

City of Coolidge  
Council Meeting  
Official Minutes

April 18, 2024  
6:30 PM

The City of Coolidge regularly scheduled Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Diane H. Causey at 6:30 PM.

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by City Manager Don Cole.

Approve March 14, 2024, Workshop Minutes:

Motion-Braswell; Second-Smith; Gentry-aye; Mayor Causey-aye  
Unanimously approved.

Approve March 19, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes:

Motion-Smith; Second-Braswell; Gentry-aye; Mayor Causey-aye  
Unanimously approved.

Speaker Appearance: David Hurst – Dogs at Large; City Ordinances being broken; Nuisance Complaint

Mr. David Hurst was recognized by Mayor Causey at this time.

Mr. Hurst addressed Council concerning ongoing complaints of dogs at large; in particular, a Council member's dogs being at large and a being a nuisance to him and others. He went into detail in describing what the dogs are doing such as chasing his 10-year-old daughter on her bicycle, chasing his wife while she jogs, taking personal property left outside from his residence, going under his house, harassing other citizens, etc. He feels this Council member is continually violating the City Animal Ordinance, citing several specific sections of the Ordinance in violation, and, as a sitting Council member, Mr. Hurst feels she should be held to a higher standard than the average person and should set a better example for the citizens she represents, as well as be held accountable. In his opinion, he feels like this Council member feels that she is above the law. The issues with the dogs have been ongoing for five years, he says, and he would like something to be done about it. Mr. Hurst says he will take her to court if he must.

Mr. Hurst closed by thanking Council for the opportunity to speak.

Approve Order of Agenda:

Motion-Gentry; Second-Smith; Braswell-aye; Mayor Causey-aye  
Unanimously approved.

Approve Bills to be paid:

Motion-Braswell; Second-Gentry; Smith-aye; Mayor Causey-aye  
Unanimously approved.

**Administrative Department**

City Manager Report – Copy provided in Council folders

**Finance Department**

Quarterly Budget Review:

Reviewed and discussed by City Manager Don Cole.

ACTIONS:

- Freeze on hiring
- Freeze on overtime unless mission critical
- Freeze on pay increases

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Cash in CD (Certificate of Deposit) - \$108,000.00

Approve Resolution for Budget Amendment:

Table until next Council meeting

**Police Department**

Chief's Report – Copy provided in Council folders

**Public Works Department**

Public Works Report – Copy provided in Council folders

Report/Purchase Decision of small backhoe to clean City ditches:

Still comparison shopping.

Update Flood Ordinance per guidance from EPD – Deadline August 14, 2024

For information purposes.

**Street Department**

No business to discuss.

**Recreation Department**

No business to discuss.

**New Business**

No business to discuss.

**Old Business**

Personnel Policy Update – Copy provided in Council folders

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Change amount of time an employee must give notice before resigning from four weeks to two weeks to leave in good standing.

**Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Executive Session**

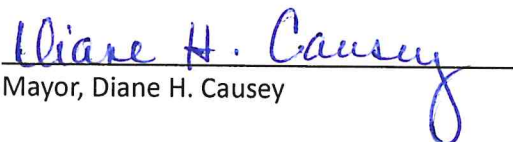
No Executive Session.

**Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn:

Motion-Smith; Second-Gentry; Braswell-aye; Mayor Causey-aye

Unanimously approved.

  
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Mayor, Diane H. Causey

  
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Asst. City Clerk, Stephanie Mock

**Present**

Councilmember Tonia Gentry  
Councilmember Todd Braswell  
Councilmember W.C. Smith

**Absent**

Councilmember Freddie Johnson  
Councilmember Elizabeth Leger  
Councilmember Melissa Johnson