COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF LUVERNE

August 11, 2025

The City of Luverne Council met in regular session on August 11, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in the City Hall Building. The following members were present:

Mayor Ed Beasley

Betty Dawson, Councilwoman

Kip Smith, Councilman

Kathy Smyth, Councilwoman

Eddie Billings, Councilman 5:33

Attorney Mike Jones

Mike Johnson, Chief 5:40

Vicki Coggins, Assistant Clerk

Absent: Elliott Jones, Councilman

Visitors: Larry Coggins Dianne Richardson Steve Defee Merrill Sport

Ryan McGhee

Mayor Beasley called the meeting to order. The mayor called on Councilwoman Smyth to lead the pledge of allegiance to the flag and Steve Defee to say a prayer.

The mayor called for the approval of the minutes of July 28, 2025. Councilman Billings made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Councilwoman Dawson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously approved.

Under old/unfinished business, Councilwoman Dawson asked about the Vanity Fair building. There was discussion about needed repairs. Councilman Smith stated that is has been vacant a long time and he thought the city should at least rent the south end of the building. After discussion, the council approved for Attorney Jones to get with Brock Flynn and Chief Johnson to get as approximate cost for repairs. Attorney Jones would then send a memo to inform the council.

The mayor stated everything was routine for the administrative report. Everyone has a copy of the report in their packet.

Mayor Beasley called on Councilman Billings for the park report. Councilman Billings tuned it over to Merrill Sport who stated that not a lot was going on at this time. Mr. Sport stated he expects work to begin mid-September on the tennis courts. He also stated he is trying to secure some funds for additional changes/updates. Councilwoman Smyth and Councilwoman Dawson both asked for an update on the splash pad. Mr. Sport stated he would contact the contractor about the start date for the splash pad.

The mayor called everyone’s attention to the police report. The clerk stated that since the last meeting, the police department had 205 calls for service not including building checks, made 38 traffic stops, wrote 13 citations, and gave 25 warnings. The department made 6 misdemeanors and 1 felony arrest. There have been 7 animal control calls since the last meeting.

Mayor Beasley called on Steve Defee to report on the airport. Mr. Defee gave each council member a handout from Michael Cole with Barge Design Solutions. This is a preliminary cost estimate. Mr. Defee stated that a resolution is needed from the city for $125,000 to give to Barge who will then submit it along with the grant application to ALDOT. The application is due September 30th and will be awarded in November or early December. Bids would go out to contractors early February, and construction would then begin March or April. The council was in agreement. ALDOT will be coming to do a drone flight on the 18th of September to experiment with some new technology that will give them more precision in determinations.

Nothing to report on the library

Merrill Sport asked to amend the park report by adding that the park helped host the Back to School Bash. The park donated leftover candy to the event. The park also donated popcorn and popcorn machine to Judge Folmar’s movie night that was held at the courthouse.

Nothing to report on Fire/Rescue

The mayor asked Councilwoman Smyth if there was anything to report on Economic Development. She stated it had already been discussed.

The mayor stated the council is invited to the ribbon cutting for Pepsi to be held August 12th at 9:45 am.

No new business

Councilman Billings thanked everyone for the thoughts, prayers and flowers at the passing of his mother.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilman Billings made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned.