

CITY OF SUMPTER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 23, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: 4:03PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, Sherry Brandt

VISITORS

Terry Valentine, Kathy Valentine, Jodi Martin, Attorney Taylor Skramstad, Jenny Long, Skip Duffin, Jane Leatherman, Matt Armstrong, Jon Patterson, Rebecca Patterson, Richard Summerfield, John Young, Brian Combs, Day Lynn Combs

APPROVED MINUTES

September 09, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes **MSP:** to approve the September 9th City Council Meeting Minutes. **Councilor Smith/Councilor Demaris. Mayor Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.**

September 09, 2025 Public Meeting with Gaslin **MSP:** to approve the September 9th Public Meeting with Gaslin Accounting. **Councilor Demaris/Councilor Brandt Mayor Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.**

REPORTS

SVFD: John Young (FD) Reminded the public that the fire restrictions are for recreational (fire pit/campfire) and burn barrel ONLY. Ground/debris fires are not allowed. The fire department will be practicing vehicle extraction training at their next session.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Amend Resolution 396-21 (w/s) connection only fee: The fee would cover the cost for a direct connection from a city line to a meter box. The council discussed choosing the fee to be the city labor cost plus parts. **MSP:** To amend the City of Sumpter fees for the w/s physical connection only of \$70/hr. plus parts. **Councilors Demaris/Councilor Smith. Mayor Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.**
- b. Sewer Hook-up on Park St: Council discussed the need to open the unconstructed part of Park Street to add sewer and water lines from Bourne Ave for existing and future residence on Park St. Resident on 640 Park St would like to add sewer to their property. **MSP:** To approve a sewer line to 640 Park St with the understanding that the road will need to be constructed which will not happen till Spring 2026. **Councilor Demaris/Councilor Briscoe. Mayor Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.**
- c. Trunk or Treat/ J. Long: Jenny Long presented an information board to the council and public to review. The volunteers hosting the Trunk or Treat would like to include a flyer in the October utility bill cycle. Mayor Wise advised that after speaking with Gaslin Accounting that the city will allow the Trunk or Treat flyer, they must provide the flyers. The Sumpter Volunteers would also like to include a flyer for the Spaghetti Feed to benefit the SVFD. Council advised the public and Jenny that the Volunteers are a 501C and that there are conflicts for the City of Sumpter with having some of the verbiage on the Spaghetti Feed flyer. **MSP:** To approve the flyer for the spaghetti feed on the condition that the information about the 501C is removed. **Councilor Briscoe/Councilor Smith. Mayor Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve. Councilor Marsha Demaris voted no.**
- d. Zoning Permit/ Fencing on 272 Bonanza St: This is a continuation on a previously submitted permit. The property owners had the area surveyed; the fence does extend into the city alleyway by inches. The council advised the owners that the city will not be held responsible if they need to access the alley and the fencing is damaged.
- e. Zoning Permit/ Lean-to on 615 Badger St: Owner meets all the setbacks, and there are no issues. **MSP:** To approve the permit for the lean-to on 615 Badger St. **Councilor Demaris/Councilor Smith. Mayor Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.**

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Cemetery Update: Terry Valentine spoke to the council updating them on the progress at the cemetery. Eighty percent of the fencing and wire has been installed. Terry asked the council to look at using goat scaping in the spring and if we can schedule a second volunteer cleanup day. Matt Armstrong will also apply for a new grant when it becomes available.
- b. ATC: The council had a second executive session with the city attorney. Council needs to decide if they will stay with the current tower contract or approve the new contract that was submitted. **MSP**: To stay with the current contract the city has now. **Councilor Briscoe/Councilor Demaris. Mayor Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.**

COUNCILOR COMMENTS

Darold Smith: The new proposed cell tower contract wanted to make the city liable if anything happened to the tower. The council felt the new contract is not in the best interest of the city which is why they voted for a continuation of the current contract.

Marsh Demaris: Thank you to everyone who came to the city council meeting.

Linda Wise: The 2024 audit draft has been received by the city. Once Gaslin Accounting has reviewed the audit and approve it the city will be current on audits. This will allow more grants to be available to the city in the future. Secondly, we have been awarded the grant for the Volunteer Park project. City is working on the CIS grant that will also benefit the park.

Charlie Briscoe: Will start hauling more rock to the Event Grounds parking lot the following week. This ends the project for the winter and will resume in the spring.

Sherry Brandt: No Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT

Matt Armstrong: Thanked the Sumpter Volunteers for donating the barbed wire and t-posts for the cemetery fencing and thank you to Jon Patterson for donating time and equipment for stump removal and using his roller machine. Reminder that the next Baker Parks board meeting is Oct. 13th at Fizz Springs. Matt gave an update on trail findings in the tailings, and board is also looking into becoming a dark sky sanctuary.

Jenny Long: The community Thanksgiving dinner is still planned to take place at the schoolhouse.

Jodi Martin: Owner of the property at 640 Park St., requested clarification on who pays for the unconstructed road to be constructed. Council let her know that the city pays for the road construction, she would be responsible for the sewer line to her property.

Taylor Skramstad: Introduced herself as the legal council for Ms. Martin. The council referred Ms. Skramstad to the city attorney for any further information.

Jon Patterson: Asked council if there will be another meeting with Gaslin about the budget, and who owns the Hub. Council advised that the city owns that property. Jon also suggested that the council should review the zoning setbacks. Jon also informed the council that he is researching how a 501C should responsibly manage their finances.

Jane Leatherman: Thank you to the council for all their hard work.

ADJOURNMENT 5:08 PM

MSP: To adjourn. Councilor Briscoe/Councilor Demaris. Mayor Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.

Approved by the City Council this 14th day of October, 2025.

Approved: _____

Attested: _____

Phil Wise
Lucas Lajoie