

1 **City of Prairie City**  
2 **Council Meeting**  
3 **November 12, 2025**

4  
5 **Attendance:**

6 Mayor Pro Tempore, Chase McClung  
7 Councilor Clark  
8 Councilor Coburn  
9 Councilor Bradford  
10 Councilor Davis  
11 Councilor Bernard  
12 Shonalie Oakes, City Recorder  
13 Rob Gaslin, CPA  
14 Mike Patterson, Public Works  
15 Brian Hueckman, Public Works  
16 Ben Richardson, Museum  
17 Marvin Rynearson, Fire Chief

18 **Visitors:**

19 Colin Kolb  
20 Ed Clark  
21 Fran Bunch  
22 Steve Patterson  
23 Wanda Patterson  
24 Blain Huffman  
25 Ann Huffman  
26 David Kebler  
27 Jim Carpenter, District Attorney  
28 Frances Preston  
29 Ron Phillips  
30 Cheryl Hoefler

31  
32 Mayor Pro Tempore Chase McClung called the meeting to order at 6:01pm, the  
33 pledge was recited and the roll was called.

34 **Minutes:** The council considered the minutes of October 22, 2025, city council  
35 meeting. **MSP: To approve the minutes of October 22, 2025, City Council**  
36 **Meeting, Councilor Bradford/Clark. All present voted in favor.**

37 **Park Light & Network Technology Discussion:**

38 Technology:

39 Mr. Kebler is a retired professional and would like to volunteer in helping  
40 the City with updating its technology needs, including:

- 41 • Setting up its new smart meters (should it go that route).  
42 • Improving the marquee for easier updating.  
43 • General website assistance and technology support for city functions.  
44 • Utilize AI to analyze the utility data.

45 Consensus from Council to accept Mr. Kebler's offer to volunteer his time and  
46 services. MSP: To approve David Kebler in helping the City with its website  
47 and technology. Councilor Coburn/Bradford.

48 **Park Light Concerns:**

49 Citizen raised concerns about the brightness of the new park light. Mr. Kebler  
50 requested Public Works remove the padlock from the breaker so the light may  
51 be turned off at night.

52 Suggestions included:

- 53 • Installing a shield or dark sky light to direct light downward and  
54 reduce impact on neighboring homes.
- 55 • Installing a switch or timer so the light can be used only during  
56 events
- 57 • Relocating the pole to better serve the park and community center.

58 Public Works are tasked to investigate different lighting options for  
59 shielding or adjusting the light.

60 **HECO:** The town hall for the Parks and Recreation Planning grant is scheduled  
61 for December 8, 2025. Council decided to hold the Town Hall at the Senior  
62 Center to accommodate more people. Councilor Coburn offered to book the  
63 facility.

#### 64 **Ordinance 2025-03: Curfew/Truancy Ordinance**

65 Purpose: Address chronic truancy among school-age children, not occasional  
66 absences.

67 Recent legislative changes allow citation of parents for chronic absenteeism.

68 Diversion programs available; fines increase for repeated offenses.

69 Proposed ordinance would allow law enforcement to detain children during  
70 school hours, verify their status, and return them to school or parents.

71 Applies to all minors.

72 Modeled after Hermiston's ordinance, adjusted for smaller communities.

73 Enforcement would be passive; officers would address truancy as encountered,  
74 not actively seeking students out.

75 ESD to provide additional information and a packet for council review.

76 Council to revisit after further information is provided.

#### 77 **Water Compliance:**

78 • Clarification provided that the city is in compliance with state water  
79 regulations.

80 • Only out of compliance in June due to a late water report; all  
81 subsequent reports are current and compliant.

82 • Assurance given that the city remains and plans to stay in compliance.

#### 83 **City Manager Position Discussion:**

84 • Review of job description for City Manager position.

85 • Concerns raised that the job description is too extensive for Prairie  
86 City's needs.

87 • Preference for a part-time role (approx. 10 hours/week) with clear  
88 division of duties between mayor and manager.

89 • Proposal to hold a workshop

90 • Workshop scheduled for November 21 at 7:00pm.

#### 91 92 **Carrie Young Memorial Donation:**

93 The City received a letter requesting annual donation. Council reviewed the  
94 past donations amounts.

95 **MSP: To donate \$1,000 to the Carrie Young Memorial, Councilor**  
96 **Coburn/Bradford. All present in favor.**

#### 97 **Reports:**

##### 98 **Public Works Report:**

99 • Wintering city facilities underway

100 • Chlorine supplier inspection completed; cost savings after initial  
101 setup.

- 102 • Christmas tree lights upgraded with durable, amusement park-grade  
103 lights.  
104 • Recent repair at water plant (variable frequency drive); minimal cost.  
105 • Seeking quotes for water meters.  
106 • Research ongoing for meters:  
107 Seeking reliable, manufactured models in the USA, and readily  
108 available.  
109 • Installation to be phased.

110 **Water Plant Upgrades**

- 111 • Aging water plant equipment highlighted as a concern.  
112 • Difficulty sourcing obsolete parts(most recently a \$3200 replacement  
113 circuit breaker).  
114 • Recommendation to prioritize upgrading service entrance equipment and  
115 electronics.

116 **Fire Department Report (Marvin Ryneerson, Fire Chief)**

- 117 • Upcoming service to honor former fire chief Jim Sullins; Oregon Fire  
118 Service Honor Guard to participate.  
119 • Ryneerson reminded the public that burning leaves is prohibited.

120 **Accounts Payable:**

121 Rob Gaslin, CPA, provided the council with a financial overview, and read out  
122 loud the appropriations review, and budget to actuals.

123 The council reviewed the check detail.

124 **MSP: To pay the City's bills. Councilor Coburn/Davis. All present voted yes.**

125 **Adjourn: MSP: To adjourn the meeting at 7:52pm. Councilor Bernard/Clark. All**  
126 **in favor.**

127  
128 Approved by the City Council on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025 and signed by  
129 the Mayor.

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Chase McClung, Mayor Pro Tempore

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137 Attested

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Shonalie Oakes, City Recorder

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