COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF LUVERNE

August 25, 2025

The City of Luverne Council met in regular session on August 25, 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

Elliott Jones, Councilman

Eddie Billings, Councilman 5:33

Attorney Mike Jones

Mike Johnson, Chief 5:33

Margie Gomillion, Clerk

Visitors: Larry Coggins Steve Defee Jeff Strowd Keon Carter

Mayor Beasley called the meeting to order. The mayor called on Councilman Smith 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 August 11, 2025. Councilman Jones made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Councilwoman Dawson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously approved.

Under old/unfinished business, Attorney Jones stated Chief Johnson and Brock Flynn are working on the estimate for the work out at the old Vanity Fair building. They went out there this week and are trying to put some numbers together. As soon as I get those, I will send them out. Mayor Beasley stated that construction started on the splash pad this week.

The mayor stated everything was routine for the administrative report. Everyone has a copy of the report in their packet. The clerk pointed out in her report that there will be a special called meeting Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., to canvass the election of August 26, 2025.

Mayor Beasley called everyone’s attention to the police report. Councilman Smith stated that since the last meeting, the police department had 180 calls for service not including building checks, made 33 traffic stops, wrote 12 citations, and gave 21 warnings. The department made 2 misdemeanors and 2 felony arrests. There have been 2 animal control calls since the last meeting.

Mayor Beasley called on Councilman Billings for the park report. Councilman Billings stated it is mostly just cutting grass and weed eating. Four birthday parties have been hosted since the last meeting. The splash pad construction equipment is on the ground, and construction is supposed to start tomorrow. Merrill has started working on the damaged wall of the office. He is working on quotes for getting the fence around the walking trail and looking at some money to do that.

Mayor Beasley called on Steve Defee to report on the airport. Mr. Defee stated the Civil Air Patrol came down from Maxwell Airforce base to do a training exercise. They sent their thanks to the city for the utilization of the airport. Also, ALDOT brought their drone down and did fly it for practice they needed to do. They also thanked us for the utilization of our airport. Mr. Michael Cole sent an email stating he has sent the pre-application to ALDOT, but they will be sending it back for the mayor’s signature to proceed forward.

The mayor stated he spoke with Mrs. Kathyrn at the library. She talked like she may be getting able to retire in the next six months to a year.

Nothing to report on Fire/Rescue

The mayor asked Councilwoman Smyth if there was anything to report on Economic Development. She stated El Patron restaurant reopened as El Rey and is back in business.

Mayor Beasley stated we have been looking at different things out at the park. We’re looking over some things that need much repair. Hopefully, we can get a grant to do more infrastructure. I’m trying to get some help on 6th Street from the red light to the school with old pipes that need replacing. It will be November before we can apply for it.

The mayor presented an event request from Jeff Penn with Glory Road Ministry’s Tent Revival for the 4th Annual Revival at the Park on September 15-20, 2025, at Turner Park. Councilman Jones made a motion to approve Glory Road Ministry’s Tent Revival for the 4th Annual Revival at the Park on September 15-20, 2025, at Turner Park. Councilman Billings seconded the motion and all was in favor.

Next, Mayor Beasley presented an event request from Keon Carter with Luverne All Class Reunion for All Class Reunion at the old armory lawn on October 3, 2025. Councilwoman Smyth made a motion to approve Luverne All Class Reunion at the old armory lawn on October 3, 2025. Councilman Jones seconded the motion and all was in favor.

Councilman Smith stated October 31st this year is on a Friday night. Both high school teams play at home and it is Luverne’s Senior night. Councilman Smith proposed the council have trick-or-treat on Thursday, October 30th from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Councilman Jones made a motion to have trick-or-treat on Thursday, October 30th from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Councilwoman Smyth seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously approved.

Also, Councilman Smith stated tomorrow is a big day and he would like to take the opportunity to wish good luck to all the candidates.

Councilwoman Smyth asked if we had an update on the ADEM situation downtown. Attorney Jones stated that ADEM is in the process of doing some testing, so we are waiting for them. We were able to accomplish that without any cost to anybody. ADEM was down last Wednesday and is going forward with phase 1. When they get finished with phase 1, they will see if they need to do phase 2.

The mayor passed around two pictures of a trailer and stated the street department has a single axle flatbed utility trailer that they do not use. We would like to declare it surplus and give it to the Board of Education. Councilman Jones made a motion to declare the single axle flatbed utility trailer and donate it to the Board of Education. Councilwoman Dawson seconded the motion and all was in favor.

Councilman Jones stated he would also like to say good luck to everybody on the election tomorrow.

Councilman Billings stated he would like to reiterate good luck to everybody. The peanut boil begins this week. Please support your local Shriner’s as it goes to a good cause. Be careful with all the extra traffic that will be in the area.

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

Meeting was adjourned.