

CITY OF KNOXVILLE

Regular Council Meeting

Council Chambers, Knoxville City Hall Annex, 33 N Public Sq, Knoxville IL

Monday, May 4, 2026, 7:00 PM

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, Hope, Hillier, Rainey, and Reed, Mayor Myers, Treasurer Barnum, Police Chief Poyner, Attorney McCoy, and Engineer Cooper. **Absent:** Aldermen Goff, Moore, Taylor, and City Clerk Kirchgessner. Also present: Ms. Jill Davis, Ms. Penny Flesner, and two members of ABATE.

Public Comments: Ms. Penny Flesner inquired about the status of water pitchers being distributed to residents. Mayor Myers stated that the EPA is helping the water supply companies instead of providing water pitchers.

Approval of Minutes: **Alderman Hillier moved** to approve the Minutes of April 20, 2026, City Council Meeting. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with five (5) Yes and (3) Absent.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: No report.

Engineer Report: No report

Treasurer's Report: Some checking accounts have been compromised, and "washed" checks were discovered. Tompkins State Bank is handling this issue by reversing forged amounts, closing affected accounts, and reopening with a new account number.

City Clerk's Report: Clerk Pro Tem Barnum noted that Tim Rossell is celebrating his 27th work anniversary with the City on May 7, 2026.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Mayor Myers read the Motorcycle Awareness Month Proclamation provided by Central Illinois ABATE. A motorcycle awareness sign was given to the City by two members of ABATE.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Draft Ordinance Granting a Zoning Lot Variance Lots 9 & 10 Whispering Oaks Subdivision:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Draft Ordinance Granting a Zoning Lot Variance Lots 9 & 10 Whispering Oaks Subdivision. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.

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2. **Draft Ordinance Rezoning 832 & 834 Swedenburg Rd from RA Rural Agricultural to R-2 Single and Multi-Family Residence:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Draft Ordinance Rezoning 832 & 834 Swedenburg Rd from RA Rural Agricultural to R-2 Single and Multi-Family Residence. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
3. **Draft Ordinance Granting a Special Use Permit for Operation of an Assisted Living Facility at 415 E Main St.:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Draft Ordinance Granting a Special Use Permit for Operation of an Assisted Living Facility at 425 E Main St. Alderman **Hope seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
4. **Resolution 2026-12 Hire Part Time Grounds Maintenance Worker James Taylor III:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Resolution 2026-12 to hire Part Time Grounds Maintenance Worker James Taylor III at \$15.00 per hour. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
5. **Resolution 2026-13 Hire Part Time Library Assistant Angelina Comandini:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Resolution 2026-13 to hire Part Time Library Assistant Angelina Comandini at \$15.00 per hour, pending approval of the Library Board at their May 5, 2026, meeting. Alderman **Hope seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
6. **Resolution 2026-14 Hire Full Time Police Officer Carl Dortch:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Resolution 2026-14 to hire Full Time Police Officer Carl Dortch at \$21.50 per hour. Alderman **Hope seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
7. **Resolution 2026-15 to 2026-38 Employee Compensation:** Employee compensation was discussed in closed session during the April 20, 2026, Administrative Committee Meeting. Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Resolutions 2026-15 to 2026-38 Employee Compensation for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, as presented during the April 20, 2026, Administrative Committee Meeting. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
8. **Bounce House Request-James Knox Park:** Attorney McCoy suggested contacting the insurance agent if there are any liability concerns. Alderman Reed **moved** to approve a request from Jasira Stevenson to have a bounce house during a birthday party at James Knox Park on Sunday, June 14, 2026. Alderman **Hope seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
9. **Downtown Knoxville Streetscape Bid Proposal:** Engineer Cooper presented maps showing the plans and explained each phase of the project. He suggested going with the bid from IL Civil Contractors for \$298,769.97. Mayor Myers would like to wait until

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2027 to pour concrete if it cannot be done by October. Alderman Hillier **moved** to accept the bid proposal from IL Civil Contractors. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.

10. Oil and Rock Letting: Engineer Cooper noted the IDOT rock bid packet is due by 11 am on May 20, 2026. Informational agenda item only; no vote necessary.

Mayor's Report:

- The Knoxville Community Unit #202 School Board held a special meeting to discuss purchasing Hinkle Field on State Rte 150 east of the city limits.
- Next big project needs to be the Courthouse. The roof is leaking under the cupola. Will ask the County Board and Representative Dan Swanson for help with funding.
- The sidewalk area near 208 Galesburg Road is over 50 years old; the retaining wall is falling into the ditch.
- The next regularly scheduled Council Meeting will be on Monday, May 18, 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.
- **Library:** Alderman Hillier noted the library will be starting the Summer Reading Program soon.

Adjourn: At 7:30 PM, Alderman **Reed moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Janet Barnum, Acting City Clerk