

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

MARCH 16, 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 Monday, March 16, 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, Doug, Gail Bowman, Tara Davis, Scott Durrant, Keith Bellinger and Steven Johns requested to speak.

The Council had earlier received copies of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of February, 2026. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Volkman asked for clarification of December minutes correction. Goins 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 February 206. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Waldrop motioned to approve paying the bills for February 2026. Brewer seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Volkman, Greene, Goins, Fritch, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: None.

Treasurer White presented information gathered from Senator Tammy Duckworth's office on a congressional directive spending program that's accepting grants that could be beneficial in acquiring funds for various projects. It was recommended to speak with Greater Wabash Regional Planning to assist with applying. Volkman requested the Clerk to add totals to the Treasurer's report for each department. The Mayor said they will be getting quotes on a side by side for cemetery use to be paid for with the remaining funds of the Cemetery Perpetual Fund CD.

Amy Hurley, CEO at Lawrence County Memorial Hospital presented information to the City that the hospital has secured a municipal membership program with Air Evac that provides Lawrence County residents with air medical transport within the county.

The Mayor put forward James Robert Hedge to fill the Ward I Vacancy. Dunn made a motion to accept the appointment. Greene seconded. Volkman asked the Mayor questions about the process of choosing the appointee. Volkman stated in his view it was unfortunate that Matt Brough was not appointed. Motion passed on a roll call vote 6-1. Yeas: Waldrop, Greene, Goins, Fritch, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: Volkman. James Robert Hedge was sworn in to Alderman Ward I.

Courtney presented engineering firm, HMG, sewer rate schedules to be compliant with loan requirements. Finance committee previously met with Curt Benson, Kemper CPA, to go over those documents for clarification and recommendations. Benson recommended the city adopt Option 2.

Mayor Courtney proposed a negotiation with Petrolia Water District in regards to their new water resale contract opposed to having a formal study done.

Republic is willing to provide five days for city-wide cleanup this year. Discussion on contract and communicating it to the public. Volkman requested it be on next month's agenda for a vote.

The Mayor requested the council to go into executive session for discussion on a possible contract. Dunn motioned for executive session. Brewer seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Brewer, Dunn, Fritch, Goins, Greene, Hedge, Volkman, Waldrop. Time: 7:35P.M.

.....

Brewer motioned the Council to return to regular session. Dunn seconded. Time: 7:50P.M.

According to the Mayor, the company to purchase the jet truck from is still expecting an April delivery and emphasized its need. Volkman asked for clarification regarding use of the truck the City currently owns and requested the new truck have maintenance records kept. The Council move forward with purchase.

There were no Department Head reports.

Doug spoke regarding communication between the Mayor and Fritch regarding the Durrant's lawsuit. Gail Bowman requested Aaron Tipsword to be terminated. Mitch Mickiewicz wanted update on employee discipline regarding situation with his son. Mickiewicz also requested Tipsword termination. Kelsey Mickiewicz said Fritch should resign. Tara Davis addressed police concerns. Scott Durrant discussed community involvement in city government. Durrant also addressed his home issues and the texts between council members and the Mayor. Louie Campbell read messages between the Mayor and council members. Campbell requested Tipsword termination. Keith Bellinger was disappointed in council members and the Mayor's recent actions. Steven Johns also discussed police concerns.

Volkman requested Department Heads attend meetings, asked about water plant operations, IEPA and EPA issues, discussed text messages between council members and the Mayor. Volkman also announced the coordination of volunteers to do clean ups in the community. Greene congratulated the LHS Indians basketball team, Easter Egg hunt at City Park sponsored by the City and Delts. Brewer congratulated all youth athletes that have advanced in their sports. Dunn acknowledged Greene's volunteerism within the City, gave congratulations to athletes and apologized about sewer issues. Hedge would like to see more cleanup in the city in regards to junk issues and is looking forward to working with the Council.

City Hall will be close on April 3rd, for Good Friday.

Covenant Church of Grace is hosting a street party May 16th. Herb Social is having block party April 18th.

Greene motioned to adjourn. Brewer seconded. Time: 9:30P.M.

James Rodney Nolan, City Clerk