

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Matt Montgomery; Council Members Laura Kronenberger, Ryan Jeppesen, Chad Johnson, Diane Johnson, Chris Nobach, and Lisa Zimmerman. Also present were Jon Radermacher, City Administrator; Sara Peer, City Clerk; Jed Petersen, Public Works Director; Nicole Miller, Library Director; and Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief.

- Call to Order Mayor Montgomery called the City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- Roll Call Roll call was conducted. Mayor Montgomery and Council Members Kronenberger, Jeppesen, C. Johnson, D. Johnson, Nobach, and Zimmerman were in attendance.
- Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Montgomery led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of Agenda A motion was made by Council Member D. Johnson, seconded by Council Member Zimmerman and unanimously carried, to approve the amended Agenda as presented.
- Public Input Mayor Montgomery reviewed the public input procedure.
- David Alvstad, Cannon Falls, referenced a recent article in the *Cannon Falls Beacon* newspaper and numerous social media posts relating to the proposed data center. He asked about planning activities, additional residential lots and other development in the area, and the timeline.
- Public Hearing:
Resolution 2801,
Certifying Unpaid
Utility Charges to be
Collected with Taxes Mayor Montgomery opened the Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m. No one spoke during the Public Hearing. Mayor Montgomery closed the Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m.
- A motion was made by Council Member Jeppesen, seconded by Council Member C. Johnson and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2801 as presented.
- Consent Agenda
- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending January 29, 2025
 - B. Meeting Minutes for January 21, 2025, City Council Meeting
 - C. Resolution 2802, Accepting a Monetary Donation of \$1,000 from Great River Energy to the Fire Department
 - ~~D. Approve Change Order #4 for John Burch Park~~
This item was pulled by Council Member Zimmerman
 - E. Resolution 2803, Accepting a Grant of \$70,000 from the MPCA for PFAS Source and Identification and Reduction Project

~~F. Approve 30-Day Extension to Cannon Valley Fair Ordinance
Letter~~

This item was pulled by Council Member Nobach

A motion was made by Council Member C. Johnson, seconded by Council Member Nobach and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, minus Items D and F.

Council Business:
Approve Change
Order #4 for John
Burch Park

Council Member Zimmerman asked about the reasons for the additional work and the responsibility for this work. Public Works Director Petersen reviewed issues that were encountered and the additional materials that were needed when the wall was rebuilt.

A motion was made by Council Member Zimmerman, seconded by Council Member C. Johnson and unanimously carried, to approve Change Order #4 for the John Burch Park project.

Approve 30-Day
Extension to Cannon
Valley Fair Ordinance
Letter

Council Member Nobach indicated that he had no concerns about the extension but wanted to pull the item for Council discussion for the sake of transparency. City Administrator Radermacher provided background information and an update regarding the process. He referenced the letter that was sent to the Cannon Valley Fair Board and a recent meeting that included himself, Mayor Montgomery, Council Member Jeppesen, and Cannon Valley Fair Board President Ferlin Miller, at which time a 30-day extension was requested to work together to address the issues. Council Member Nobach asked about the content of the letter. City Administrator Radermacher indicated that the letter addressed issues relating to noncompliance with City zoning ordinances, including racing and camping activities at the fairgrounds along with RV parking concerns. He stated that RV parking and camping concerns have been clarified. Council Member Nobach asked whether the Cannon Valley Fair Board has been asked to remove website references to autocross and demolition derby activities. City Administrator Radermacher indicated that, while the letter did not specifically address website posts, these types of activities would contradict the intention of the letter.

A motion was made by Council Member Nobach, seconded by Council Member D. Johnson and unanimously carried, to approve a 30-day extension for the Cannon Valley Fair Board to comply with the ordinance letter from the City Attorney.

Reports:
Staff

Public Works Director Petersen issued a reminder regarding parking restrictions during snow events.

Library Director Miller discussed the winter reading program for teens and adults. She also provided a SELCO update. She referenced issues with the current library catalog database system (ILS) and reported that data is being migrated to a new system along with staff training activities, with an anticipated go-live date of May 1. She also discussed current concerns about interlibrary loan deliveries.

Police Chief McCormick further discussed enforcement of winter parking restrictions.

City Clerk Peer reported that there will be no Planning Commission meeting in February.

City Administrator Radermacher provided an update regarding the proposed data center. He discussed the drafting of a scoping document and reviewed the anticipated timeline. He suggested scheduling a Council work session on March 4 to review the AUAR (Alternative Urban Area Review) process and the PUD approval process, including opportunities for public comment and the schedule.

City Administrator Radermacher suggested scheduling a Council work session on February 24, during which strategic planning would be discussed.

City Administrator Radermacher reported that he will be out of the office and unavailable from February 5-17 due to a pre-planned vacation.

Mayor and Council
Members

Council Member Zimmerman provided a Cannon Valley Trail Board update and discussed truck repairs.

Mayor Montgomery further discussed the recent meeting with Cannon Valley Fair Board President Miller, stating the meeting was very productive. He thanked meeting participants and the City Council for granting the extension to continue working on a compromise solution. He stated that future discussions regarding the Cannon Valley Fair should be much more agreeable and less contentious.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member D. Johnson seconded by Council Member Zimmerman and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 18th day of February, 2025.



Matt Montgomery, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jon Radermacher, City Administrator