



City of Elkins

Municipal Properties Committee Meeting

November 17, 2025

11:00 AM

Phil Gainer Community Center
142 Robert E. Lee Ave. Ext.

Charter Authority of the Municipal Properties Committee: Monitor and report to Council on the condition of and proposed plans for city buildings, real estate, and rights-of-way. Review and propose to Council capital investment in buildings, real estate, and associated infrastructure.

AGENDA

1. **Call to order and roll call**
2. **Public comment**
3. **Minutes**
 - a. Proposed minutes for the meeting of October 13, 2025
4. **Reports**
5. **New business**
 - a. Planning for Harrison Avenue property
 - b. Proposal from Mark Doak to install 3-way and 4-way stops throughout the downtown area
6. **Announcements**
7. **Adjournment**



CITY OF ELKINS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting Date:	November 17, 2025
Section:	Minutes
Category:	Action Item
Agenda Item Name:	Proposed minutes for the meeting of October 13, 2025
Recommended By:	City Clerk
Summary:	Minutes for the committee's Oct. 13 meeting
Fiscal Impact:	n/a
Recommendation:	Consider for approval
Attachments:	1. Municipal Properties Committee - 2025_10_13 - minutes_proposed

MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

*Phil Gainer Community Center
142 Robert E. Lee Ave. Ext.
October 13, 2025
11:00 a.m.*

Present were members: C. Lowther (chair), and B. Woods.

R. Chenoweth was absent.

Also present were: Jerry Marco (mayor), Tracy Judy (treasurer), Steve Himes (fire chief), Travis Bennett (police chief), Sutton Stokes (city clerk), and Mikayla Goins (executive secretary and recording secretary).

MINUTES

Woods **MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2025.** The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The Committee discussed plans for city-owned property on Harrison Avenue.

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Name & Title

Signature



CITY OF ELKINS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting Date:	November 17, 2025
Section:	New business
Category:	Action Item
Agenda Item Name:	Planning for Harrison Avenue property
Recommended By:	Mayor
Summary:	The Mayor will present information on proposed plans for Harrison Avenue property
Fiscal Impact:	TBD
Recommendation:	Review presented information and consider next steps and recommendations
Attachments:	None



CITY OF ELKINS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting Date:	November 17, 2025
Section:	New business
Category:	Action Item
Agenda Item Name:	Proposal from Mark Doak to install 3-way and 4-way stops throughout the downtown area
Recommended By:	Operations Manager
Summary:	Downtown property owner Mark Doak requests discussion of his proposal to add 3- and 4-way stops throughout downtown Elkins, including replacing existing traffic lights on Davis Avenue.
Fiscal Impact:	TBD
Recommendation:	Review presented information and consider next steps or recommendations
Attachments:	1. Doak proposal concerning stop signs downtown

City of Elkins

Proposed 4-Way Stops for Downtown Area

September 2025

Good Morning. My name is Mark Doak. I do not live in City limits – My wife and I do own two buildings in Downtown Elkins – Tip Top/Common Door building at corner of Third & Kerns and Joey’s Bike Shop building on Third Street – across from Davis Trust Bank.

I would like to talk about making Downtown Elkins more walkable, more bicycle friendly and slowing cars by adding Stop Signs.

Currently there are two roads to by-pass Downtown Elkins – One by-pass is Randolph Avenue from the VA intersection to the McDonalds intersection. The other by-pass is the truck route from Harrison Avenue along Reed Street/Worth Avenue to 11th Street and then to the Mc Donalds intersection. Both of these routes provide quick options to by-pass Elkins – whether going north or south.

What does this mean? Railroad Avenue is not an Elkins by-pass. Nor is Davis Avenue – these are the primary street through Elkins.

A group called Strong Towns makes a distinction between “streets” and “roads”. A street serves as a platform to build wealth and foster human interaction. Streets are essential for creating successful places. Streets are for cars and bicycles and pedestrians. Roads are intended to connect productive places. And are more focused on high-speed mobility.

As mentioned, Elkins has two roads for those wanting to by-pass the downtown area. The section in the middle (downtown Elkins) is composed of “streets”. The purpose of these streets is not to provide a speedy access through Elkins. The purpose is allow cars, bicycles and pedestrians access to professional services, retail, restaurants, hotels, events and breweries within the City limits.

Downtown is a place for “calming” traffic – in other words for traffic to go slower. My suggestion is to place 3-way and 4-way stops throughout the downtown area. This includes replacing the 3 traffic lights on Davis Avenue with 4-way stops.

As this is considered, I understand there are various “studies” about the safety features of traffic lights versus 4-way stop signs. I have looked at several of these articles – there is not an overall conclusion. It seems the argument for stop lights is that automobiles zip through stop signs and cause an accident. If there are long sections of open road – I agree with this. However, the area is downtown Elkins. Automobiles travel one block and stop. There are no long stretches of open road and 4-way stops are appropriate.

Also remember we want pedestrians, bicycles and cars to enjoy the downtown area. Downtown is a place for pedestrians to walk as well as bicycles and cars to move slowly and enjoy the sights.

Placing stop signs throughout downtown Elkins will not happen all at once. My suggestion:

- Start with Railroad Avenue. This allows Welcome Depot, Holiday Inn and Mon Health pedestrians to easily cross Railroad Avenue.
- Next go to streets other than Davis Avenue.
- Finally replace the stop signs on Davis Avenue.

Thank you for listening to this proposal.

Mark Doak

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