



MONROE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 7:00 pm
MINUTES

7:00 p.m.

1. The regular meeting of the Monroe City Council was called to order by Mayor Parsons at 7:04 p.m.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Parsons. Councilmember Cartwright offered a prayer.

3. Roll Call

Mayor Johnny Parsons

Councilmembers:

Janet Cartwright

Ryan Johnson

Michael Mathie-absent

Perry Payne

Erica Sirrine - absent

Public Works Director John Draper

City Recorder Allison Leavitt

4. Consider a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings held April 22, 2025.

Councilmember Payne moved to approve the April 22, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes as submitted. Councilmember Cartwright seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Cartwright, Johnson, and Payne. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 3-0

5. Citizen input – Limit of 3 minutes per comment

Angie Card explained that she was at the last Council meeting where the Council was discussing allowing a trailhead parking lot to be created below the Monroe View Red Hill Park (hot springs). She explained that she is still concerned with the additional traffic flow, the aesthetics of the Red Hill (hot springs) and the protection of petroglyphs. Ms. Card asked if the parking area could be moved further away from the Red Hill.

40 Mayor Parsons explained that members of the Council met at the site on Monday May 19,
41 2025. Kamelle Gleave went up to the hot springs and took pictures looking down towards the
42 parking area and from her pictures it shows that the parking area will not obstruct the view,
43 in fact you can barely even see the parking area from the soaking pools.

44
45 Mayor Parsons noted that for the site visit there were 10-12 cars, and they were scattered
46 about parking in the brush to get off the road. The spot where they are wanting to create the
47 parking area is in the same place where a shrimp brine plant was a few years ago, so the area
48 is somewhat of a depression and appears to be a good place for the parking area. Mayor
49 Parsons stated that he does not think they are wanting to create a elaborate parking area,
50 but if you don't have somewhere for the trail users to park, they are going to be scattered all
51 over which would probably be worse for the preservation of the area.

52
53 Councilmember Johnson stated that he was against the parking area but when he was up
54 there, he realized that the elevation of the area is perfect to not cause any view obstruction
55 from the hot springs. Councilmember Johnson noticed a minimum of 10 cars from out of
56 state parking randomly off the road and he thinks to help maintain the aesthetics of the area
57 a designated parking area will help curtail the concerns that Ms. Card has expressed. We
58 understand that not everyone will be good at using the parking area, but many of the users
59 will use the parking area instead of parking in the brush.

60
61 Ms. Card stated that there are two parking areas, one directly next to the hot springs and
62 then the proposed parking area down below the hot springs. Ms. Card asked if the City
63 allowed camping on City property and she was told no, however the City property is
64 surrounded by BLM property and this is where you see a lot of people camping, and it is the
65 responsibility of the camper to verify that they are not on City property. Jennifer Nackowski
66 asked if the parking area would be marked so that people from out of the area would know
67 where to park. Mayor Parsons stated that he believed the trail committee plans to place signs
68 in the area.

69
70 Councilmember Payne stated that he had gone to the site on Sunday evening because he
71 could not attend the Monday night meeting. He wishes the Red Hill could go back to the way
72 it was before people started diverting water into the small pools. But since this cannot
73 happen, he believes we need to attempt to provide some type of a parking area or people
74 are going to continue to come and park all over the area, which could cause more damage
75 than a designated parking area. He noted the area a little farther down where the roads
76 meet, which Ms. Card has referred to, is not as favorable because it is more visible from the
77 hot springs.

78
79 Ms. Card stated that she is having a hard time seeing the vision of what the Council and Trails
80 Committee is wanting to create with the trailhead parking area.

81

82 Peter Nackowski stated that he had visited the Red Hill years ago as a student during a field
83 trip. It was pointed out to the students that the Red Hill rock formation is a geothermal rock
84 and is unique and he would like the Council to continue to protect the red hill.

85
86 It was explained to those in attendance that the City only owns the land and not the water.
87 The City has tried several times to purchase the water from David Grow but has not been
88 successful.

89
90 Ms. Card asked about relocating the current parking area and restrooms that are near the
91 hot springs. Mayor Parsons said this would need to be carefully looked at since it would take
92 a crane to move the restrooms and if you move things farther away, people will not use
93 them.

94
95 **6. Business**

96
97 a. Consider Monroe City Trails Committee request for Foothill Trail Parking &
98 Trailhead (below Monroe View Red Hill Park) Southern Trailhead (near fishing
99 pond) Canyon Road.

100
101 Mayor Parsons stated that this item was discussed during citizen input and asked the Council
102 if they had any other comments before asking for a motion.

103
104 Mayor Parsons stated that he did not see any issues with the proposed trailhead parking to
105 the south along the Canyon Road.

106
107 Councilmember Johnson stated that we have an environmental specialist Jenna Jorgensen
108 performing a cultural study survey, she is very sensitive to items talked about tonight and she
109 does this professionally as part of her regular employment. Councilmember Johnson
110 explained that he believes that due diligence is being shown and if a situation comes up that
111 they identify items that should not be moved or touched the Trails Committee, and the City
112 Council will find an alternative site for the parking area.

113
114 Mayor Parsons stated that there have been two archeological studies done in this area, even
115 when we were working on establishing the road the BLM told us where we could and could
116 not have our road.

117
118 **Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the Monroe City Trails Committee Trailhead
119 and parking areas below Monroe View Red Hill and Southern Trailhead, near fishing pond
120 on Canyon Road. Councilmember Cartwright seconded the motion. A roll call vote was
121 called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Cartwright, Johnson, and Payne. The vote was
122 unanimous. The motion carried. 3-0**

124 b. Public Hearing to receive comments on the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget of
125 Monroe City for all funds. Comments will also be taken on the current 2024-2025
126 fiscal year budget, which will be opened, amended, and increases and or
127 decreases in the budget will be considered.

128
129 Mayor Parsons opened the public hearing at 7:26p.m. to receive comments on the 2025-
130 2026 fiscal year budget of Monroe City for all funds and amending the current 2024-2025
131 fiscal year budget.

132
133 Councilmember Payne stated the Council tries to do their best in establishing budgets for the
134 upcoming year.

135
136 The council reviewed the tentative budget; there were no comments from the public in
137 attendance and Councilmembers had no questions.

138
139 There being no further comments, Mayor Parsons closed the hearing at 7:27 p.m.

140
141 c. Recess to convene a Monroe City Building Authority Meeting

142
143 1. Public Hearing to receive comments on the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget of
144 the Monroe Municipal Building Authority.

145
146 Mayor Parsons opened the public hearing at 7:27 p.m. to receive comments on the 2025-
147 2026 fiscal year budget of the Monroe Municipal Building Authority. It was explained that the
148 budget expenses for the Municipal Building Authority are for payments on the Mtn. View
149 Park, and cemetery expansion.

150
151 There being no comments, Mayor Parsons closed the hearing at 7:28p.m.

152
153 d. Reconvene the regular City Council meeting at 7:28 p.m.

154
155 e. Consider 2025 July 24th Parade Grand Marshall

156
157 Mayor Parsons suggested R.K. & Christine Nielson because they have both given much to our
158 community over the past several years. Mr. Nielson served sereral years as a City
159 Councilmember and currently is on our Utility Board. Ms. Nielson has been involved in
160 several community organizations, which is an example of giving back to your community.
161 Councilmember Payne suggested Ron Mills stating that Mr. Mills has done a lot for the City in
162 helping us with our water, including setting up the South Monroe Culinary system, and
163 played a major part in bringing high school rodeo to our area.

164
165 **Councilmember Payne moved to select R.K. and Christine Nielson to be our 2025 24th of
166 July Parade Grand Marshall. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call**

167 **vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Cartwright, Johnson, and Payne. The vote was**
168 **unanimous. The motion carried. 3-0**

169

170 **7. Other Business**

171

172 a. Staff Reports

173

174 City Recorder Allison Leavitt-

175

176 *Candidacy filing begins June 2- June 6, 2025 – positions are for Mayor and 2
177 Councilmembers.

178

179 *Distributed monthly budget reports and 2025-2025 budget worksheets.

180

181 Public Works Director John Draper-

182

183 *City cleanup is over and overall was not as bad as in the past. If there was an empty
184 dumpster people did not dump on the ground. Maybe we can request additional dumpsters
185 next year.

186

187 b. Department Business-Council

188

189 Councilmember Johnson –

190

191 No further business.

192

193 Councilmember Payne –

194

195 No further business.

196

197 Councilmember Cartwright –

198

199 *Concerned that the American Legion does not have a safe place to store their flags and
200 ceremonial guns. During the recent flood at the Senior Center all of their flags got wet. They
201 were able to dry them out, but Councilmember Cartwright is wondering if there is another
202 location at one of the City's buildings where their stuff could be safely stored. The Council
203 discussed the possibility of the old fire house meeting room. This is something to follow-up on
204 in order to take care of the American Legion.

205

206 Councilmember Cartwright stated that she feels bad for the American Legion they don't
207 really have a place of their own to meet and store their items. She is hopeful that there will

208 be a place in the proposed senior citizen building for the American Legion to meet and store
209 their items.

210
211 Mayor Parsons stated that he is concerned if the new proposed building is going to happen
212 because he has yet to see any money raised to help defray the costs. Mayor Parsons
213 explained that Sunrise Engineering had sent a proposal to redesign the building to meet
214 items discussed at our previous meeting with a cost of \$7,000.00. Mayor Parsons does not
215 want to spend any City money until we see some money from contributors.

216
217 Mayor Parsons explained that he thinks the most important part of the proposed building is a
218 place for the senior citizens and that the City could build a gym much cheaper at a later date.
219 Mayor Parsons asked Councilmember Cartwright to express to the Senior Citizen group that
220 the Council is aware of the need for a new building but that he would like them to reevaluate
221 the plans and reduce the building to meet their needs not their wants.

222
223 *Councilmember Payne stated that the cemetery looked very nice for Memorial Day as usual,
224 and he would like to thank the staff for their efforts. Mayor Parsons explained that he had
225 given Cemetery Foreman Shad Lee a flag for the original flagpole. In an earlier Council
226 meeting we discussed removing the flagpole area because we have the new veteran's
227 memorial, but after seeing how nice the flag looked the Council wants to keep it for now.

228
229 **8. Adjournment**

230
231 **There being no further business to come before the Council for consideration,**
232 **Councilmember Payne moved the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:00 p.m.**
233 **Councilmember Cartwright seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The**
234 **motion carried. 3-0**

235
236 The next regular City Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025
237 starting at 7:49 p.m. at Monroe City Office.

238
239 Approved this 10th day of June 2025.

240
241 
242 Allison Leavitt
243 Monroe City Recorder


244 Johnny C. Parsons
Mayor