

CITY OF ASSUMPTION
Committee of the Whole Meeting
Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall by Alderperson Travis Sullivan who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was answered by Alderpersons Ricky Bradshaw, Jr, Gary Nelsen, Herb Palmer, Travis Sullivan and Donny Walden. Also, present were Mayor William Herbord, Police Chief Kevin Hughes, Water Employee Dana Owens, Street Supt Darin Damery, Water Collector Tanya Rhoades, Treasurer Angel Palmer and City Clerk Janet Waller.

Present in the audience was Felicia King, Matt Bridgman, Ben Thompson, Craig Robertson, Dave Hebert and Janis Herbord.

Absent was Alderperson Kim Porter.

Public Comments:

A member of the public would like to put in some loose rock in an easement to allow for parking and drainage. They also have 2 trees they would like put on the tree removal list.

The member of the public also asked if there were any concerns with a 2 yard dumpster being placed in the back next to the alley for pick up.

A member of the public was representing his son to discuss baling the grass at the subdivision. His son is interested in baling the grass for an FFA career project. The City could hire him to mow, rake and bale to donate the bales. The other option would be for him to mow, rake and bale. He would take the bales and sell and keep the profit from the sale. The type of grass was discussed and it will need to approximately be cut around 60 days for baling.

A member of the public has completed a TIF application for renovation of apartments on West First Street.

Under New Business:

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Palmer, made a **motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2026**. Motion carried with Alderpersons Bradshaw, Nelsen, Palmer, Sullivan and Walden voting aye and 0 nays. Porter was absent.

NPDES Permit:

Engineer Update:

No report.

Water by Jack Duncan:

The costs to upgrade the skids for the softening vessels for the water plant will be \$7,100.00 and should be loan eligible. They will have to be manufactured and painted. It will be on the May 6 agenda.

It was questioned if everyone agreed on a flag pole for the new Water Plant.

The Water Plant floor is still being discussed.

The Wells will need to be cleaned in the near future. The Water Supt will get a quote for the cleanings.

The ladders at the Water Plant need to be certified every 3 years. The Water Supt is working on getting them certified as an emergency inspection as it will hold up work at the Water Plant until they are certified.

Water Supt discussed the compliance with the IEPA water reporting system. He would like to dedicate another employee for the reporting. He discussed bringing up the living wage for Dana and having her do reporting. Water Collector is also interested in fulfilling the position.

Water Supt would also like to purchase an enclosed 16 foot utility trailer.

There are no requirement on the Water Tower cleaning.

Water Collector update by Tanya Rhoades:

47 shut off letters were mailed. 11 have paid. Shut off day will be April 28.

Water bills were mailed on April 20.

Water Supt left at 6:45 pm.

Streets by Darin Damery:

Street Supt would like a post made about limb pickup – only limbs and no grass.

Street Supt reviewed changes that were made to his budget. He had submitted a budget and several items have been changed.

The budget was discussed at length with the Treasurer and council. It was noted the budget is in the negative of \$231,000.00 and some cuts may be made.

Street Supt would like to purchase a trailer for culverts.

Aldersperson Palmer questioned about dirt from where a stump was removed. There is also roots still showing. Street Supt will look at it.

\$10,000 of rock will be needed with oiling and rocking streets.

Police by Chief Kevin Hughes:

Chief Hughes introduced Craig Robertson. He would like to hire him for a part-time officer position.

Chief Hughes also has another guy interested in working part time. Both of them are currently certified. Council agreed to put on the May agenda. The pay would be \$25.00 an hour. 1 part timer would work 2 to 3 days a week and the other would work 1 day a week.

There have been 38 golf cart stickers done for 2026.

New roof has been put on the police department.

Chief Hughes will be purchasing outdoor cameras for the police department for \$150.00.

Chief Hughes reviewed the changes for the Police Handbook and would like it updated.

Parks by Dana Owens:

Summer Recreation was discussed. It will be approximately \$5,000.00 for wages for the program. ACPA is only willing to donate snacks for the program. It was noted there is no money in the budget.

Subdivision:

Lot 7 has sold and closing will be on Tuesday, April 28.

The Mayor has mowed around the ditch and the front of the subdivision.

Council discussed about the FFA project and the 60 day period for baling.

Finance:

The TIF application received was questioned if residential apartments were allowed for TIF reimbursement.

The budget was reviewed with the council. Fireworks have been cut to \$5,000.00 and possibly partnering with Moweaqua for them.

The IML Conference has also been cut this year from the budget.

The Street budget was again discussed at length.

Treasurer Palmer noted the money is very low to pay bills and payroll. Savings is being used to cover.

Council agreed to move Street Budget back to numbers Supt turned in.

Budget is negative \$231,000.00.

Health and Safety:

It was noted the City looks trashy. There are many yards that needs to be cleaned up. Possibly ordinance fines.

Council would like an update on the status of the new tornado siren.

Other:

Mayor Herbord noted the school would like to put in a batting cage. They would like authorization to put on City property.

Mayor Herbord would like to appoint Ross Workman to the Zoning Board.

Public Comments:

No comments.

Council Member Nelsen, seconded by Walden, made the **motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm**. Motion carried with Alderpersons Walden, Sullivan, Palmer, Nelsen and Bradshaw voting aye and 0 nays. Porter was absent.

Janet Waller
City Clerk

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Sullivan, made a **motion to approve the Committee of the Whole Minutes of April 21, 2026**. Motion carried with Alderpersons Bradshaw, Nelsen, Palmer and Sullivan voting aye and 0 nays.