

City Council Minutes

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Call to Order

Mayor Akers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., City Clerk Taryn Wigley called the roll.

Attendees

Council Members Cedric Leonard, Michael James, Al Peer, Craig McRae, Mike Wigley, and Claudia Hartness were present. Clarissa Pace and Mark Tiner were absent.

Minutes

Mike Wigley moved to accept the minutes for the December meeting, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the December minutes passed.

Old Business

New Business

a. Special Presentation

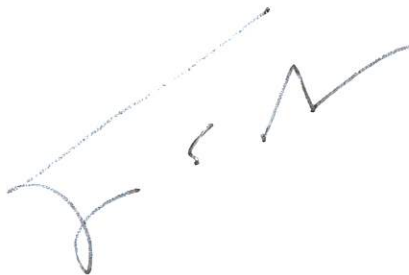
Mayor Akers recognized two individuals who are crucial to City Hall and the City of Monticello. Ashley Rodermund was awarded Employee of the Year and Joe Burgess was awarded Citizen of the Year.

b. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract for Architectural Services for the Renovation of the Old Fire Station

Mayor Akers introduced Michael Rogers, a civil engineer out of El Dorado, who gave the council a small presentation on his intentions for the old fire station. Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Michael James moved to accept the resolution, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

c. Resolution Approving Appointments to the Drew County Historical Commission

Michael James introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'C. M. R.', is located at the bottom right of the page.

d. Resolution of Organization of City Council for 2026

Michael James introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mayor Akers reminded the council that this resolution gets signed yearly. Michael James moved to accept the resolution, Cedric Leonard seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

e. Resolution Establishing Code of Conduct 2026

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

f. Resolution Establishing Continuation of Government Function in Emergency Situations

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

g. Resolution Accepting Updates and Adjustments to the 2025 Operating Budget

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

h. Resolution Accepting Updates and Adjustments to the 2025 Sales and Use Tax Budget

Al Peer introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

i. Providing for and Adopting a 2026 Budget for Certain Funds for the City of Monticello

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

j. Providing for and Adopting a 2026 Budget for Certain Sales and Use Tax Fund for the City of Monticello

Al Peer introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

k. Authorizing 2026 Contract for Economic Development Services.

Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

State of the City Address

Mayor Akers highlighted the year 2025 for the council. The City was awarded \$1,234,994.00 in grants and gained \$129,170.50 in liquidation of property. He also made several infrastructure improvements, including repairs and upgrades to wells 3 and 9, new water meters, and several new water lines. There were no compliance issues in 2025. Several city streets were reconstructed, and new signage was added or repaired. Economic success was reported with Weyerhaeuser's 500 million dollar plant breaking ground. Mayor Akers informed the council that 2026 will consist of Hwy 83 paving, waterline projects, City Hall renovations, more sidewalks, a walking track at the sports complex, a water tower renovation, and the city pool renovation.

Meeting Adjourned

Al Peer moved to adjourn the meeting, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the meeting was adjourned.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The signature on the left is 'Al Peer' and the signature on the right is 'Craig McRae'. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.