

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS
DECEMBER 11, 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, December 11, 2025 at the hour of 7 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Fritch, Dunn, Brewer, Volkman, Waldrop, Goins, Lewis, 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, Scott Durrant, Hannah Durrant, Doug Bowman, Gail Bowman, Walter Mickiewicz, Jennifer Rodriguez and Christopher Swick asked to address the Council.

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

The Council had earlier received copies of the bills of the Sewer and Water Departments for November, 2025. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer motioned to approve paying the bills for November, 2025. Goins seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Lewis, Volkman, Greene, Goins, Fritch, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: None.

Volkman asked if take CDs and replenish general fund to overcome any shortfall.

Courtney announced the City received a violation notice from Illinois EPA. IEPA is offering the City to join into a Compliance Commitment Agreement to address 15 major violations. The City communicated with HMG Engineering in making a response. Mayor Courtney acknowledged major violations and the plans to initiate change.

The Mayor said one employee is in charge of two major plants and all related equipment with the water and sewer facilities, uncommon for towns of similar size in the area. IEPA found the City hadn't put Utilities Supervisor Tipsword in a place to be successful. The Mayor remained confident with the current supervisor and wasn't planning on a change in leadership.

Volkman asked where the committee stood in terms of time clocks for City employees. A meeting with Kemper was planned. Volkman motioned to require time sheets to reflect a start and end time for each day of work. Dunn seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-1. Yeas: Waldrop, Lewis, Volkman, Greene, Goins, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: Fritch.

Volkman asked Tipsword is requests for more employees to fully staff his department were made. Tipsword acknowledged he made those requests.

Lewis announced she changed residences to Washington, Ind., making her unable to continue as Ward I alderman, and she formally resigned her position. Dunn reported more activity around the former United Methodist Village, apparently trespassers on the property. Wreaths Across America will place roughly 1,000 wreaths on tombstones at Lawrenceville City Cemetery on December 13, Greene said.

The Mayor read a letter of thanks from resident Joe Newbold, complimenting the work on preparations for Christmas in the Park. Volkman read a letter from resident Matt Brough asking why septic haulers are allowed to dump at the City facility.

Scott Durrant spoke about issues in the sewer plant laboratory. Hannah Durrant asked about communication between Tipsword and Lawrence County Dispatch. Eric Irvin asked for an update on the former Lawrenceville High School property.

Doug Bowman said the water and sewage are the most important things under the City's oversight. Gail Bowman said Tipsword wasn't fulfilling his responsibilities and should be removed. Jennifer Rodriguez asked for more help from City government. Christopher Swick pushed for responsibility. Campbell spoke about wastewater issues, water deposits, a meeting in City Hall and leadership by the Mayor.

The Mayor is scheduling a Labor/Management meeting and a Park/Cemetery meeting for mid-December.

Meeting adjourned 8:46 p.m.

Rodney Nolan, City Clerk