



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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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

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

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

6. Business

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

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

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

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

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

Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the Monroe City Trails Committee Trailhead and parking areas below Monroe View Red Hill and Southern Trailhead, near fishing pond on Canyon Road. 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

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

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

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

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

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

- c. Recess to convene a Monroe City Building Authority Meeting

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

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

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

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

- e. Consider 2025 July 24th Parade Grand Marshall

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

Councilmember Payne moved to select R.K. and Christine Nielson to be our 2025 24th of July Parade Grand Marshall. Councilmember Johnson 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

7. Other Business

a. Staff Reports

City Recorder Allison Leavitt-

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

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

Public Works Director John Draper-

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

b. Department Business-Council

Councilmember Johnson –

No further business.

Councilmember Payne –

No further business.

Councilmember Cartwright –

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

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

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

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

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

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

8. Adjournment


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

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

Approved this 10th day of June 2025.



Allison Leavitt
Monroe City Recorder



Johnny C. Parsons
Mayor