



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

Monday, September 21, 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, VACANCY, ANDREW BEHRENDT, NATHAN CHIRBAN, STEVE JACKSON, AARON PACE, SUE BROWN, TOM MCNEVEN, ELIZABETH SPERRY, DAVID SHELBY, AMELIA MARKWELL AND MICHEAL DICKENS

1. CLOSED SESSION - Closed Session per RSMo 610.021 – (1) legal

Minutes:

At 5:30pm, a motion was made by Pace, seconded by Sperry to go into closed session. A roll call vote showed: Ayes: Brown, Markwell, Ganz, Shelby, Jackson, Behrendt, Pace, Dickens, Sperry, and Chirban. Nays: none
At 6:25 Council returned from closed session where there was no reportable actions taken. Council adjourned to the Council Chambers for the regularly scheduled Council meeting.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Minutes:

- **Presiding:** Mayor Lister B. Florence Jr.
- **Council Members in Physical Attendance:** Melissa Ganz, Vacancy, Andrew Behrendt, Nathan Chirban, Aaron Pace, Sue Brown, Tom McNeven, Elizabeth Sperry, David Shelby, Amelia Markwell, Micheal Dickens, Note: Steve Jackson joined at 7:32 pm.
- **Council Members Absent:** Ward 1 Vacancy
- **Department Directors and Other City Officials in Physical Attendance:** Public Works Director Darin Pryor, Fire Chief Jeff Breen, Park's Director Floyd Jerningan. City Planner Tom Coots, Environmental Services Director Roger Pankey, Police Chief Will Loughridge, Finance Director Steffanie Rogers, City Administrator Keith Riesberg and City Counselor James Klahr.

Mayor Lister B. Florence Jr. called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm and asked Amelia Markwell to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Council Representative Amelia Markwell

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS -

- a. Public Hearing and Bill 2026-22 to approve a map amendment to rezone property located near the SE corner of Hwy 72 and Bridge School Rd. From the R-1, Suburban residence district to the C-2, General Commercial district. (City Planner Tom Coots) Public Hearing and First Reading**

Minutes:

Mayor Florence opened the Public Hearing at 6:32 pm. City Planner Tom Coots spoke regarding the property that was acquired by the City for the Hwy 72 extension but is no longer needed. The property is under contract for sale to allow for development along with the areas proposed to be vacated. With no further questions, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:39 pm.

City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Ordinance for its first reading by title: AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE RE-ZONING OF PROPERTY LOCATED NEAR THE SE CORNER OF HWY 72 AND BRIDGE SCHOOL RD FROM THE R-1, SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO THE C-2, GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT.

- b. Public Hearing and Bill 2026-23 to approve the vacation of portions of Hwy 72 and Bryant Rd rights-of-way and a utility easement. (City Planner Tom Coots) Public Hearing and First Reading**

Minutes:

Mayor Florence opened the Public Hearing at 6:40 pm. City Planner Tom Coots spoke regarding the property that was acquired by the City for the Hwy 72 extension but is no longer needed. The zoning ordinance specifies that the zoning is extended whenever street rights-of-way are vacated. The vacation ordinance will clarify that the areas proposed to be vacated would be classified as C-2, General Commercial to match the adjacent property. With no further questions, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:43 pm.

City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Ordinance for its first reading by title: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE VACATION OF A PORTION OF HWY 72 AND BRYANT RD GENERALLY LOCATED NEAR THE SE CORNER OF HWY 72 AND BRIDGE SCHOOL RD AND A CERTAIN UTILITY EASEMENT.

5. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS and SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - None

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Bill 2026-21 adopting the FY 2027 Budget. (City Administrator Keith Riesberg) Final Reading**

Minutes:

City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Ordinance for its final reading by title: ORDINANCE 4935: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2026 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS PURSUANT THERETO.

Motion & Vote A motion was made by McNeven, seconded by Pace, to approve the ordinance. A roll call vote showed:

- **Ayes:** Dickens, Chirban, Sperry, Brown, Markwell, Ganz, Shelby,

Behrendt, McNeven and Pace.

- **Nays:** None

b. Bill 2026-18 to approve the adjustment of sewer rates for the 2026-2027 budget year. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor) Final Reading

Minutes:

City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Ordinance for its final reading by title: ORDINANCE 4936: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 35 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, KNOWN AS THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, RELATING TO SEWERS AND WATER. **Motion & Vote** A motion was made by Pace, seconded by Sperry, to approve the ordinance. A roll call vote showed:

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

c. Bill 2026-19 to authorize an agreement with Johnson Controls, Inc for repairs to the Centre. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor) Final Reading

Minutes:

City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Ordinance for its final reading by title: ORDINANCE 4937: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, AND JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC. **Motion & Vote** A motion was made by Pace, seconded by McNeven, to approve the ordinance. A roll call vote showed: * **Ayes:** Markwell, Ganz, Dickens, Chirban, Sperry, Brown, McNeven, Pace, Shelby and Behrendt. * **Nays:** none

d. Bill 2026-20 to authorize the agreement with Upciti for deployment of smart parking sensors and wayfinding app for downtown parking. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor) Final Reading

Minutes:

Asa King from Upciti was present via Zoom conferencing to answer questions. City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Ordinance for its final reading by title: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, AND UPCITI. **Motion & Vote** A motion was made by Pace, seconded by Markwell, to approve the ordinance. A roll call vote showed: * **Ayes:** none * **Nays:** Behrendt, Dickens, Shelby, Sperry, Ganz, Brown, Pace, Chirban, Markwell and McNeven. Ordinance failed

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution to approve the application for a Clean Water Regionalization Incentive Grant to fund a facility plan that would determine the alternatives and costs to provide sewer service to the area East of the current city limits. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor)

Minutes:

Public Works Director Darin Pryor explained that this grant would fund a facility plan that would determine the alternatives and costs to provide sewer service to the area East of the current city limits.

City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Resolution for one reading by title: RESOLUTION 2096: Resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Clean State Revolving Fund Program for an integrated management plan grant under the Missouri Clean Water Law (Chapter 644, RSMo.).

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

b. Bill 2026-24 to restrict parking on both sides of Thomas Drive from the City Limits to a point 38 feet North of the City Limits. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor) First Reading

Minutes:

Public Works Director Darin Pryor explained that after a request to review the parking on Thomas Drive, staff found the last 38 feet of Thomas Drive to not be wide enough to allow parking.

City Counselor, James Klahr, read the Ordinance for its first reading by title: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 27-381 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI KNOWN AS THE CODE OF THE CITY RELATING TO PARKING.

8. CLAIMS and/or FISCAL TRANSACTIONS

a. Resolution to authorize the City Administrator to execute the necessary documents for the City of Rolla/Rolla Police Department to accept and administer the \$29,069.76 Missouri Blue Shield Grant Program award and to purchase the approved grant-funded items. (Police Chief William Loughridge)

Minutes:

Police Chief Loughridge explained that this was a 100% grant with no match required that would be used to replace ballistic protection equipment. City Counselor James Klahr read the resolution for one reading by title: Resolution 2097: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING THROUGH THE MISSOURI BLUE SHIELD GRANT PROGRAM AWARDED TO THE ROLLA POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT. A motion was made by Pace, seconded by Chirban, to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

b. Motion to award bid to ITpipes for Sewer Management Software. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor)

Minutes:

Public Works Director Darin Pryor explained that after evaluation of 6 software solutions, It Pipes seems to be the best solution due to its integration with the current updated GIS software. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by

Pace, to award the bid for Sewer Management Software to ITpipes. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Note: Councilmember Jackson arrived at the end of this item and was not included in this vote.

- c. Motion to approve the purchase of a 2025 Vactor truck mounted combination sewer cleaner from Key Equipment & Supply Co. for \$595,975. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor)**

Minutes:

Public Works Director Darin Pryor explained \$650,000 was included in the proposed FY26-27 budget under Vehicles and reflects financing this purchase for 3 - years. Staff was able to locate a "Demo" model with a purchase price of \$595,975 and would meet all the requirements. This would save \$54,000. The financing details will be presented for council consideration after Finance Department bids out the financing. A motion was made by Pace, seconded by Behrendt, to approve the purchase of the Vactor truck for \$595,975. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

9. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Minutes:

1. Josh Vroman of CR 5480 from Phelps County spoke regarding concerns of the Voluntary Rental Inspection program.
2. David Dukes of Becca Drive spoke regarding a crosswalk ordinance.
3. Nick Barrack asked council if they had any questions about a letter he had emailed earlier.

10. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

- a. Motion to reappoint Rebecca Roberts to the Library Board for her 3rd, 3-year term, to expire February 2029**

Minutes:

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

- b. Motion to reappoint Robert D. Haselwander to the Library Board for his 2nd, 3-year term, to expire May 2029.**

Minutes:

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

- c. Motion to appoint Paul Hirtz to the Police Personnel Board to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Keith Wedge, expiring February 2027 and then for a new 4-year term that will then expire February 2031.**

Minutes:

A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Chirban, to approve the appointment.

A motion was made by Chirban, seconded by Ganz, to amend the motion to only fill the unexpired term of Dr. Keith Wedge, expiring February 2027. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
By voice vote on the original motion as amended, vote passed unanimously.

d. Motion to appoint Louis J. Magdits to the Library Board for a 3-year term expiring Sept 2029 (term 1 of 3).

Minutes:

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

e. Motion to appoint Louis J Magdits to the Rolla Regional Economic Committee (RECC) for a 3-year term expiring Sept. 2029.

Minutes:

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

f. Motion to appoint Jaired Hall to the Board of Public Works for a 4-year term expiring August 2030.

Minutes:

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

11. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- a. Next City Council meeting, Monday, October 5th, 2026**
- b. 47th Annual Arts and Crafts Festival, Saturday October 3rd from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. (Public Works Director Darin Pryor)**

12. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm