

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

P.O. Box 5
Hardy, Arkansas 72542
870-856-3811
www.cityofhardy.org



Hardy City Council Regular Business Meeting Minutes December 08, 2025 Hardy Civic Center – 301 W Main Street Hardy, Arkansas 72542

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 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. Mayor Barnes called the council roll: Berry, Kauffman, Smith-excused, Taylor, Clay-Thomas and Quintana-DuBois. Five council members were present. Quorum was established. Mayor Barnes and R-T Sharp were present as well.

Minutes from the November 10, 2025, Regular Business Meeting were presented for approval by Mayor Barnes. A motion was made by Councilmember Quintana-DuBois and seconded by Councilmember Berry to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2025, Regular Business Meeting. Mayor Barnes called for a voice vote—the ayes were in favor and the motion to approve the minutes passed.

Minutes from the November 20, 2025, Budget Work Session were presented for approval by Mayor Barnes. A motion was made by Councilmember Quintana-DuBois and seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2025, Budget Work Session. 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 Berry made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Kauffman 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: Mayor Barnes and R-T Sharp offered a report regarding the budget and R-T Sharp offered that expenses and revenues are in line as expected with closing out the 2025 budget year.

Fire Department: Chief Josh Moore reported and presented a run report for November 2025 with 42 calls for service and 422 calls YTD. The Fire Department estimated the total calls for service figures by the end of year to be higher than previous year. Chief Moore reported that the HVFD will volunteer with Shop with a Hero this holiday.

Mayor Barnes paused the meeting to reflect on Mr. Blake Medlock and his contributions to the City of Hardy, the Fire Dept., and the Police Dept., and asked for a moment of silence in his remembrance.

Filed 1/29/2026 NS-103
City of Hardy, Arkansas
Recorder-Treasurer Office

City of Hardy Regular Business Meeting of City Council
December 08, 2025

Police Department: Interim Police Chief Michael Himschoot reported the Hardy Police Dept. was doing well. IPC Himschoot reported that the HPD had responded to 12,821 calls for service YTD for 2025.

Public Works Department: Superintendent Steve Morris reported that the Public Works Department had been busy with repairs. Specifically, a contractor had inadvertently drilled through a water line on Monday and had two minor sewer overflow jobs.

Planning and Zoning Commission: Mayor reported that two permits were approved earlier in the evening, one to the BNSF Railway and one to the City of Hardy/A&P Commission for the Pocket Park downtown on Main Street.

Sharp County Regional Airport Commission: Mayor reported the commission met November 5, 2025, regarding the taxi-way improvements and the renovations to the grass runway.

Tri-County Solid Waste Disposal Authority: Mayor reported the authority met November 19, 2025, and reported the requirements for cities and counties to continue contribution and operations at the Recycling Center from \$1 to \$2 per capita annually. The next meeting was set for December 17 at 9:30 a.m. at the Recycling Center.

Hardy Advertising and Promotion Commission (HAPC): Commissioner Treat reported the A & P had been busy working with various focus groups concentrating on possible improvements for the local area. It was reported that the Commission is moving forward with renovations at the Civic Center and is currently seeking estimates for the upgrades to the bathroom facilities. There was an update provided regarding the election of new A & P Officers for 2026. Chair-John Treat, Vice Chair-Kauffman, R/S- Rebecca Quintana and Nimmi Desai-Finance.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Barnes encouraged folks to shop local and patronize the local businesses in town this holiday season. Mayor reported that the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission had recently met and approved two loan requests for the city with principal forgiveness being offered. Hardy will be awarded principal forgiveness in the amount of approximately \$1,003,651.50 in forgivable loan proceeds and a loan in the amount of approximately \$334,550.50 to rehabilitate the city wastewater treatment facility center. The second grant awarded will be in the amount of approximately \$778,860.65 from the ANRC clean drinking water fund with 100% principal forgiveness. The City of Hardy will receive in total approximately \$2,117,062.65 from ANRC with a minimal amount of debt to rehabilitate the city wastewater treatment facility center.

Mayor reported the HVFD received a new/used tanker truck, and it is now at Hardy Fire Station One. The Mayor offered appreciation to the Governor's Office and Arkansas Forestry for the assistance in replacing the tanker truck. Mayor reported Hardy's Christmas Parade was set for Saturday, December 13 at 5:30 p.m. with a theme this year of Peace on Earth: A Bethlehem Christmas. The Mayor thanked FNBC Bank for sponsoring the Hardy Parade. Mayor closed with that City Hall offices would be closed December 24-26 to observe the holiday.

City of Hardy Regular Business Meeting of City Council
December 08, 2025

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Mayor Barnes presented *Resolution 2025-21: Adoption of 2026 Budget(s)* with copies of the proposed city budgets for year 2026. Councilmember Quintana-DuBois made a motion to read *Resolution 2025-21*. Councilmember Taylor 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 2025-21* aloud. Councilmember Taylor made a motion to approve *Resolution 2025-21*. Councilmember Berry seconded the motion to approve. Mayor Barnes called for a voice vote—the ayes were in favor and the motion to approve *Resolution 2025-21: Adoption of 2026 Budget(s)* passed.

Citizen Commentary:

None

Adjournment:

Councilmember Berry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Kauffman 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 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Willow R. Sharp
Recorder-Treasurer

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 21st DAY OF January, 2026.

APPROVED:


Ethan J. Barnes, Mayor

ATTEST:


Willow R. Sharp
Recorder-Treasurer

