

Beattyville City Council changing parking on Locust Street to left side

The Beattyville City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 14, 2025. The meeting was rescheduled from Monday, October 13th because of the Columbus Day holiday. Council Clerk Sally Gilbert called the roll with council members Sam Cockerham, Savannah Mays, Ronnie Stamper and Mitch Cornelius and Mayor Scott Jackson in attendance. Members Glenna Cummins and Charlotte Hogan were absent. Council member Sam Cockerham opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

First on the agenda was Paul Nesbitt with Nesbitt Engineering. Mr. Nesbitt stated that there was several items for approval. He said that the WPA building was inspected and Greg Smallwood had done a great job. He asked for \$3000 extra for work done on the floor that was not included in original estimate. Mitch Cornelius made the motion with Savannah Mays seconding to approve the additional \$3000. He also asked for approval of \$14,500 which was due to Mr. Smallwood for the Brownfield Grant for the WPA building. Savannah Mays made the motion and Sam Cockerham seconded for approval. Mr. Nesbitt informed the council that there was an addi-

tional invoice due for work done by his engineering company. Savannah Mays made the motion and Mitch Cornelius seconded to pay the invoice.

Mr. Nesbitt told the council that the structural engineering had been done on the old police building and that it was ready for bids. Other items he talked about were the water system improvements in Phase #2 at the water plant and replacing all valves. Mr. Nesbitt submitted an invoice for \$252,650 for design work at the water treatment plant. Ronnie Stamper made a motion with Savannah Mays seconding to move parking from the right hand side of the street to the left side to provide more parking. The parking will now run up by the old Congleton building along Don Begley's line with driveways opened for Begleys and continue all the way to the backstreet.

Mitch Cornelius made a motion with Savannah Mays seconding to approve the invoice. Ronnie Stamper made the motion with Savannah Mays seconding to approve Nesbitt for engineering procurement.

Savannah Mays made the motion with Mitch Cornelius seconding to get a new bank account for Phase #3 of the water project.

The Council agreed to put out requests for bids on the pontoon boat located at the Woolly Worm Park. The City had loaned the boat to the Festival back in 2019.

Water for new subdivisions in the County must have a Division of Water permit and ap-

proval from Beattyville Water before construction can begin. A motion was made by Mitch

Cornelius and seconded by Stamper to follow these guidelines.

Parking on Locust Street going toward Backstreet was discussed. Ronnie Stamper made a motion with Savannah Mays seconding to move parking from the right hand side of the street to the left side to provide more parking. The parking will now run up by the old Congleton building along Don Begley's line with driveways opened for Begleys and continue all the way to the backstreet.

Mitch Cornelius made a motion with Savannah Mays seconding to donate \$200 to the Lee/Owsley County Christmas Fund for Children for Lee County children.

A motion was made by Savannah Mays and seconded by Sam Cockerham to approve the minutes of the prior meeting.

Police Chief Cody Sparks reported that his department answered 87 complaints; wrote 26 citations; made 11 arrests and worked 3 accidents.

Ferrell Wise, city manager reported that the public works answered 78 calls with 55 completed. There was 65 for water and garbage with 49 completed and 13 in sewer with 6 completed.

Sally Gilbert gave the financial report and the meeting was adjourned.

Festival

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today's Three Forks Tradition) at both the Main Stage and Town Square. On the streets, you can find an endless line of vendor booths selling wooden crafts, jewelry, popular geese with clothes (?), tools and collectibles and much, much more. When you get hungry, nothing taste better than festival foods that include bloomin' onions, kettle corn, funnel cakes, giant smoked sausages, Hibachi, hamburgers, lemonade and everything in between.

The Farmers Market will be open at the lower end of town selling soup beans. Any number of civic groups and organizations will be selling raffle tickets for chances at cash, bikes, TVs, etc. Folks will gather 'round the Main Stage at 6 p.m. for the Festival's Official Opening Ceremony, recognizing the Citizen of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Above and Beyond winner, and the Woolly Worm Festival Hall of Fame. Afterwards, the crowd favorite Appalachian Troubadours will be performing on the Main Stage (Sound sponsored by State Senator Brandon Smith).

Saturday morning, October 25th, the Festival will open at 10 a.m. Don Begley's crew will be lining up a giant parade that will begin at 1 p.m. At 2 p.m., Steve Henry will be hosting a cornhole tournament at the City Park (on the river). A full slate of entertainment is scheduled for both stages on Saturday. D.J. Marc Adams will be

doing the sound at the Main Stage, and Ethan Moore will be providing the sound system at Town Square. Citizens Bank & Trust will be sponsoring the Shriner's train that will be giving rides up and down Main Street. Look for Just Jessica Photography to be taking candid Festival photos. This year, pit your skills against the "mechanical bull" and cowboy up. Bring the kids by Isaacs' Inflatables across from the Woolly Worm park to enjoy the slides.

Sunday morning will start early at 8 a.m. with the Woolly Booger 5K race beginning at Town Square (see details elsewhere in today's paper). The Annual Lee County Woolly Worm Car Show will once again be held at the Lee County Middle High School at 601 Lee Ave. Registration will begin at 9:00 and go to 1 p.m. (Registration \$20). One hundred dash plaques will be given out (first come, first served).

Top 50 trophies will be awarded, as well as Best of Show, Farthest Distance Traveled, and Club Participation. This year, there will be two concessions on the hill, with the LCMHS Senior Class grilling hamburgers and hot dogs, and the Beattyville Bombers traveling baseball team will be fixing a pulled pork sandwich box with cole slaw and beans. Thompson Chapel will be conducting Church Service at Town Square at 12 noon. The Champion Woolly Worm race will take place at 4 p.m.

Be sure to check out the sponsor list for the Festival in today's Three Forks Tradition, and thank them for their help in bringing a world recognized festival to Lee County! For your visitors coming in this weekend -- WELCOME TO BEATTYVILLE AND THE WOOLLY WORM FESTIVAL!



LCHS Band flag corps member Olivia Flinchum performs at Saturday's competition.

Booth

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Beattyville Christian Church as well as a volunteer at the Lee County Public Library.

She loves her family, her friends, reading, old cemeteries, anything Irish, music, ancestry and talking to people. Life is an adventure for her.

Currently her greatest pleasure is playing with the kids across the street...Kendal and Ryder Williams. Never has "Mother May I" and "1 2 3 Redlight" been so much fun!!!

Never in her wildest imagination did she expect to be "Citizen of the Year", but she is honored and grateful to the Woolly Worm Committee for choosing her.

This years entry into the Lee County Woolly Worm Festival "Hall of Fame" will be Patricia Anne "Patsy" Fike. Ms. Fike passed away on October 9, 2025 leaving behind two children, Greg and Phillip (Jana) Durbin, grandchildren, Gram and Maggie Durbin. Patsy was

known for her work in the community but her biggest accomplishment was her ability to catch woolly worms. Each year Patsy and her best friend Joyce Begley would spend days hunting for the little brown and black creatures to make sure the festival had enough to race and provide kids worms for racing. She also worked the admission desk at the Woolly Worm Festival pageant.

Join us Friday night for Opening Ceremonies followed by the Appalachian Troubadours.



Ethan Thacker plays sax solo during Band Competition at Madison Southern Saturday.



Lee County Woolly Worm 2025 SPONSORS

State Senator Brandon Smith
Citizens Bank & Trust of Beattyville
Representative Tim Truett
Lee County Tourism
Lee County Building Supply
Darrell & Phyllis Steele
Color Real Estate - Ernie & Sheila Martin
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Craig's Car Sale - Annville
Kentucky River Medical Center
Lee Adjustment Center
Three Forks Tradition
Kenneth Lewis - Assistant Coroner
Dunahoo Auto Sales
Save-a-Lot
Mann Chrysler

A big THANKS to all those who helped sponsor the 2025 Lee County Woolly Worm Festival and the Lee County Fiscal Court and City of Beattyville