

**Regular Meeting of the
Cornersville Board of Mayor
and Aldermen
November 6, at 6:00 p.m.
Minutes**



Those Participating: Mayor John Luna, Vice-Mayor Sherry McClintock, Aldermen Doris Arthur, Mary Johnson, Janice Kerber, Town Administrator Taylor Brandon, Town Attorney Billy Ostermann, Officer Sam Barnes, and Administrative Assistant Beth Vick

- 1. Luna called the meeting to order.**
- 2. Luna led the Pledge of Allegiance.**
- 3. Arthur said the Invocation**
- 4. Approval of the Financials:** Kerber made a motion to approve the financials as presented. Johnson seconded the motion. Arthur stated she noticed on the financials that emergency repairs for the Ambulance Service had been paid. Luna asked if there was any other discussion, and there was none. Luna called for a vote, and all voted in favor of the motion.
- 5. Approval of the Minutes:**
 - a. October 2, 2025, Regular Meeting:** Kerber made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Arthur seconded the motion. Luna asked if there was any discussion, and there was none. Luna called for a vote, and all voted in favor of the motion. Passed 4-0
 - b. October 23, 2025, Special Meeting:** Kerber made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. McClintock seconded the motion. Luna asked if there was any discussion, and there was none. Luna called for a vote, and all voted in favor of the motion. Passed 4-0
- 6. Citizens' Comments:**
 - a. Matt Fox, Tarpley Avenue,** stated he handed each board member a letter of resignation as Fire Chief of the Town of Cornersville. He stated he had been chief since 2019 and is resigning for a combination of reasons. He stated the other members of the Cornersville Fire Department are also resigning immediately.
 - b. Barbara Logelin, 2705 McConnell Road,** stated she wanted to say thank you for the "Welcome to Cornersville" flags that have been hung on Main Street.

- 7. Ordinance 25-360 Adopting Zoning Ordinance for C-2 and Industrial Zoning – Second Reading:** Brandon stated there have been no changes since the First Reading. Arthur made a motion to adopt Ordinance 25-360 on Second Reading. Johnson seconded the motion. Luna asked if there was any discussion, and there was none. Luna called for a vote, and Arthur,

Johnson, and McClintock voted in favor of the motion. Kerber abstained due to conflict of interest. Motion Passed 3 in favor, one abstention.

8. Other Business:

- a. **Discuss Board of Mayor and Aldermen vacancy:** McClintock stated the Town Charter does not require the BOMA to fill the vacancy, and she would rather leave that in the hands of the voters at the next election in 2026. Johnson agreed. Brandon stated the Charter stated the board shall have the power to appoint, not shall appoint. There were no nominations to appoint a new board member made.
- b. **Discuss Fire Chief to provide reports to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen** – Brandon stated he had called Emergency 911 Dispatch and asked for information for the calls to the Cornersville Fire Department for the last month to support the fire department payroll. He received a log from E911 showing the calls made, who (firefighter) went out, checked in/out and enroute. He stated when he looked at the log, the dates coincided with the Cornersville Football games. He stated he needs the board to decide whether there is an expectation to pay the firefighters to attend football games when they were not dispatched by 911. Kerber asked if 911 had dispatched the fire department out to the ballgames, and Brandon stated there were no emergency calls to the ballgames from 911 dispatch. Luna stated the Cornersville Fire Department were at the games but not in a fire truck. They drove from the fire hall in an EMS Gator that is not owned by the Town of Cornersville.

Luna stated sometimes the firefighters get to the ballgames before the Marshall County Ambulance Service and if something were to happen, they could help load the patient into the ambulance but, the fire department was not dispatched to the ballgames, and it is an expense to the town and its citizens. Brandon asked if the expectation is to pay them for all sporting events. Luna stated there are times when the soccer team is playing the at the same time the football game is being played, and the firefighters do not attend the soccer game, only the football game. Luna stated they cannot pick and choose what sporting event they want to attend. Kerber agreed with Luna and stated if it is not a 911 call, they should not be paid to attend the ball game. Luna stated the fire department could use the football games as a recruiting tool. Luna stated he would like to have Fire Department and Police Department Monthly Reports at each BOMA meeting.

- c. **Discuss Fire Department Billing expectations** – Brandon asked what the expectation of billing for sporting events are for firefighters. Kerber stated if there is not a 911 call, they should not be paid to attend a football game. Luna suggested this be back on the December Agenda for further discussion and maybe the board will have more answers to questions.

Brandon stated the equipment we have for the fire department is in good condition even though it is older but still has low mileage and hours. He stated the board should be thinking about replacing a truck maybe in the next fiscal year. Brandon stated repairs have been made to the trucks. Johnson stated the fire department will have to give the board recommendations about which truck is needed more. McClintock stated the self-deciding who goes and when to football games is not good for them and not good for the town. She stated accountability benefits everybody. Ostermann stated it should be planned for more structure of the fire department, payroll especially,

- d. **Discuss the Community Development Block Grant bids for sidewalk in front of Cornersville Elementary School** – Brandon stated he did not receive as many bids as he had hoped and received one from MarCorp for a bid of \$163,336.85 and was in the bid budget. MarCorp was granted the job. He stated the construction should begin sometime after the new year.
- e. **Citizen of the Year**- Mayor Luna announced Jill Fagan has been selected as the 2025 Citizen of the Year by the Citizens of Cornersville.

Kerber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Johnson seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.



Mayor John Luna

12/4/25

Date



Taylor Brandon

12/4/25

Date

TOWN OF CORNERSVILLE

Fire Department Review Committee – Recommendation

Background:

- All volunteer firefighters have resigned from the Cornersville Fire Department.
- Fire protection coverage is currently being provided through South Marshall Fire Department and mutual aid partners.
- Current pay: \$15 per non-structure call, \$25 per structure fire call.
- Concerns cited include pay, equipment, training, and leadership.

Recommendation:

Form a short-term Fire Department Review Committee to:

1. Assess the current status of the volunteer fire department.
2. Identify causes of volunteer resignations.
3. Review pay, policies, equipment, and morale.
4. Provide actionable recommendations to guide rebuilding and ensure long-term reliable emergency coverage.

Proposed Committee Composition:

- 1 Board member
- 1 former volunteer firefighter
- 1 citizen with public safety/community experience

Duration:

2–3 months, reporting back to the Board with recommendations.

Goal:

Restore volunteer staffing, improve morale, and ensure strong, sustainable fire protection for Cornersville residents.