

CITY OF SUMPTER
JULY 29, 2025
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: 4:01PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Darrold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Sherry Brandt. Councilor Briscoe was absent.

VISITORS

Nancy Lukens, Craig Kriz, Brenda Kriz, Rex Hubbard, Jan Smith, Richard Summerfield, Debbie Bliss, Kathy Todhunter, Tomi Shukle, Lila Young, Rebecca Patterson, Jon Patterson, John Young, Richard C., Cindy Remington, Alisia Croslin, Jason Croslin, Mike Manning, Kimberly Ballard, Kurt Clarke, Deputy Gabe Maldonado

APPROVED MINUTES

July 02, 2025 Workshop Minutes: **MSP:** To approve the July 2nd Workshop Minutes. **Councilor Smith/Councilor Brandt. Mayor Wise, Councilors Smith, Demaris, and Brandt voted to approve.**

July 08, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes: **MSP:** To approve the July 8th Council Meeting Minutes. **Councilor Demaris/Councilor Brandt. Mayor Wise, Councilors Smith, Demaris, and Brandt voted to approve.**

July 11, 2025 Workshop Minutes: **MSP:** To approve the July 11th Workshop Minutes. **Councilor Smith/Councilor Brandt. Mayor Wise, Councilors Smith, Demaris, and Brandt voted to approve.**

July 11, 2025 Special Session Minutes: **MSP:** To approve the July 11th Special Session Minutes. **Councilor Demaris/Councilor Brandt. Mayor Wise, Councilors Smith, Demaris, and Brandt voted to approve.**

REPORTS

Fire Department/John Young: (FD) Training for the volunteer firefighters. Reminding the public to please be mindful of fire dangers.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Zoning Permit: 690 Gazley Lane (House and Shop) Council advised owners to be aware of the rule from the peak of the building to lowest point must be within the 30ft limit due to terrain of the lot. **MSP**: To approve zoning permit for 690 Gazley Lane. **Councilor Smith/Councilor Brandt. Mayor Wise, Councilors Smith, Demaris, and Brandt voted to approve.**
- b. Zoning Permit: 110 Mill St (fencing) Council advised owner of vegetation height restrictions due to being a corner lot. **MSP**: To approve the fencing and gate with the condition that intended vegetation and gate meet the restrictions. **Councilor Demaris/Councilor Brandt. Mayor Wise, Councilors Smith, Demaris, and Brandt voted to approve.**
- c. Fire Hydrant Replacement: The fire hydrant on Gazley Lane was previously damaged and has been removed by city. Replacement cost is estimated to be around \$5800. **MSP**: To approve the order/purchase of a new fire hydrant. **Councilor Brandt/Councilor Smith. Mayor Wise, Councilors Smith, Demaris, and Brandt voted to approve.**
- d. In-flow Meter Plate: Discussion tabled to a future meeting.
- e. Gaslin-Rate Discussion Q&A: Mr. Gaslin spoke to the council and public in attendance. Advised that there will be a future meeting in September for the evening where he will present options for increasing rates or reducing services for the GF. Mr. Gaslin took several questions and suggestions from the public and will address these further at the September meeting during his presentation.
- f. Ren Faire Discussion: Mayor Wise informed the council and public that the Facebook post about the Fourth of July was not related to City Hall and was from a private citizens account. John Young spoke to council about changes for the Ren Faire for 2026. The council mentioned to Mr. Young that a bigger area such as The Event Grounds may need to be utilized instead of the downtown area. The council and public addressed some concerns about situations that happened over the weekend during the Ren Faire. Further discussions need to be had about the future of the Ren Faire, and it was decided to hold a future workshop with the City Council and the Sumpter Volunteers present.
- g. Nuisance Orders: Deputy Sheriff Gabe Maldonado spoke with the public and informed them about how nuisance orders work, his role in the department and in Baker County. There is a possibility that the Planning Department might be taking Nuisance Orders over from the Sheriff's Office.

OLD BUSINESS

Cemetery Update: Tabled till next council meeting.

COUNCILOR COMMENT:

Councilor Brandt: We need events, and the council wants events in the city. Events brings revenue to the community. The city does not have the financial resources to support private events like the Ren Faire or other proposed event ideas.

Mayor Wise: The city and the residents all have the same goals, to see Sumpter thrive. Encouraged the residents to all work together and put away the differences.

Councilor Demaris: Encouraged the public to please come to the council meetings. The Council puts in a lot of volunteer time working on the business side of running the city. The council would love to spend more time helping in other areas, and the need for citizens to get involved more is relevant.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dick: Attacking the City Council is nonproductive. People need to work together, not against each other. Mentioned the Mining Museum is not being utilized as well as it could be.

Jason Croslin: Can the main street be blocked off during event times to cut down on traffic and issues? Yes, but this would divert traffic to other roads and would increase dust and other issues.

John Young: Continuing to trap rodents at the Event Grounds.

John Patterson: The Sumpter Valley ATV has donated to the city in reimbursement for dust abatement and is currently working on a floor replacement project.

Jennifer Lake: There needs to be a “we” instead of a sense of “I.” We are a community and need to act like it.

AJOURNMENT: 5:22PM

MSP: To adjourn. **Councilor Demaris/Councilor Brandt. Mayor Wise, Councilors Smith, Demaris, and Brandt voted to approve.**

Approved by the City Council this 12 day of August, 2025.

Approved: John Wise

Attested: Lucia Lopez