



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

Monday, June 15, 2026 at 6:30 pm

Please Note: The Council Meeting will be conducted at [Rolla City Hall, 901 North Elm Street, Rolla, MO 65401](#). Citizens are encouraged to watch the proceedings live on the City of Rolla, Missouri YouTube page at https://www.youtube.com/@City_of_Rolla/streams

PRESIDING: MAYOR LISTER B. FLORENCE JR.

COUNCIL ROLL: MELISSA GANZ, AUGUST ROLUFS, ANDREW BEHRENDT, NATHAN CHIRBAN, STEVE JACKSON, AARON PACE, SUE BROWN, TOM MCNEVEN, ELIZABETH SPERRY, DAVID SHELBY, AMELIA MARKWELL AND MICHEAL DICKENS

1. CALL TO ORDER

Minutes:

- **Presiding:** Mayor Lister B. Florence Jr.
 - **Council Members in Physical Attendance:** Melissa Ganz, August Rolufs, Andrew Behrendt, Nathan Chirban, Steve Jackson, Sue Brown, Tom McNeven, Elizabeth Sperry, Amelia Markwell, Micheal Dickens, and City Counselor Nathan Nickolaus
 - **Council Members Absent:** Aaron Pace and David Shelby
 - **Department Directors and Other City Officials in Physical Attendance:** Public Works Director Darin Pryor, Fire Chief Jeff Breen, Community Development Director Dawn Bell, Park's Director Floyd Jerningan. City Planner Tom Coots, Environmental Services Director Roger Pankey, Police Chief Will Loughridge, Finance Director Steffanie Rogers, and City Administrator Keith Riesberg
- Mayor Lister B. Florence Jr. called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm and asked Nathan Chirban to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Council Representative Nathan Chirban

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

4. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS and SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- a. **Presentation of Parking Utilization Study of Downtown Rolla and discussion about recommendations for potential changes to downtown parking. (City Planner Tom Coots and Public Works Director Darin Pryor)**

Minutes:

City Planner Tom Coots shared the results of the Parking Utilization Study

which covered 22 street blocks of Downtown Rolla and 10 city leased parking lots. During peak hours, the study showed that only 64% of street parking, 60% of public lot and 65% of private lots are being utilized, leaving 300 available spaces during peak hours. Just a block outside of the downtown area reveals a different story where student vehicles are closely parked. Public Works Director Darin Pryor shared that he didn't feel that metered parking was necessary at this point. This fall it is intended to restripe the parallel parking for larger parking spaces. Improved wayfinding signage will be researched as will the number of sign postings for 30-minute parking. Council was supportive of all findings.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Ordinance to approve the restriction of parking on the West side of Duane Ave. from Fitch Street to Joyce Ave. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor) Final Reading**

Minutes:

City Counselor, Nathan Nickolaus, read the Ordinance for its final reading by title: ORDINANCE 4918: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 27-92 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI KNOWN AS THE CODE OF THE CITY RELATING TO PARKING.

Motion & Vote A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Chirban, to approve the ordinance. A roll call showed:

- **Ayes:** Chirban, Rolufs, Sperry, Behrendt, Ganz, Brown, Dickens, Jackson, Markwell, and McNeven.
- **Nays:** None

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Resolution to authorize the Master Agreement with HDR Engineering Inc. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor)**

Minutes:

City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Resolution for one reading by title: RESOLUTION 2089: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CERTAIN MASTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, AND HDR ENGINEERING, INC.

A motion was made by Behrendt, seconded by Ganz, to approve the Resolution. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- b. **Resolution to authorize the execution of Task Order #1 with HDR Engineering Inc. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor)**

Minutes:

City Counselor, Nathan Nickolaus, read the Resolution for one reading by title: RESOLUTION 2090: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, AND HDR ENGINEERING, INC.

A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Behrendt, to approve the Resolution. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- c. **Discussion on pursuing grant opportunities for a facility plan for areas**

outside the current wastewater service area to the East of Rolla. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor)

Minutes:

The Rolla Comprehensive Plan revealed areas east of Rolla that would be ideal for annexation. In order to start planning for sewer services in that area, the next step would be to create a facility plan. There are grants that would assist the City with implementation and construction.

A motion was made by Jackson seconded by Dickens, to allow staff to pursuit grants for this project. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

d. Resolution to approve the deer hunting program a permanent program. (Community Development Director Dawn Bell)

Minutes:

City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Resolution for one reading by title: RESOLUTION 2091: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A MANAGED DEER HUNT PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF ROLLA.

A motion was made by Chirban, seconded by McNeven, to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. CLAIMS and/or FISCAL TRANSACTIONS

a. Motion to award bid and Ordinance to enter into agreement with Pierce Asphalt, LLC for Project 618, 2026 Asphalt Phase III project. (Public Works Director, Darin Pryor) Motion to Award and First Reading

Minutes:

A motion was made by Chirban, seconded by Jackson, to award the bid to Pierce Asphalt. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

City Counselor, Nathan Nickolaus, read the Ordinance for its first reading by title: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, AND PIERCE ASPHALT, LLC.

b. Motion to award bid to GameTime for the purchase of 11 outdoor exercise stations. (Park's Director Floyd Jernigan)

Minutes:

A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Sperry, to award the bid to GameTime. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. The project is anticipated to be completed by fall.

8. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

a. Jody Eberly from Countryside Drive:

Minutes:

- 1. Is not in favor of deer hunting in her neighborhood as she likes the deer but likes that the harvest can be shared with local food pantries.**
- 2. Stated she is in favor of the larger parallel parking spots downtown, as she avoids them as they are now.**

- 3. Data Centers - Requested the City of Rolla enact a moratorium on any data-center decisions until research on the environmental and economic impacts and risks are done.**

b. Johnathan Kimble:

Minutes:

Spoke on a successful Pride event and thanked the City for their assistance.

9. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

- a. Motion to appoint Drew McCluskey to the Planning & Zoning Commission to complete an unfulfilled term expiring September 2029.**

Minutes:

A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Chirban, to approve the appointment. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- b. Motion to reappoint Monty Jordan to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a 4 year term expiring June 2030**

Minutes:

A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Chirban, to approve the reappointment. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- c. Motion to appoint Elissa Jennison to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a 4-year term expiring June 2030**

Minutes:

A motion was made by Behrendt, seconded by Sperry, to approve the appointment. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- d. Councilmember Behrendt:**

Minutes:

Stated his interest in the Council placing a one-year moratorium on any data center-related activity. By voice vote, the Council consented for staff to move forward and work with legal counsel to gather information on the matter.

- e. Councilmember Jackson:**

Minutes:

Congratulations to Chief Fagan on his retirement.

- f. Hot Rod Power Tour:**

Minutes:

Councilmember Chirban asked City Clerk Powell to share some of the feedback provided by the participants of the Hot Rod Power Tour. Compliments were received from Hot Rod Tour participants were summarized to say that Rolla had rolled the red carpet out for this event. Comments were about how well planned it was and how the City has a whole was prepared for such a large number of vehicles.

10. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- a. **Next City Council meeting, Monday, July 6th, 2026**
- b. **Fire Chief Breen commented on firework safety**

Minutes:

Fireworks may be fired on July 1st through 3rd from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm and then on July 4th from 8:00 am to midnight. Sky lanterns are prohibited.

- c. **Freedom Parade - July 4th, 10:00 am (Public Works Director Darin Pryor)**

Minutes:

The Freedom Parade will be July 4 at 10:00 am on Pine Street.

The Big Texan 72oz Steak Competition will be at the City Hall parking lot on June 21st from 5:00 pm -7:00 pm.

- d. **City Administrator Keith Riesberg:**

Minutes:

The Phelps County Clerk's office is experiencing a shortage in poll workers. Further information can be obtained at the Phelps County Clerk's office.

- e. **Mayor Florence:**

Minutes:

The annual Lion's Club Carnival will be July 1st through 4th at Lion's Club Park.

- f. **Councilmember Dickens:**

Minutes:

Phelps County Dream Center is having another food distribution on June 20th and 24th.

11. CLOSED SESSION - Closed Session per RSMo 610.021 – (1) Legal Actions

Minutes:

AT 7:57 pm a motion was made by, Jackson seconded by Sperry, to go into closed session. A roll call vote showed:

- **Ayes:** Dickens, Rolufs, Sperry, McNeven, Behrendt, Ganz, Markwell, Brown, Jackson and Chirban.
- **Nays:** None

At 8:49 pm Council returned from closed session where no reportable actions were taken.

12. ADJOURNMENT