

The Carl Junction City Council met in regular session on Tuesday March 3, 2026 at 7:00 PM at City Hall. Mayor Pro-Tem Hollie LaVigne called the meeting to order with the following present: Anita Francis, Walter Hayes, Bob McAfee, David Pyle, James Shanks, Roger Spencer, and Carole Wofford. Also present were City Administrator Steve Lawver, City Attorney Mike Talley, City Clerk Alaina Wright and Assistant Crystal Winkfield.

AGENDA

Walter Hayes motioned to approve the agenda as presented. David Pyle seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Roger Spencer motioned to approve the consent agenda. David Pyle seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no one present for public forum.

P&Z CASES

Mayor Pro-Tem Hollie LaVigne asked for discussion regarding Case# 26-01– Annexation of Ivy Road Between YY & CR 284

The public hearing was opened at 7:02 PM. Steve Lawver said P&Z heard the case and are recommending approval. He said drawings are available to see the area in question since the legal description is vast. He said it cleans up the northern side of the city limits. He said it does not go past the northern edge of Ivy Road or include any property on the north side of the road. Hollie LaVigne asked how the request started and Steve Lawver said it has been considered before. He said he had approached the Jasper County Presiding Commissioner after a developer came to him and requested it.

Mike Talley said this is a request by Jasper County that the City annex the road. He said he has a confidential memo from 2001 about this same issue. He said in 2001 the city attempted to annex Ivy Road but there were several individuals who appeared and were solicited by Charlie Williams who objected to the annexation. He said the statute we are following pertains to a voluntary annexation and if two or more landowners object, the process has to move to the court. Mike Talley said the landowners have 14 days to object to the voluntary annexation. He said it isn't just Ivy Road being annexed, it also includes part of Grimes and part of County Road 284 that are perpendicular to Ivy Road. Steve Lawver explained that part of the development that led to this request borders County Road 284 also and he said we have several water lines that run under Grimes. He said he has requested several times that the intersection of Ivy and County Road 284 be made a 4-way stop because it is a dangerous intersection and the county has never acknowledged his request.

James Shanks asked if anyone who might object would have to provide a reason for objecting. Mike Talley said that would be something the court would have to consider if objections were filed. Mike Talley recommended going longer than 14 days for the ordinance to wait and see if any objections are filed.

The public hearing was closed at 7:14 PM.

Carole Wofford questioned that it is only Ivy Road and nothing farther north in question and Steve Lawver confirmed that.

RESOLUTION OF COMMITMENT TO EFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Steve Lawver said this resolution allows Chief McCall to apply for a Blue Shield Designation which is the first step in the application process for grants.

Chief McCall said with this resolution he also has to provide proof that the Board of Aldermen has invested in the public safety, which include the improvements built into next year's budget. Walter Hayes motioned to approve the resolution. David Pyle seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

REPORTS

The Council reviewed the Administration report. Steve Lawver said the Lakeside Pavilion really needs to be repaired and he's only found Nelson's Enterprises that wants to do the work while the city buys the materials. Everyone else wants to provide the materials and do the work. He spoke to Jay Morton and public works doesn't have time to do the work right now. James Shanks asked how long it would take to do the work and Steve Lawver said it would be less than 40 hours total because paint and primer have to have time to dry.

Hollie LaVigne said she would prefer another contractor do the work. James Shanks asked if we could get prices for what the contractors want to charge us for materials compared to what we would pay for the materials and Steve Lawver said he would reach out for quotes.

Alaina Wright said next week there is a meeting at 6:00 PM for the MS4 permit. Steve Lawver said this is required for our stormwater permit renewal. He said the materials are available in City Hall and on the website for anyone to review and comment.

Police Dept. report – Hollie LaVigne asked about storm preparedness. Chief McCall said originally they would be testing the sirens tomorrow because it is storm preparedness awareness week but with the threat of severe weather the test has been cancelled. Hollie LaVigne asked when the sirens are set off. Chief McCall said if the winds are forecasted to be 70mph or more, if there is a tornado warning issued and Carl Junction is included, or if a tornado warning is issued for Cherokee County and the path would include Carl Junction.

Jim Shanks asked what the grant he's applying would be for and Chief McCall said essentially if it's for public safety, the grant can cover it.

Public Works report – Hollie LaVigne and Anita Francis asked about the high number of shut offs and Jay Morton said it’s because we couldn’t do them in January because of the snow.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget/Finance: Walter Hayes said there was a meeting at 6:00 pm to go over final budget and that will be presented at the next meeting.

Code/ Nuisance: Carole Wofford said there was a meeting at 6:30 pm and they will need an ordinance for changing water meter prices.

Human Resources: Roger Spencer had nothing to report.

Public Facilities & Planning: David Pyle said public facilities met with the budget committee at 6:00 pm, to consider HVAC system replacement for the Community Center and Police Department.

Economic Development: Hollie LaVigne had nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business before the council.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business before the council.

ADJOURNMENT

David Pyle motioned to adjourn the meeting. Roger Spencer seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

