase and budget allocation of the expense. Councilmember Kauffman also had a question regarding the unused Police Department's Chief Salary expense line and the Interim Police Chief's compensation expense line. Mayor Barnes explained the different line items. Councilmember Kauffman also had a question about the Fire Department's Act 833 Funds. Mayor Barnes and Fire Chief Josh Moore explained that the money is distributed to the department once a quarter and one 2025 disbursement is still due for the department. Councilmember Kauffman had a question regarding the old metal boat that needs to be replaced that was lost in the flood. Chief Moore and Mayor Barnes assured Councilmember Kauffman that the department still had another rescue boat available in-service if needed.

*Fire Department:* Chief Moore reported that the department's fall festivities for Halloween were very successful with lots of candy passed out to trick-or-treaters and approximately 500 play-plastic fire helmets also awarded. The department's run report for October was provided and stated there were 35 calls for service in October 2025 with the annual count of 380 calls. The Chief estimated the total call number by the end of year to be 400-450.

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*Police Department:* Interim Police Chief Michael Himschoot reported the Hardy Police Department is doing well. Interim PC Himschoot reported that two of the department's vehicles are not in use due to current mechanical issues and that there will soon be a need to replace 1-2 police department vehicles.

*Public Works Department:* Mayor Barnes reported that the Public Works Department has been very busy around town in clearing the sides of the roads in the Woodland Hills area, repairing many water leaks, and working to fill potholes in the streets.

*Planning and Zoning Commission:* Mayor reported the 2026 Strategic Plan Version 1.3 was adopted by P & Z and will be presented later in this meeting to the council for adoption.

*Sharp County Regional Airport Commission:* Mayor reported no meeting had been held since Hardy's last council meeting—nothing to report.

*Tri-County Solid Waste Disposal Authority:* Mayor reported no meeting had been held since Hardy's last council meeting—nothing to report.

*Hardy Advertising and Promotion Commission (HAPC):* Commissioner Kauffman reported Mr. John Treat has been officially reappointed to the commission and the A & P renewed their janitorial services contract for the Civic Center. Com. Kauffman also reported the A & P will be setting up their office up-stairs at the Civic Center on Thursday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m. with a budget meeting to follow. Com. Kauffman reported that on November 17 and 19 the A & P will be hosting focus group meetings led by Mr. Treat for the local Hardy business merchants at the Civic Center to survey the needs of the business community regarding advertising and promotion of Hardy.

*Mayor's Report:* Mayor Barnes reported that FEMA site inspectors had returned for follow-up site inspections on the damaged properties. Mayor Barnes reported that some reimbursement expenses were beginning to flow back to the city. Mayor also reported that the Hardy Christmas Parade is set for Saturday, December 13 at 5:30 p.m. Anyone who wishes to pre-register should contact City Hall at 870-856-3811 to be eligible for prizes. The theme for this year's parade is Peace on Earth: A Bethlehem Christmas. The Mayor thanked FNBC Bank for sponsoring the Parade. Mayor Barnes reported that City Hall will be closed November 27 and 28 to observe the Thanksgiving Holiday. Mayor Barnes announced that there will be a Budget Work Session held on November 20, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at the Civic Center that is open to the public.

### Old Business:

Mayor Barnes presented *Resolution 2025-17 Artificial Intelligence Policy Act 848*. The Resolution was presented by the Arkansas Municipal League for the city to enact within the City of Hardy. Councilmember Kauffman made a motion to read *Resolution 2025-17*. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion to read. Mayor Barnes called for a voice vote—the ayes were in favor and the motion to read carried. Mayor Barnes read *Resolution 2025-17*.

Councilmember Smith made a motion to approve *Resolution 2025-17*. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion to approve the resolution. Mayor Barnes called for a voice vote—the ayes were in favor and motion to approve *Resolution 2025-17* passed.

**New Business:**

Mayor Barnes presented the Strategic Plan Version 1.3 to council for review and discussion. Mayor Barnes then presented *Resolution 2025-20 Strategic Plan Version 1.3* to council for adoption. Councilmember Berry made a motion to read *Resolution 2025-20*. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion to read. Mayor Barnes called for a voice vote—the ayes were in favor and the motion to read passed. Mayor Barnes read *Resolution 2025-20*. Councilmember Taylor made a motion to approve *Resolution 2025-20*. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion to approve. Mayor Barnes called for a voice vote—the ayes were in favor and the motion to approve *Resolution 2025-20* passed.

Mayor Barnes presented and submitted the city's 2026 Budget(s) to council for review. Mayor Barnes reported that there will be a Budget Work Session on November 20 at 4:00 p.m. at the Civic Center that is open to the public. Mayor Barnes noted that department heads will be asked to attend the work session. Mayor Barnes provided that he believed that the budget(s) presented were the bare basics to operate the city and do not include any special improvement projects, FEMA projects, or vehicle purchases at this time. Mayor Barnes closed that the budget(s) are based on the best estimation of expected expenses and expected revenues for 2026, and that these numbers were a fiscally conservative approach to estimating the city's essential needs/costs.

**Citizen Commentary:**

None

**Adjournment:**

Councilmember Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Berry seconded the motion to adjourn. The Mayor called for a voice vote—the ayes were in favor and the motion to adjourn passed. The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Willow R. Sharp  
Recorder-Treasurer

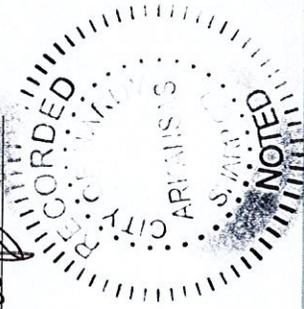
PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 8<sup>th</sup> DAY OF November 2025.

APPROVED:

  
Ethan J. Barnes, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Willow R. Sharp  
Recorder-Treasurer



Filed 12/9/2025 WS 3A3  
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