

**MINUTES
FAIRFIELD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025**

The Fairfield City Council held a regular meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of Fairfield City Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Eddie Penny.

The Invocation was given by Ms. Valerie Moore.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The City Clerk called the roll with Councilors Taylor, Parks, Foster, Norman, Oden-Jones, President Carnes, and Mayor Penny present. Councilor Averhart arrived at 6:05. Attorney L. Blankenship was present for the meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Parks offered a motion to adopt the agenda. President Carnes seconded the motion. Stated motion carried unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes: Regular Meeting, April 21, 2025

Councilor Oden-Jones offered a motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 5, 2025. Councilor Norman seconded the motion. Councilors Taylor, Foster, and President Carnes abstained. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report

- Chief Hunter gave a report on the call volume for the Police Department for May. He addressed the dump site on 53rd Street and stated that citations have been issued. He also stated that he would increase patrol at Willie Mays Park.
- Chief Perry introduced 4 new firefighter recruits and welcomed them to the city. He also promoted FF Manning and FF McCloud to Lieutenant and presented them with certificates and badges.
- James Harris of Carver-Jones Market asked the City to consider a 2% sales tax rebate. President Carnes recommended that have a work session to discuss further.

Finance Report

Finance report for April was given by Andria Strozier, Principle Accountant.

Extend Floor to Public (Three minutes each)

- a. Rev L. C. Jenkins thanked the city for the street dedication. He thanked the City for demolishing the dilapidated and burned out houses. He appreciated the work being done to correct the drainage problem on 39th Place as well as the work being done on the bridge. He would like the council to consider doing a resolution for Carolyn Thomas. Councilor Norman motioned to suspend the rules. Councilor Parks seconded the motion. The rules were suspended to allow Rev. Jenkins time to finish his comments. Councilor Norman made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Councilor Foster seconded the motion. The council returned to the regular meeting.

Report from Council Committees:

Public Safety – Councilor Oden-Jones' committee met on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 5:00 pm to discuss the leasing of vehicles. The committee referred this to the finance committee.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

- a. President Carnes made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-13: Centralizing Polling Locations to the Fairfield Civic Center. Councilor Parks seconded the motion. Motion passed with Councilor Averhart voting no.
- b. Councilor Parks made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-14 Appointing Election Officers. Councilor Averhart seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- c. Councilor Norman made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-15 Setting Compensation for Absentee Manager. President Carnes seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- d. Councilor Oden-Jones made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-16 Weed Abatement at 520 Seminole Dr. Councilor Averhart seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- e. Councilor Foster made a motion for unanimous consent on Ordinance 1165 Establishing Qualifying Fees. Councilor Norman seconded the motion. Motion passed. Roll Call Vote:

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|------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Councilor Taylor | Yes | Councilor Oden Jones | Yes |
| Councilor Parks | Yes | Councilor Averhart | Yes |
| Councilor Foster | Yes | Councilor Norman | Yes |
| President Carnes | Yes | Mayor Penny | Yes |

Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve Ordinance 1165 Establishing Qualifying Fees. Councilor Norman seconded the motion. Motion passed. Roll Call Vote:

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|------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Councilor Taylor | Yes | Councilor Oden Jones | Yes |
| Councilor Parks | Yes | Councilor Averhart | Yes |
| Councilor Foster | Yes | Councilor Norman | Yes |
| President Carnes | Yes | Mayor Penny | Yes |

- f. Councilor Oden-Jones made a motion to approve the Parks and Recreation user agreement with Restoration Academy. Councilor Foster seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- g. Councilor Norman made a motion to approve the purchase of an Updated Server and Windows Software. Councilor Averhart seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- h. Councilor Oden-Jones made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-17 Ordering Demolition Lien at 400 Ridgewood Ave. Councilor Parks seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Correspondence

- a. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. will be having a Mental Health Fair on Sunday, May 25, 2025 from 2pm-4pm at the Jerry D. Coleman Community Center.

Announcements from Council Members


- Councilor Foster announced that Carver Jones Market in conjunction with Emeals, will be conducting free cooking classes in June, July, and August at Urban Hope Café.
- Councilor Taylor announced that District 1 neighborhood meeting is rescheduled for Tuesday, May 27 at 6:00 pm. He also encouraged citizens to shop Carver Jones on Friday, May 23 from 11am – 2pm for the Memorial Day Sale.
- Councilor Parks reminded citizens that the Library will have its grand re-opening Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 12:00. She also announced that FHPS graduated 119 seniors out of 120, and praised them for a job well done.
- President Carnes recapped on several points that were made during the meeting such as patrolling at Willie Mays Park, changing the polling location to save money for the City, weed abatement for properties, and repairing the Knuckle Boom truck in the street department.
- Councilor Averhart asked everyone to please spread the word about the Mental Health Fair.

Adjournment

Councilor Norman offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Parks seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.


Eddie Penny, Mayor

ATTEST:


Yvette Reynolds
City Clerk/Treasurer