



CITY of CRESTVIEW

MAYOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

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April 14, 2026

6:00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approve Agenda

4. Consent Agenda

4.1. Approval of the minutes from the March 10, 2026, Mayor's Advisory Council meeting.

5. Mayor's Minute

6. Action Items

6.1. Environmental Center Clean Up

6.2. City Spring Clean

6.3. 250 Celebration for Crestview

7. Member's Time

8. Adjournment

All meeting procedures are outlined in the Meeting Rules and Procedures brochure available outside the Chambers. Florida Statute 286.0105. Notices of meetings and hearings must advise that a record is required to appeal. Each board, commission, or agency of this state or of any political subdivision thereof shall include in the notice of any meeting or hearing, if notice of the meeting or hearing is required, of such board, commission, or agency, conspicuously on such notice, the advice that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. The requirements of this section do not apply to the notice provided in s. 200.065(3). In accordance with Section 286.26, F.S., persons with disabilities needing special accommodations, please contact Natasha S Peacock, City Clerk at cityclerk@cityofcrestview.org or 850-628-1560 option 2 within 48 hours of the scheduled meeting.

Mayor's Advisory Council

Minutes

March 10, 2026

6:00 p.m.

The Mayor's Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Members present from left to right: Jessie Huisken, Mike Montalbano, Ray Nelson, Trei McMullen, and Tashara Jones.

1. Called to Order

Ray Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The members present recited the Pledge.

3. Agenda Approval

A correction was made to the agenda, moving guest speakers to paragraph six under members' time. Mr. McMullen made a motion to approve the agenda as corrected, and Mr. Montalbano seconded. The agenda was approved.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from February 10th's meeting were reviewed. Mr. Montalbano made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. McMullen seconded. No discussion was made. Minutes from last month were approved.

5. Mayor's Minute

5.1 The Mayor complimented the organizers of the Mardi Gras parade, noting numbers were down slightly due to a date change related to the weather.

5.2 The Mayor discussed the America 250 program.

- A county-wide parade will be held in Crestview.
- All nine cities in the county.
- Every high school band in the county will participate.
- Military participation is uncertain.
- Mia Morganello, Olympic medalist, will be the grand marshal.
- The parade is scheduled for May 9th and is in addition to the 4th of July celebration.

5.3 Mentioned robotics dinner in Fort Walton Beach in early June.

5.4 Urged everyone to support county-wide events.

6. Member's Time

6.1 Guest Speaker: Ms. Marge Stewart (Garden Club & Okaloosa County Extension)

- Ms. Stewart discussed the environmental center.
 - Goal: Improve the center, make it safer, and preserve Crestview's heritage.
 - Downspout diverters need replacement.
 - Future rain barrels were suggested.
 - Pavilion repairs are needed.
 - Old lighting should be removed.
 - Playground sign needs repair.
 - Big sign by the water feature needs repair and plexiglass installation.
 - A dead tree needs to be removed.
 - Sourcing pond liners for the water features.
 - Replacing old wooden number signs with galvanized steel with QR codes.
 - Repurposing cedar paneling from the forester set for displays.
 - The Garden Club has redone the butterfly garden layout.
 - Proposed windfall location is in the works.
- Seeking official recognition of the environmental center as an arboretum and certification as a wildlife habitat.
- Pursuing declaration as a Blue Star Memorial Byway.
- Questions:
 - Qualifications/criteria for Blue Star Memorial designation?
 - Funding available with designation of the fire tower?
 - Kiwanis involvement?
- General discussion re: environmental cleanup, manpower, and engaging volunteers.
- Discussion re: Tax designation of the center & Website
- Identified Priorities: dead tree removal, sign repair, and water feature repair.

6.2 Guest Speaker: Farrah Bainline (Higher Ground Community Garden)

- Ms. Bainline is working on Crestview's community garden.
 - Goal is to create a positive space for growing food and connecting with neighbors.
 - The garden has 10 beds.
 - New Bethel Methodist Church owns land.
 - Looking for a water source, seating area, and pavers.

- Girl Scout group is creating a pollinator section, and a brilliant middle schooler is building a little library.
- Ms. Bainline is seeking city approval for a beehive.
- Location: 5968 Highway 85 north.
- Membership is at no cost.
- Donations given by: Lowe's, Ace Hardware, Tractor Supply, Keep Okaloosa Beautiful, Bang & Bulls, & Caffeine and Chaos.
- 501 (c) (3) is in process.
- Discussion of possible memorial pavers to fund the project.
- Discussion re: Military Volunteer Recognition
- Open Monday through Saturday during daylight hours.
- Seeking assistance with Spring Beautification

7 Action Items

7.1 Beautification Project- Spring beautification. The city is identifying people in the past who may need assistance with their yards. Coordinate with code enforcement. Discussion of people identified to have especially code enforcement issues. Landscaping companies will "adopt-a-yard." Information needs to be advertised. Concerns for conflicts of events with Earth Day activities.

7.2 McMahan Environmental Center should be the focus area. Leading up to Earth Day, the emphasis on cleaning will occur. The committee is seeking directions to "Rally the Troops". The mayor will assist with creating weekly videos for engagement.

7.3 Community and Youth Engagements- Discussed the town hall opportunity for discussing city procedures. Praise by attendees of the Mardi Gras parade. Discussion of Food Truck Friday.

7.4 Educating Residents on City Government- Tabled item for next month.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Minutes approved this _____ day of _____ 2026.

Ray Nelson

Chair

JB Whitten

Mayor

Minutes submitted by,

Dominique Vaughn, Executive Assistant

DRAFT