

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS
JANUARY 8, 2026
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, January 8, 2026 at the hour of 7 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Fritch, Dunn, Brewer, Volkman, Waldrop, Goins, Greene. 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. Louie Campbell, Mitch Mickiewicz, Kelsey Mickiewicz, Jennifer Rodriguez, Bill Horn, Janet Horn, Wendy Navel, Keith Bellinger and Ed Brumley requested to speak.

The Council had earlier received copies of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of December, 2025. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Dunn made a motion to approve the minutes. Goins seconded. After a request for a clarification by Volkman, motion passed on a voice vote.

The Council had earlier received copies of the bills of the Sewer and Water Departments for December, 2025. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer motioned to approve paying the bills for November, 2025. Greene seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Volkman, Greene, Goins, Fritch, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: None.

Volkman asked for more information about overtime pay in reports provided to the Council. The Cemetery Perpetual Fund includes a CD for \$98,679.35 coming due on Jan. 20. It would be available to replenish funds for any shortfall, Treasurer White said. The Mayor is still working on a replacement for the Ward I vacancy.

The Mayor opened sealed bids in an auction of three parcels available. Melissa Edgin bid \$10,000 on 902 12th Street, and Heather Vencil bid \$1,510.23 on 1510 13th. Brewer moved to accept the bids. Waldrop seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote, 7-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Volkman, Greene, Goins, Fritch, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: None.

Mayor Courtney requested the authorization of ADG, of Mt. Carmel, to set the specifications and bidding for roof repairs at the Armory. A proposed date for bidding is Feb. 10, 2026. Volkman motioned to authorize the bidding. Dunn seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote, 7-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Volkman, Greene, Goins, Fritch, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: None.

The Mayor asked for a motion to purchase excavating equipment for the Cemetery. After closer inspection, the staff felt a 24-inch bucket was better than a 20-inch bucket, raising the price to \$43,080.83. Brewer motioned to purchase the equipment and use perpetual care funds. Goins seconded. Motion pass on a roll call vote, 7-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Volkman, Greene, Goins, Fritch, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: None.

Courtney proposed the purchase of a jet truck that would be used to clean out sewer and sanitary sewers while also having the ability to pump water from major leaks. A used vehicle previously leased by another municipality is available for \$375,000, rather than purchasing new for \$600,000. The Council was interested in moving forward but wanted more financing information before passing a motion.

According to the Mayor, a notice of violation was sent from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to the City, but no maximum contaminant levels were exceeded in the City's drinking water system. The biggest issues were with the size of chloride tanks, operating permits from building permits linked to the City's system and a leaky well head. Waldrop motioned to repair all wells. Dunn seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote, 7-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Volkman, Greene, Goins, Fritch, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: None.

Brewer spoke about the updated timesheets now used by the City work force. Volkman felt timesheets didn't address any human error. Goins motioned to continue using timesheets rather than implementing time clocks. Fritch seconded. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Navel from Conxxus spoke about the possibility of burying a fiber network.

Ed Brumley requested the Council to consider shifting boundaries of the aldermanic wards to more evenly distribute the votes among the City's four wards. According to Brumley, Ward III has 1,087 registered voters, more than Ward I (756), Ward II (361) and Ward IV (430). As development continues on the west side, the disproportionate numbers will grow, Brumley said.

Rodriguez was disappointed the City's risk management policy hadn't yet paid her claim. Kelsey Mickiewicz said Fritch should resign. Mitch Mickiewicz said the City's union is giving unions a bad name. Janet Horn felt the Council doesn't care about City residents. Bill Horn said lines weren't maintained. Bellinger inquired about the City buying the property at 1501 Olive where a counseling center once operated. Campbell felt there was a violation of the Open Meetings Act and Fritch should resign.

Volkman asked about manholes, Labor-Management meetings and water deposits. Dunn apologized about the City's risk management program, thought the City should investigate other coverage options and spoke about the disappointment in the failure to pass a time clock for City employees.

Goins motioned to adjourn. Dunn seconded.

Time: 8:31 p.m.

Rodney Nolan, City Clerk