

CITY OF KNOXVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
Council Chambers, Knoxville City Hall Annex, 33 N Public Sq, Knoxville IL

Monday, January 19, 2026, 7:00 PM
Draft Notice

Call to Order: Mayor Myers called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

All rose to recite the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

Roll Call: Present: Aldermen Eiker, Goff, Hillier, Hope, Rainey, Reed, and Taylor, Mayor Myers, Treasurer Barnum, Attorney McCoy, Chief of Police Poyner and City Clerk Kirchgessner. **Absent:** Alderman Moore. Also present: Ms. Penny Flesner.

Public Comments: Ms. Penny Flesner expressed gratitude for the manner that the City Council was managing the illness of her daughter, employee Michelle Walker.

Approval of Minutes: Eiker moved to approve the Minutes of the January 5, 2026, City Council Meeting. Alderman Hillier seconded the motion which passed by voice vote with seven (7) Yes and one (1) Absent.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: No report.

Engineer Report: No report

Treasurer's Report: No report.

City Clerk's Report: No report

Payment of City Bills: Alderman Taylor moved to approve Payment of City Bills. Alderman Hillier seconded the motion which passed with seven (7) Yes votes and (1) Absent.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Natural Gas Contract Renewal City:** Mayor Myers explained that the city's natural gas renewal was expiring in May. The city council received new gas prices from several companies. Mayor Myers presented the two options recommended by Rock River Energy. Mayor Myers stated that their recommendation was a 24-month contract with the option to revisit if gas rates decrease. Alderman Hillier moved to accept NRG's rate for a period of 24 months. Alderman Hope seconded the motion which passed with seven (7) Yes and one (1) Absent.

2. **Replace Meter Pit Meter:** Mayor Myers explained that the city meter pit is located on Route 150 west of Knoxville by RP Lumber. Mayor Myers stated that the pump needs a

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replacement because it keeps timing out. Alderman **Hillier** made a motion to move forward with the replacement of the Meter Pit Meter from the City of Galesburg at a cost of \$7,891.00. Alderman **Hope** seconded the motion which passed with seven (7) Yes and (1) Absent.

3. **Resolution 2026-02 Hire Part Time Police Officer Christopher Hootman:** Alderman **Hillier** moved to accept Resolution 2026-02 to hire Part Time Police Officer Christopher Hootman at \$26.00 per hour. Alderman **Taylor** seconded the motion which passed with seven (7) Yes votes and (1) Absent. Chief Poyner stated that Officer Hootman just retired as a Sergeant with the Galesburg Police Department.

Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Myers circulated a thank you note from employee Penny Flesner thanking the council for Christmas bonus and the holiday party.
- Mayor Myers and Alderman Rainey meet with Bruner, Cooper, and Zuck Inc. and discussed upcoming projects. Oil and chip projects would comprise of resurfacing 1/3 of the city each year on a rotating basis. After another round of review, the downtown streetscape project is now scheduled to start accepting bids in February.
- Mayor Myers stated that the Sewer Relining project is set to begin in June but is still waiting on the state.
- A potential new City business venture has stalled at the present time.
- Mayor Myers explained historical building repairs and upkeep.
- The next regularly scheduled Council Meeting will be on February 2, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

Committee Reports:

- **Administration:** No report.
- **Cemetery:** No report.
- **Economic Development:** No report.
- **Parks:** No report.
- **Police:** No report
- **Sanitation:** No report.
- **Streets:** No report.
- **Water/Sewer:** No report.

Adjourn: At 7:28 PM, Alderman **Hillier** moved to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Taylor** seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote with no dissent. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Barbara Kirchgessner, City Clerk