

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

Call to order

Council member Brenda Womble called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Womble led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

Roll call

Council members present: Melinda Baker, Darrell Hughes, Jimmy Shuffield, Brenda Womble

Other city personnel present: Police Chief Toby Morales; Shira Kelley

Approval of minutes

- Hughes motion to approve minutes of September meeting
- Shuffield second
- Voting yes: Hughes, Shuffield, Baker, Womble

Departmental Reports

Financial statement:

The financial report was a handwritten document. Womble says it will be in this or a spreadsheet format through the end of the year, with approval of legislative audit. Baker asks if QuickBooks is providing any support since we are still paying for them (pending getting all records switched to the new vendor). Womble says we are trying to get that payment stopped, because we are not getting any use from QuickBooks.

- Hughes motion to approve the financial report
- Shuffield second
- Voting yes: Hughes, Shuffield, Womble, Baker

Police Department: Morales presented a written report and said he has hired Chris Medlin as a part-time detective to investigate as needed. The department will be fully staffed again in November when two or three officers start work.

Planning Commission: no report

Street Department: Several potholes need repair, including on Elaine, Nix, Needles and Babcock, where Malvern cut the pavement to repair a water line but has not repacked or

repaved the street. We will get bags of cold-mix asphalt to repair these places. Discussion of other streets needing repair (Division, Cuffman Mill, Oak Meadow, Pleasant Hill, JJ Hughes, Jenny Lane, etc.), but no action now. Baker says we need to do something about dirt roads, too. She is going to call the state highway department to check on their plans for specs, planning, etc. Hughes will contact Scott to schedule a day to repair the asphalt.

Sewer Department: no report

- Baker motion to approve departmental reports
- Shuffield second
- Voting yes: Baker, Shuffield, Hughes, Womble

Old Business

None

New Business

Secretary

Womble says we need to hire a new secretary to learn sewer, Darlene's job, and all other aspects before Darlene retires. She has received a resume from a candidate willing to work for minimum wage, for now. Shuffield emphasizes need to check references. Morales says he can run a background check on the applicant.

Budget

Hughes introduces Resolution 2025-2, the 2026 budget, for future consideration. All council members will review the budget to make necessary changes before adopting it in December.

Sewer hookup

After discussion, the council instructed Womble to call city attorney Greg Vardaman for advice regarding a sewer hookup for Carthel Clark. She will report to the council afterward.

Adjournment

Hughes motion to adjourn

Baker second

Voice vote: unanimous

Adjourned, 7:21 p.m.

Attest: _____ Approved: _____
Shira Kelley, Secretary Kevin Baker, Mayor