

7019 Pleasant Ridge Road CR 4217 * Coffee City, TX 75763 Phone: (903) 876-3414 * Fax: (903) 873-2433

CITY OF COFFEE CITY
City Council Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026 @ 6 pm
7019 Pleasant Ridge Rd
Coffee City, TX 75763

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF COFFEE CITY. TO BE HELD ON Monday, January 12, 2026, at 6:00 PM AT THE COFFEE CITY, CITY HALL, 7019 PLEASANT RIDGE RD, COFFEE CITY, TEXAS. FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS. THE CITY COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MEET IN A CLOSED SESSION ON ANY AGENDA ITEM SHOULD THE NEED ARISE AND APPLICABLE PURSANT TO AUTHORIZATION BY TITLE 5, CHAPTER 551, OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE.

Council Members

Marquis Castleberry – Mayor (P)
Ruthie Seward - Place 1 (A)
VACANT – Place 2

Carrie Ousley - Place 3 (P)
Kevin Haughey - Place 4 (P)
Ollie Harmon - Place 5 (P)

1. Call Meeting to Order:

Marquis Castleberry called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Roll Call and Announce if quorum is present:

Mary McDonald announced roll call and a quorum was present. Ruthie Seward was absent.

3. Opening remarks:

Mr. Castleberry thanked everyone for coming out. He also stated that spring clean up was scheduled for April 11th. Mary McDonald stated that they would start delivering the dumpsters on that Friday and they would be picked up on Monday.

- **Spring Clean up is scheduled for April 11, 2026**

4. Consider and Act upon approving items 5 & 6.

Kevin Haughey made a motion to approve the December 2025 city financials and the December 8, 2025 meeting minutes. Ollie Harmon seconds the motion. Motion carries.

5. Approving City financials for December 2025.

Mr. Castleberry stated that the council have a new format of the financials that was recommended by the city auditor to provide and the council will now see expenses by departments.

Mr. Haughey asked Mary if the \$450.00 for Joey Ridgle was for the annual service contract and Mary confirmed that it was.

6. Approving meeting minutes for the December 8, 2025 council meeting.

7. Discussion: Carolina Martinez, Court Assistant

Mr. Castleberry stated that Carolina Martinez last day was January 9th as she is planning to go back to school. He also stated that she agreed to come in as needed if Mary needed her.

8. Discussion: The Church at Lake Palestine Rental Agreement.

Mike Garrett spoke on behalf of the church. He stated that the church had been using the center since 2019 meeting every Wednesday and Sunday. He stated that their attendance has dropped and those who are still attending do not put into the church. He stated that as a non-denominational church, they don't have the big covering of the bigger churches. He stated he had dissolved their board. He thanked the mayor and the council for allowing them to use the center the last couple months at no charge. He stated that he went to the center and picked up a few of their things that they were going to keep and turned in his keys. He stated the rest of their items he is donating to the city. He thanked the council again for their time and the years in the center, the church had enjoyed it.

9. Discussion: ESD #6

Mr. Castleberry stated he felt they needed to discuss the ESD situation again. He stated that he was going to let Mr. Haughey speak on it due to having a little more insight on it.

Mr. Haughey stated he has attended the last two ESD meetings. He stated that he spoke with Gary Dennis the president of ESD 6 and the fire chief of westside. He stated that they would love to do an interlocal agreement with Coffee City but after speaking with state officials and lawyers, it wouldn't be easy. An agreement would have to be a funded agreement and would cost the city and the fire department still servicing areas outside of Coffee City. He stated the city would end up using their tax dollars to help fund the agreement to cover areas outside Coffee City. He stated that Henderson county cut the funding to volunteer fire departments due to giving some of the available money to the ESD.

Mr. Castleberry spoke that he was concerned that Henderson County cut the funding in half but still need the fire department to cover areas outside the city. He stated that it seemed the ESD wanted to control the finances and he would rather the city to control their own finances.

Council continued to discuss joining and ESD or not and steps that would need to be taken should they decide to move forward.

Council also discussed the tanker the fire department will be receiving under a grant. They discussed that the grant will cover \$300,000 and the city and fire department would be responsible for the remaining balance.

10. EDC Report:

Kevin Haughey gave the EDC report. He stated that they assisted the fire department with a fish fry on January 10th and it was successful. He stated they sold over 100 tickets and received over \$900.00 in donations. He updated that they discussed the property at the corner of Highsaw again and their plans for adding equipment.

11. Fire Department Report:

Assistant Chief, Walter Kern gave the fire report. He reported that they had a total of 17 calls for service in the month of December and discussed the nature of the calls. He also stated that he had been promoted to Assistant Chief over fire and operations and Lisa is assistant chief over administration and medical. He stated that Chuck was promoted to captain and Thomas Heyder would be promoted to Lieutenant at their next meeting. He then stated that they had two new members join the department and that both were fire certified and motivated.

12. Municipal Court Report:

Mary McDonald gave the municipal court report. She stated that a total of \$740.81 was collected in the month of December. \$2.65 of it would be remitted back to the state and \$411.70 would go to the general fund.

13. Open Forum:

- Open Forum is limited to items currently on the agenda.
- Speakers must sign in 5 minutes before the beginning of the meeting.

- Speakers will be given 3 minutes to speak.

Any person that is unable to attend and wishes to submit questions to the council can e-mail the questions to the City Secretary at citysecretary@cityofcoffeecity.com

14. Adjournment:

Carrie Ousley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kevin Haughey seconds the motion. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

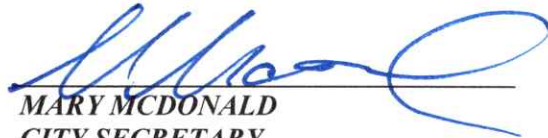
The City Council of the City of Coffee City reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matters listed on the agenda, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, including, but not limited to, Section 551.071 (Deliberation about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), 551.087 (Economic Development), 418.175-183 (Deliberations about Homeland Security Issues) and as authorized by the Texas Tax Cod, including, but not limited to, Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information).

CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY THAT A COPY OF THE MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026, CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA BY THE COFFEE CITY, CITY COUNCIL WAS POSTED AT THE CITY HALL PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD AND CITY WEBSITE ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026 BY 5:00 PM.



MARQUIS CASTLEBERRY
MAYOR



MARY MCDONALD
CITY SECRETARY