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MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

Call to order - by Mayor Whitehorn

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Public forum - 3 minutes

None

Roll Call - by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Council:

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

ALD: Kathleen Hansen, Travis Aikins, Jay King, and Jeannie Rollins

Absent: Oscar Alvarenga

Staff:

Present: Town Attorney: Joshua Prusak

Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Absent: None

Guests

Jacob Davis – BCWD#1

Shelia Wilkerson

Jessica Vasquez

Zack Oldebeken – AFD Chief

Kim Whitehorn

Unable to read signature

Declaration of quorum

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present.

Consent of agenda

Ald. King made a motion for consent of agenda. Seconded by Ald. Aikins. Discussion; None. Roll call:

Ald. Aikins; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; absent, Ald. Hansen; yes, and Ald. King; yes. Motion carried.

Consent of minutes

August 2026, Minutes: Ald. King made a motion to accept the August council meeting minutes.

Seconded by Ald. Aikins. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; absent, Ald.

Hansen; yes, Ald. King; yes, and Ald. Aikins; yes. Motion carried.

Financials

August Report: Financials were presented to council members.

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Staff Reports

1. Town Sanctioned Events - by Rec/Tres. Barnes

*September & October Calendars Posted

Avoca Fall Clean-Up, Saturday, October 10, 2026, at 8:30 – 11:00 am

Avoca Trunk R Treat, October 31, 2026, at 6:00 pm

2. Business Permits for August 2026

Fur Valley Farms

Mid-South Diesel Performance LLC

3. Building Permits for August 2026

G & K Contractors New House 188 Pearl Ave.

Casey Turner Construction New House 409 Hidden Forest Trail

Jensen, Matthew New House 957 Red Cedar Place

4. Town Maintenance – Chris Rogers

Due to the severe dry weather, all mowing and anything that can cause a spark has been halted.

Committee Reports

1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga

Zoning Book is still being worked on by the NWARPC.

2. Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen Alvarenga

None

3. Zoning Official – Tim DePue

No Updates.

4. Streets – Ald. Aikins

a. Asphalt Food Court Parking Lot – Ald. Aikins and Mayor Whitehorn meet with Swope Engineering. The lot is flat, and either trickle channels or a large amount of fill dirt will be needed to be placed before asphalt can be laid. Council will decide which way to go, once Swope lets us know the cost of the design. Nothing may be done if the cost is too high.

b. Rader Road – Work to begin this week per Mayor Whitehorn

5. Park – Ald. Hansen

No Updates

6. Grants – Ald. Rollins

No Updates

7. Annexation – Ald. King

No Updates.

Old Business

a. No Solicitation List/Permit Fee – Discussion was held concerning business license fees and if door to door sales/solicitors need to pay like other town business owners. Council decided it wasn't necessary at this time. No solicitation decals will be made for residents at no cost and will be available for pick up at the Avoca Town Hall when available.

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- b. Fire Inspections – Ald. Alvarenga and Ald. King met with Avoca Fire Chief Oldebeken; discussion: the fire department will pay for half (1/2) the Benton County Fire Inspection Fees, and the Town will pay half (1/2) the Benton County Fire Inspection Fees. Avoca Fire Chief Oldebeken is in talks with the Benton County Fire Marshal concerning what that fee will be. It was stated that the portion of the towns fee will need to be offset to the business owner on their business license.

New Business

- a. New Attorney – Resolution 07-26. Attorney Prusak read Resolution 07-26 in its entirety. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept Resolution 07-26 on its 1st and final reading. Seconded by Ald. Rollins. Discussion: None. Roll Call: Ald. Alvarenga: absent, Hansen: yes, Ald. King: yes, Ald. Aikins: yes, and Ald. Rollins: yes. All approved. Motion carried.
- b. Community Building (Chief Oldebeken) – A committee of three (3) will be made up to make decisions concerning the community room. The committee of three (3) will consist of one fire board member, the Avoca Mayor and one member of the Extension Homemaker Club.

Public forum (Non-Agenda Items only) - 3 minutes

Jacob Davis with the BCWD#1 talked about the water bill and the agreement with the Town, Extension Homemaker Club and Avoca Fire Dept. It was decided to keep everything as is, with the bills coming to the Town of Avoca, and the Town billing the fire department..

Mayor for the Good of Town

Mayor Whitehorn wants residents to know we are not mowing due to the extreme dryness and the burn ban.

Town Council Member's Personal Privilege - 3 minutes on any matter

Council Member Aikins: None

Council Member King: None

Council Member Alvarenga: Absent

Council Member Rollins: None

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes: None

Council Member Hansen: Urged the Town and the Avoca Fire Dept. to work together, she would like to see the council members at the fire board meetings/events and the fire board members at the council meetings/events.

Upcoming Town Meetings

NEBCO – Pancake Breakfast scheduled for Monday, September 7, 2026, 7-10 am

AFD – Pancake Breakfast scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2026, 7-10 am

Planning Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 6:30 pm

BCWD #1 Annual & Board Meeting, Wednesday, September 16, 9:00 am

Avoca Fire & Rescue Board Meeting, Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 6:00 pm

Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 6:30 pm

Board of Zoning meeting scheduled for December 15, 2026, after Planning Meeting

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Adjournment

A motion was made by Ald. King and seconded by Ald. Rollins to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 pm. Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanette Barnes
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved 
Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Attest 
Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes