

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

JUNE 12, 2025

MINUTES

The Council of the City of Lawrenceville, Lawrence County, Illinois met in regular session in the City Council Chambers of the City Hall Building on Thursday, June 12, 2025 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. The following Alderman were present on roll call: Fritch, Dunn, Greene, Brewer, Volkman, Waldrop, Goins and Lewis. Absent: None.

Mayor Courtney called the meeting to order. Waldrop gave the prayer. All present then recited the Pledge of Allegiance while facing the flag. Bill Horn and Louie Campbell asked to speak to the Council.

The Council had earlier received copies of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of May 8, 2025. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 2025. Dunn seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

The Council had earlier received copies of the bills of the city, Sewer and Water Departments for May. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve paying the bills for May. Greene seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Fritch, Dunn, Greene, Brewer, Volkman, Waldrop, Goins, Lewis. Nays: None.

Mayor Courtney presented the first reading of Annual Appropriation for 2025-2026. Mayor Courtney stated the Annual Appropriation for 2025-2026 with amount of \$6,566,833.00, a 3.9% increase. Mayor Courtney explained this is the most that the city could spend. It does not mean the City has to spend it all, but the City must have the amount high for any an unplanned issue. An appropriation public hearing is set for 6:45 p.m. prior to the Council meeting on July 10.

According to Treasurer White, six CDs are due on June 1, 2025. Peoples State Bank, where the CDs are currently located, matched the rates of Casey State Bank. Peoples will hold the CDs for the next 12 months.

Lawrence County engineer Aaron Mefford advised paving two streets and three alleys by using the Motor Fuel Tax. Brewer made a motion to accept the resolution of maintenance for \$350,000.00. Goins seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Fritch, Dunn, Greene, Brewer, Volkman, Waldrop, Goins, Lewis. Nays: None.

Austin Ridgely of HLR reported TeleScan completed videography on sewer lines in Lincoln Heights. The findings report noted typical root issues, one buried manhole and one pipe collapse. However, no glaring reason for the infiltration was found. The next step is a smoke test. If no significant causes are detected, a flow test can be administered in that area. HLR advised the Council review sewer rates and raise them, if necessary. The sewer rates must meet state minimum to be eligible for federal and grant money. It is also advised that the Council review any sewer ordinance.

Bill Horn addressed the Council regarding his residence and neighbors in Lincoln Heights. Horn and his wife contacted the EPA and were told they don't have a report on these issues. He has concerns regarding why reports aren't being filed.

Louie Campbell said Indiana has passed state law effective July 1, 2025 in regards to council meetings being available to the public after the actual meeting. A list of needed equipment (recording or livestreaming) was provided for a one-time expense, \$3,000.00. The software and platform, i.e. YouTube, are free. The only ongoing expense would be if a city employee is paid to operate the system.

Lewis presented to the Council research on livestreaming future city council meetings. There are various programs available to use such as AI transcribing programs.

Mayor Courtney presented Golf Cart Ordinance #1611. The committee met with IDOT to get approved crossings for 15th Street and State Street. For State Street, IDOT approved crossing at 19th Street, State Street to 20th Street. For 15th Street, IDOT approved Lexington Avenue and an additional crossing at 15th and Collins. IDOT recommended signage at those crossings. The next step after this ordinance is passed is to create the application for the public to apply. Goins made a motion to accept the Ordinance #1611. Dunn seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 6-2. Yeas: Dunn, Greene, Volkman, Waldrop, Goins, Lewis. Nays: Fritch, Brewer. Absent: None.

Chief White advised the K-9 vehicle has now been marked with City of Lawrenceville signage and is in use. The Department received a camera grant and an officer retention grant. One Officer is in training and set to graduate in September.

Mayor Courtney presented copies showing the houses torn down since 2021 and city owned houses and lots. A resolution is necessary to advertise specific surplus properties for open bid.

The old United Methodist Village has now been mowed. Summer workers have held a safety meeting. The Street department requested the purchase of a new tractor, and the Cemetery Department asked for a rear-discharge mower to assist in mowing around headstones. The City is working with Parkview Junior High School teacher Brant Cochran to create a summer recreation program for youth. Playground equipment at both City Park and Wishnik Park needs evaluated for what is needed. Armory roof repairs are being considered.

Wreaths Across America will hold a bingo and food at the VFW on June 21. Leadership program will be held at the Armory June 26 for any public wanting additional information. Lawrence County Memorial Hospital on July 2 will host 75th Anniversary celebration with a formal dedication at 12:30 pm and a picnic at the park 4-8 p.m. The Independence Day parade and fireworks were scheduled for July 3.

Waldrop made a motion to adjourn. Dunn seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote. Time: 8:01 p.m. The next city council meeting is July 10, 2025.

James Rodney Nolan, City Clerk