MINUTES

City of Peculiar
Board of Aldermen Work Session / Regular Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers – 250 S Main St
Monday, July 7, 2025
6:30 p.m.

APPROVED

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Shatto called the regularly scheduled Board of Aldermen meeting to order at 6:30pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All who were in attendance joined Mayor Pro Tem Shatto in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

The following Aldermen responded to roll call:
Alderman Gallagher
Alderwoman Grunwald
Alderman Jarrett
Alderman Poland
Alderman Shatto
Alderman Wells

City Staff present for the meeting:
Police Chief/Interim City Administrator, Don Shepard
Development Director, Dylan Eppert
Public Works Director, Monte Johnson
Finance Director, Alexa Williams
Deputy City Clerk, Cama Suess
Police Lieutenant, Phillip Grabmiller
Lauber Municipal Law

4. Agenda Approval

Alderman Wells motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Alderman Jarrett. Motion passed unanimously (6-0).

5. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Draft Minutes for June 16, 2025 BOA Meeting

Alderman Wells motioned to approve the Minutes of the June 16, 2025 meeting as presented. Seconded by Alderman Gallagher. Motion passed unanimously (6-0).

6. Recognitions

A. Swearing In – Officer Volkman

Deputy City Clerk Suess swore in Officer Volkman.

7. Unfinished Business

A. Bill 2025-09 – 2nd Reading

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 05022025 CONCERNING MAYOR STARK

Chief Shepard stated this was a second reading of Bill 2025-09.

Alderman Wells motioned to have the second reading of Bill 2025-09 by Title Only. Seconded by Alderman Gallagher.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderwoman Grunwald	AYE
Alderman Jarrett	AYE
Alderman Poland	AYE
Alderman Shatto	AYE
Alderman Wells	AYE
Alderman Gallagher	AYE

Motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Deputy City Clerk Suess read Bill 2025-09 by Title Only.

Alderman Wells motioned to accept the second reading of Bill 2025-09 by Title Only. Seconded by Alderman Jarrett. Mayor Pro Tem Shatto stated that upon passage Bill 2025-09 would become Ordinance 07072025.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderwoman Grunwald	AYE
Alderman Jarrett	AYE
Alderman Poland	AYE
Alderman Shatto	AYE
Alderman Wells	AYE
Alderman Gallagher	AYE

APPROVED

Motion passed unanimously (6-0).

8. New Business

A. Board of Aldermen Vote Regarding Mayor Stark Resignation

Mayor Pro Tem Shatto stated that Mayor Doug Stark had tendered his resignation as the Mayor of the City of Peculiar. He stated the City had accepted the resignation and relied upon it. Mayor Pro Tem Shatto called for the Board to hold a public vote to accept Mayor Starks resignation.

Alderwoman Grunwald moved to accept Mayor Starks resignation. Seconded by Alderman Wells. Motion passed unanimously (6-0).

B. Resolution 2025-33

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF PECULIAR, MISSOURI APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF A MAYOR, PURSUANT TO CITY CODE 115.040 AND RSMO 79.280.

Chief Shepard stated the code allowed for a vacancy in the position of Mayor to be filled by Board appointment.

Alderman Wells nominated Alderman Shatto. Seconded by Alderman Gallagher.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderman Gallagher	AYE
Alderwoman Grunwald	AYE
Alderman Jarrett	AYE
Alderman Poland	AYE
Alderman Shatto	AYE
Alderman Wells	AYE

Motion to nominate Alderman Shatto passed unanimously (6-0).

Alderman Wells motioned to approve Resolution 2025-33. Seconded by Alderwoman Grunwald.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderman Gallagher	AYE
Alderwoman Grunwald	AYE
Alderman Jarrett	AYE
Alderman Poland	AYE
Alderman Shatto	ABSTAIN

APPROVED

Alderman Wells	AYE

Motion passed unanimously (5-0 with 1 Abstaining).

Deputy City Clerk swore in Mayor Shatto.

C. Resolution 2025-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF PECULIAR, MISSOURI, APPROVING THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD.

Chief Shepard stated that due to Alderman Shatto being sworn in as Mayor the Board would need to nominate a new Mayor Pro Tem to fill the position vacated by Alderman Shatto.

Alderman Gallagher nominated Alderman Wells. Seconded by Alderwoman Grunwald.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderman Gallagher	AYE
Alderwoman Grunwald	AYE
Alderman Jarrett	AYE
Alderman Poland	AYE
Mayor Shatto	AYE
Alderman Wells	AYE

Motion to nominate Alderman Wells passed unanimously (6-0).

Alderman Jarrett motioned to approve Resolution 2025-34. Seconded by Alderman Gallagher.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderman Gallagher	AYE
Alderwoman Grunwald	AYE
Alderman Jarrett	AYE
Alderman Poland	AYE
Mayor Shatto	AYE
Alderman Wells	ABSTAIN

Motion passed unanimously (5-0 with 1 Abstaining).

D. Resolution 2025-32

APPROVED

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF PECULIAR, MISSOURI, APPROVING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND J'S SOUTHLAND FOR TOWING SERVICES WITHIN THE CITY OF PECULIAR.

Chief Shepard stated that there had been some concern expressed by the community regarding the towing contract. He stated that the contract would not affect the majority of the community as the contract was for police initiated towing and the towing of City owned vehicles. He stated it would not affect the community's ability to choose their own towing company for private tows in most cases.

Chief Shepard stated this contract would affect tows that happened when the driver was arrested and there was no other legal driver on scene to move the vehicle, or the car was not legal to be released to be driven on the streets. Additionally it would apply to abandoned vehicles that had no way to contact the owner due to lack of registration or removed license plates. He stated it would also apply to vehicles involved in a crime, or containing evidence of a crime that needed to be towed to a secure facility for evidence processing. Chief Shepard stated that in the event of a crash, the driver could use the towing company of their choice, but if they did not have a preference, the City contract would be applied.

Chief Shepard stated there was no law requiring the City to contract with any towing company but it was in the best interest of the City to enter into a contract. He stated the number one concern was getting Officers back into service after each incident which required a tow company that could be on scene very quickly, which required a company to be in Cass County, and have their equipment located in Cass County so that it could be dispatched and on scene quickly. He stated that it was critical to the integrity of a criminal case that a vehicle be towed to a secure indoor facility that no one would have access to at any point. He stated the City wanted to enter into a contract so there would be established rates so the City could ensure citizens were not being gouged by having listed pricing and prohibiting any charges that were not listed.

Chief Shepard stated that some cities use a towing rotation but his experience with that was that sometimes wrong companies were called, and the tow companies were listening to the scanners and trying to beat law enforcement to the scene and coerce citizens into using their company, preying on the confusion created by the traumatic event they just suffered. Chief Shepard stated that having a contracted company eliminated these issues.

Chief Shepard stated that this contract had been put out for RFQ, even though it was not required due to there being no cost to the City. He stated that only one proposal was received at that time, so it was sent out for a second RFQ and again received only one proposal from the same company.

APPROVED

Chief Shepard stated that the majority of the complaints about J's Southland Towing came from private tows, which would not be affected or controlled by this contract. He stated the City had used J's Southland for the past 3 years and had no complaints about their service and therefore recommended approval of the contract.

Alderman Wells stated that he had seen J's Southland arrive quickly on scene when semi-trucks would get stuck on the intersection of 211th Street and J Highway. Chief Shepard stated that they were usually on scene of police calls within 5 minutes. Mayor Shatto stated that he had met the owner and felt their service with the City had been fair. Chief Shepard stated that the previous contract allowed for a rate increase each year for inflation, but J's Southland had not raised rates during the entirety of the previous contract.

Alderman Gallagher asked if someone had been taken to the hospital in the middle of the night due to an accident and released would be able to pick up their vehicle that night. Chief Shepard stated they would have to wait until regular business hours to pick up their vehicle. Alderman Gallagher expressed concern about a citizens medication being left in the vehicle and inaccessible. Chief Shepard stated that in certain situations exceptions had been made for the police department to pick up something out of the vehicle for the owner.

Alderman Wells thanked Chief Shepard for addressing the community concerns. Chief Shepard stated that having the contract was designed to address the exact concerns the community had expressed.

Alderman Wells motioned to approve Resolution 2025-32. Seconded by Alderman Gallagher. Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

9. City Administrator Report

Chief Shepard stated there were 5 candidates that had been interviewed for the Parks Director position and it had been narrowed down to 2 applicants who were scheduled for second interviews.

Chief Shepard stated that in addition to Officer Volkman, 3 new police recruits were starting the Academy and would graduate in December.

Chief Shepard stated that landscaping had been completed at City Hall and bids were being accepted to repair the concrete in front of City Hall as well as the dumpster corral and fencing around the HVAC with money that had been budgeted and approved in the current fiscal year.

APPROVED

Chief Shepard stated that Old Town Road and 223rd had been repaired in partnership with Cass County. He stated that City road repairs would begin in the fall starting with Sivley, Maverick Circle and Summerskill.

Chief Shepard stated budget workshops would be set for the August Board of Aldermen meetings and that the budget would be simplified for the coming fiscal year.

Chief Shepard stated that September 1st was a holiday and rather than have the Board meeting that Thursday, it would be moved to September 29th making the regularly scheduled Board meetings for September be the 15th and the 29th. He stated this would allow more time to be given to budget changes before the approvals, and give the opportunity for additional meetings to be scheduled should they be needed.

An informal poll was taken of the Board regarding having the Board meetings on September 15th and 29th and there was consensus.

Mr. Johnson clarified the reclaiming of Old Town Road had been completed, but the double chip and seal was still in process.

10. Board of Aldermen/Mayor Reports and Comments

Mayor Shatto expressed appreciation to the Board for the Mayoral nomination and thanked the Board for their service to both the citizens and the employees of the City.

Alderman Jarrett asked what the status of repairing the bridge that was closed. Mr. Johnson stated he had met with Bartlett and West regarding short term and a long term repair options the previous Thursday and was awaiting their recommendations. He stated that he had informed Bartlett and West that school started in August and the short term solution needed to happen before then and that he would be following up regularly.

11. Aldermen Directives

Agenda	Approved
Draft Minutes June 16, 2025	Approved
Bill 2025-09 – 2nd Reading	Approved
Vote regarding Mayor Resignation	Approved
Resolution 2025-33	Approved
Resolution 2025-34	Approved
Resolution 2025-32	Approved

12. Closed Session per RSMo. 610.021

Subsection 1 – Legal/Litigation
Subsection 2 – Real Estate
Subsection 3 – Personnel

APPROVED

Alderman Wells motioned to move into Closed Session for Subsection 1 Legal/Litigation, Subsection 2 Real Estate and Subsection 3 Personnel at 6:56pm. Seconded by Alderman Gallagher.

Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Attendance in Closed Session:

Alderman Gallagher	PRESENT
Alderwoman Grunwald	PRESENT
Alderman Jarrett	PRESENT
Alderman Poland	PRESENT
Alderman Wells	PRESENT
Mayor Shatto	PRESENT

Discussion ensued.

Alderman Wells motioned to leave Closed Session at 8:59pm. Seconded by Alderwoman Grunwald.

Roll Call:

Alderman Gallagher	AYE
Alderwoman Grunwald	AYE
Alderman Jarrett	AYE
Alderman Poland	AYE
Alderman Wells	AYE

Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

13. Adjourn

Alderman Wells motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Alderwoman Grunwald. Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mayor Shatto adjourned the meeting at 9:02pm.

APPROVED