

BELLA VISTA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

April 28, 2025 6:00 PM

Bella Vista District Court 2483 Forest Hills Blvd., Bella Vista, AR 72715

MINUTES

Call to Order by Mayor Flynn at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Roll Call called by Clerk Krug. Council Members Harp, Hughes, Newport, Wilms, Isbell, Honchell were present. Mayor Flynn was present.

Citizen Input

James Miller, 33 Melanie Circle. James came to voice his disagreement with his City code citation regarding the placement of a fence in his front yard, and in the front of his adjoining lot. He stated they tried to follow all the laws of the ACC and the City, yet the fence company made a mistake. In addition, he found the language in the ordinance to be unclear. He reported their front yard landscaping gained recognition by the Garden Club and increased his home's value, which makes this citation even more difficult to accept. He is taking this to court.

Agnes Gallo, 33 Melanie Circle. Agnes came to voice her disagreement with the same City code citation violation. She wished the Council would look at the wording of the Ordinance that specifies fence placement and make it more clear. She stated her goal was to bring awareness of communication problems to the City, and not to criticize.

Paul Brainard, 35 Melanie Circle. Paul, a neighbor, came to support Mr. Miller's and Ms. Gallo's disagreement with their City code violation regarding the placement of their front yard fence. He stated their yard is beautiful and well-kept, and increased the neighborhood's esthetics and value.

Council Member Reply Staff Attorney Kelley requested to speak, stating when residents have been cited in court for a violation, there is nothing the Council can do. The proper forum for voicing the argument is in front of the judge in court, and the time will not be limited. He wanted to set expectations for the Council and the public.

Council Member Harp thanked the citizens for coming to speak, but adhered to Attorney Kelley's advice to stay neutral. He told them to keep him informed.

Reports

Monthly Financial Report: Mayor John Flynn summarized the monthly report ending January 31, 2025. The report was emailed to the Council Members under separate cover. It has been consistent with past reports. City sales tax was up 18.8% for the year and county sales tax was up 7.7%. Revenues in

general were up 7%. Our operating expenses were down by 11.6%. The February financial report sent out to the Council was inaccurate due to a computer glitch. An accurate report will be sent to the Council and posted on the City website, as soon as the problem is fixed. For February, the operating expenses were \$585,000 below budget, and the City was off to a good start this year.

Active Transportation Advisory Board Report: Chairperson Wendy Taylor summarized the work and progress of the Active Transportation Board since its inception in 2023. Wendy has been a resident since 2005, and is the 2024-25 Chairperson of the Board. The Active Transportation Board was developed in response to a recommendation from the Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan for the Region. The Board is an advocate for the City's trails, bike, and pedestrian use. They also advise on grants and other funding opportunities for the City's bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. They advocate for continued improvement of trails and facilities in the City's Master Plan. They also assist at local events such as Pedaling for Pancakes, a fundraising event to raise funds for the non-profit **Pedal It Forward**. 2025 scheduled activities include *Walk Audits*, where they ask the City to come out and see where the "pain points" are on the trails, and they will also take part in POA events. The Board is very diverse with lots of experience, and has two student representatives.

Monarch Butterfly Day Proclamation: Mayor John Flynn read the Monarch Day Proclamation 2025, which can be found on the Mayor's page of the City website.

(The Chair will entertain a motion to suspend the rules of order and procedure to allow all ordinances on the agenda to be read by title only.) The Agenda contained no ordinances.

Consent Agenda Mayor Flynn asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Hughes made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Isbell. **Roll Call Vote: (Ayes: 6/Nays: 0) Passed 6-0.**

Approval of Minutes: March 24, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION: APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF LINDA FIETH TO THE TREE ADVISORY BOARD (POSITION 1) FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM ENDING MAY 1, 2028

RESOLUTION: APPROVING THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF MIKE ABB TO THE TREE ADVISORY BOARD FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM ENDING MAY 1, 2028

RESOLUTION: APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF CODY MOORE TO THE BELLA VISTA BOARD OF CONSTRUCTION APPEALS FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING JANUARY 1, 2026, DUE TO THE RESIGNATION OF WADE STEWART

Unfinished Business

New Business

RESOLUTION: AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH APAC CENTRAL, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$101.25 PER TON FOR ASPHALT STREET RESURFACING (HOT MIX OVERLAY) AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH VANCE BROTHERS INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2.88 PER SQUARE YARD FOR SLURRY STREET RESURFACING Mayor Flynn read the resolution. Street Superintendent Karen Hunt came forward to provide details on the bidding and pricing for the resurfacing of streets. She recommended the Council approve the contract with APAC Central, Inc. Council Member Wilms made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Hughes. **Roll Call Vote: (Ayes: 6/Nays: 0) Passed 6-0.**

RESOLUTION: AMENDING THE 2025 CITY BUDGET TO RE-APPROPRIATE UNSPENT DONATION REVENUE TO VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS FROM 2024 Mayor Flynn read the resolution. He referred to the resolution and attachment in their packets itemizing the donation amounts and departments. The donations from residents totaled \$386,170 and the Mayor expressed gratitude on behalf of the City for their generosity. Council Member Wilms made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Harp. **Roll Call Vote: (Ayes: 6/Nays: 0) Passed: 6-0.**

RESOLUTION: AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BELLA VISTA AND THE CITY OF GRAVETTE REGARDING COST-SHARING OF IMPROVEMENTS TO HIWASSE ROAD Mayor Flynn read the resolution. Superintendent Hunt explained the sharing of road improvement costs for a section of road that both cities use. Council Member Wilms asked clarifying questions regarding the budget. Council Member Harp made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Isbell. **Roll Call Vote: (Ayes: 6/Nays: 0) Passed: 6-0.**

RESOLUTION: AMENDING THE 2025 CITY BUDGET TO AUTHORIZE ONE ADDITIONAL PART-TIME POSITION IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WITHIN EXISTING FUNDING Mayor Flynn read the resolution. IT Director Moeckel explained that Noah Olson, a summer intern who worked last year, is available to come again this summer. The salary amount is already in the budget, but needs a vote for the extra head count. Council Member Wilms made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Harp. **Roll Call Vote: (Ayes: 6/Nays: 0) Passed: 6-0.**

Announcements were read by Mayor Flynn.

- Next City Council Work Session: 5:30 pm Monday, May 19, at Bella Vista Police Training Room
- Next City Council Regular Meeting: 6:00 pm Tuesday, May 27, at Bella

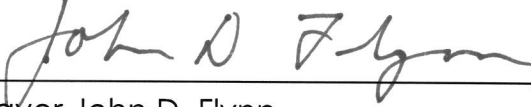
Vista District Court

- Planning Commission Work Session: 4:30 pm Thursday, May 1, at Bella Vista District Court
- Planning Commission Regular Meeting: 4:30 pm, or immediately following BZA, Monday, May 12, at Bella Vista District Court
- Board of Construction Appeals: 3:00 pm Tuesday, May 13, if necessary, at Fire Station #4 Conference Rm, 1639 Forest Hills Blvd.

Adjournment

Mayor Flynn adjourned the meeting at 6:32 pm.


City Clerk Wanda Lepillez Krug


Mayor John D. Flynn

