

Town of Cohutta
Council Minutes
13 January 2026

Present: Mayor Ron Shinnick

Members of the Council: Andy Lopez, Sandy Clayborne and Randy Stanton

Absent from the Council: Shane Kornberg and Bryan Rayburn – Town Attorney

Meeting was opened at 6:02 p.m. with a prayer led by Sandy Clayborne.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Andy Lopez.

Judge Phillip Woodward performed the swearing in of Mayor Ron Shinnick and Sandy Clayborne and Randy Stanton as members of the Council.

The Mayor presented the minutes of the 9 December 2025 Council Meeting. *The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the 9 December 2025 Council Meeting. Andy Lopez moved to approve the minutes of the 9 December 2025 Council Meeting. Randy Stanton seconded the motion. All members of the Council who were in attendance voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.*

The Mayor presented the Financial Report. *The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the Financial Report. Andy Lopez moved to approve the Financial Report. Sandy Clayborne seconded the motion. All members of the Council who were in attendance voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.*

The Mayor presented the Second Reading of the 2026 Budget. The Projected Income for the year is \$671,500 with Expenditures of \$666,400. (An addition of \$5000 to the Court Budget as made for increased jail expense.) *The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the Second Reading of the 2026 Budget. Sandy Clayborne moved to approve the Second Reading of the 2026 Budget. Andy Lopez seconded the motion. All members of the Council who were in attendance voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.*

Chief Fowler presented the Public Safety Report.

Andy Lopez moved to approve the transfer of equipment for the Police Department. Sandy Clayborne seconded the motion. All member of the Council who were in attendance voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

Randy Stanton moved to approve gas line installation. Sandy Clayborne seconded the motion. All members of the Council who were in attendance voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

America250 Committee Report

Trash truck- need estimated and a capacity of 4-5 loads

Matters of Information:

- Background checks for all Beer & Wine Licenses were clear
- Audit complete

Andy Lopez moved to enter Executive Session. Sandy Clayborne seconded the motion. All members of the Council who were in attendance voted in the affirmative. Motion passed. Entered at 6:56 p.m.

This concludes the minutes respectfully taken during my presence at the meeting.

Ron Shinnick – Mayor

Pam Shinnick – Town Clerk

Town of Cohutta
Council Minutes Addendum
January 13, 2026

Present Mayor Ron Shinick

Members of the council: Andy Lopez, Sandy Clayborne and Randy Stanton

Absent from the Council: Shane Kornberg and Bryan Rayburn – Town Attorney

Executive Session:

Andy Lopez made a motion to end executive session at 8:02. Randy Stanton seconded the motion. All Approved.

Regular Session:

Andy Lopez made a motion to terminate Pam Shinnick on grounds of creating a hostile work environment. Randy Stanton seconded the motion. Approved by all council members present.

Andy Lopez made a motion to adjourn at 8:19 pm. Randy Stanton seconded the motion. All in favor.

Sandy Clayborne