

P.O. Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

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MINUTES TOWN OF AVOCA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Public forum (Agenda item)

Jacob Davis with the BCWD #1 informed council there will be a Regional Water System Meeting at the end of September for Governing Bodies of the area. The topic of the meeting is to discuss combining water companies of the Garfield, Gateway, Little Flock & Lost Bridge area. He will contact us when the date is set.

Avoca Fire Chief Oldebeken had questions concerning the fire department's utility bills.

Council Roll Call - by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

ALD: Oscar Alvarenga, Travis Aikins and Jeannie Rollins

Absent: ALD: Katie Rairdon

Jay King

Staff

Present: Town Attorney: Ed McCure

Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Absent: None

Guests

Jacob Davis-BCWD#1 Zach Oldebeken-Avoca Fire Chief

Kimberly Whitehorn Jessica Vasquez

Declaration of quorum

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present.

Consent of Agenda

Ald. Alvarenga made a motion for consent of agenda. Seconded by Ald. Aikins. Discussion; None. Roll call: Ald. Aikins; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; absent, and Ald. King; absent. Motion carried.

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Consent of minutes for council meeting

August 12, 2025, Minutes: Ald. Alvarenga made a motion to accept the August Council minutes. Seconded by Ald. Aikins. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; absent, Ald. King; absent, and Ald. Aikins; yes. Motion carried.

Financials:

Ald. Alvarenga made a motion to accept the August 2025 financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. Aikins. Discussion: none. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; absent, Ald. King; absent, Ald. Aikins; yes, Ald. Rollins; no, and Ald. Alvarenga; yes.

Staff Reports:

1. Avoca Fire Department

Fire Chief Oldebeken read Avoca Fire Department call report for August 2025. Discussion was held concerning whether they need to continue to send these reports.

2. NEBCO EMS

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes read NEBCO call report for August 2025.

3. Social Media

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council members the new website is being worked on.

4. Business Permits (0 Renewals & 0 New) - Rec/Tres. Barnes

None

5. Building Permits for August 2025- Rec/Tres. Barnes

Matthew Jensen - New House; 909 Red Cedar Place

6. Town Sanctioned Events - Rec/Tres. Barnes

September Calendar was been posted & emailed to local businesses.

7. Town Maintenance - Chris Rogers

Tractor is back in the shop for repairs – It was decided if it breaks again, the landshark will be returned and a new product will be purchased. .

Hoses for plow have been replaced, and it is ready for winter weather.

Committee Reports:

1. Planning commission - Chairmen Alvarenga

a. Lot Line Adjustments: BCWD#1 - Main Street & Rose Street: Passed

2. Board of Zoning Adjustments- Chairmen Alvarenga

None

3. Zoning Official - Tim DePue

No update

4. Streets - Ald. Aikins

a. New traffic light box and camera - No update

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Committee Reports (cont.):

- 5. Park Ald. Rairdon
 - a. No update, absent.
- 6. Grants Ald. Rollins
 - a. No update
- 7. Annexation Ald. King
 - a. No update absent

Old Business

None 1 1 10 14

New Business

a. Resolution 08-25; Authorizing the Rate of Property Tax - Attorney McClure read Resolution 08-25 in full. A motion was made by Ald. Rollins to accept Resolution 08-25 on its 1st and final reading. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion: None. Roll Call: Ald. Rairdon: absent, Ald. King: absent, Ald. Alkins: yes, Ald. Rollins: yes, and Ald. Alvarenga: yes, All approved, Motion carried.

Mayor for the Good of Town

Mayor Whitehorn informed council, he was approached by a couple of residents who would like to have a "Swap Meet/Antique Sale" in the park during next years, War Eagle Craft Fairs. The council discussed locations and charging a cleaning deposit on top of the business licenses fee.

Town Council Member's Personal Privilege (Any matter); 3 Minutes

Council Member Aikins: none

Council Member King: absent

Council Member Alvarenga: discussed the animosity between the Town and the Fire Department

Council Member Rairdon: absent Council Member Rollins: none

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes: Told Council they needed to have their 2026 committee budget numbers

to her by the November council meeting. The 2026 Budget meeting is scheduled for December 2nd. Volunteers are needed for the Fall Clean - Up and for the Trunk R Treat both are held in October.

Council was informed of the passing of Fire Board member Allen Merritt.

Upcoming Meetings:

- 1. Planning Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 6:30 pm
- 2. Fire Board Meeting scheduled for September 25, 2025
- 3. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 6:30 pm
- 4. Board of Zoning meeting scheduled for December 16, 2025, after Planning Meeting

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Adjournment	The state of the s
A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga and seconded by Ald. Rollins to 7:04 pm. Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.	
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	Respectfully submitted,
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	Nanette Barnes graph Markete Barnes Recorder-Treasurer
Approved Robert Whitehorn	
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