

**Regular Meeting of the City Council  
City of Rockport  
1472 Military Road, Rockport, Arkansas  
Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2025**

**Call to order**

Councilwoman Brenda Womble called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Councilwoman Melinda Baker led the pledge and offered the invocation.

**Roll call**

*Council members present:* Melinda Baker, Darrell Hughes, Brenda Womble

*Not present:* Jimmy Shuffield, Mayor Kevin Baker

*Others present:* Shira Kelley, Jim Beason

**Approval of minutes**

- Baker motion to approve minutes of December 2024 regular meeting
- Hughes second
- Voting yes: Baker, Hughes, Womble

**Departmental Reports**

*Financial statement:* no report

*Sewer:* no report

*Police Department:* no report

*Planning Commission:* no report

*Street Department:* M. Baker says need gravel to fill potholes on Phillips Road and JJ Hughes Road.

- Hughes motion to purchase two loads of gravel for Phillips, JJ Hughes and possibly Oak Meadow Road
  - Womble second
  - Voting yes: Hughes, Womble, Baker
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- Hughes motion to approve departmental reports
  - Baker second
  - Voting yes: Hughes, Baker, Womble

## Old Business

Jim Beason is present to voice complaint about annexation in November election.

Hughes says he called Arkansas GIS to ask about complaints. Since the measure passed in a public election, neither the city nor GIS can counter it. Arkansas Municipal League advised that if the city doesn't provide services listed in the election ordinance within three years, residents who were annexed can petition to leave the city.

Beason says the annexation encompassed two of his three houses. He was not aware of the election until he received a letter from the county clerk. Of the 21 households who were included in the annexation, he has gotten signatures from 17 who did not want to be annexed. He plans to take legal action.

## New Business

*Animal control ordinance:* Hughes says it is not ready to pass, but he wants the council to review it for input.

*State of the City:* Womble presented the State of the City report, reminding the council that the city had an annexation issue on the November ballot, which passed. The council needs to consider more annexations this year.

The council also needs to consider the building behind City Hall for financing through USDA. Womble said the city needs to contract an engineer to determine what work is needed on the sewer.

The planned truck stop is trying to move forward. Construction should take a year.

## Adjournment

- Baker motion to adjourn
- Shuffield second
- Voting yes: Baker, Shuffield, Womble

*Adjourned, 6:29 p.m.*

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Shira Kelley, Secretary Kevin Baker, Mayor