

State of Illinois) SS
Belvidere, Illinois)

BELVIDERE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

Date: July 21, 2025

Convened in the Belvidere Council Chambers, 401 Whitney Blvd, Belvidere, Illinois
at 6:00 p.m.

Call to order by Mayor Morris.

(1) Roll Call: Present: J. Albertini, R. Brereton, M. Fleury, W. Frank, S. Gramkowski,
J. Hoiness, M. McGee, C. Montalbano, R. Peterson and
C. Stevens.

Absent: None.

Other staff members in attendance:

Assistant Public Works Director Jordan Keck, Budget and Finance Officer Sarah
Turnipseed, Director of Buildings Kip Countryman, Community Development Planner
Gina DelRose, Police Chief Shane Woody, Fire Chief Shawn Schadle, City Attorney
Mike Drella, City Treasurer Mary Volkey and City Clerk Erica Bluege.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance:

Invocation: Mayor Morris.

(3) Public Comment:

(4) Approval of Minutes:

(A) Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of the Belvidere City Council of
July 7, 2025, as presented.

Motion by Ald. Montalbano, 2nd by Ald. Hoiness to approve the minutes of the regular
meeting of the Belvidere City Council of July 7, 2025. Voice vote carried. Motion
carried.

(5) Public Hearing: None.

(6) Special Messages and Proclamations: None.

- (7) Approval of Expenditures: General & Special Fund Expenditures: \$2,852,545.28
Water & Sewer Fund Expenditures: \$ 611,247.87

Motion by Ald. Peterson, 2nd by Ald. McGee to approve the General & Special Fund Expenditures in the amount of \$2,852,545.28. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Discussion took place regarding the \$50,000.00 landfill payment and getting a breakdown of the invoice. Discussion took place in regards to ASCAP. It was noted that this is for the playing of music anywhere in the city and has been paid for 20 years. Discussion took place about the architecture fees for Ollman Ernest Architecture. It was noted that it was for the Police Department and the remodel at the PSB. Discussion took place regarding the payment to Boone County Treasurer for the Keen Age Center Bus and the percentage the City contributes. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Albertini, Brereton, Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson and Stevens. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Frank, 2nd by Ald. Peterson to approve the Water & Sewer Expenditures in the amount of \$611,247.87. Discussion took place regarding the \$10,040.00 payment to Aquafix. It was noted that it was to clean up a cream spillage from Dean Foods that had come into the WWTP and that Dean Foods was invoiced to repay the City. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Brereton, Frank, Fleury, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens and Albertini. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(8) Committee Reports and Minutes of City Officers:

- (A) Monthly Report of Belvidere Police Department Overtime Pay for June 2025.
- (B) Monthly Report of Belvidere Fire Department Overtime Pay for June 2025.
- (C) Monthly Report of Community Development Department/Planning Department for June 2025.
- (D) Monthly Report of Building Department Revenues, Residential Building Permits, Commercial Permits and Case Reports for June 2025.
- (E) Financial Report for June 2025.
- (F) Monthly General Fund Report for June 2025.
- (G) Monthly Water/Sewer Fund Report June 2025.

Let the record show these reports were placed on file.

- (H) Minutes of Committee of the Whole – Building, Planning and Zoning and Public Works of July 14, 2025.

Motion by Ald. Gramkowski, 2nd by Ald. Peterson to approve the minutes of Committee of the Whole – Building, Planning and Zoning and Public Works of July 14, 2025. Discussion took place regarding statements made at the meeting. Specifically, as it relates to agenda item 6(B) Growth Dimensions and the Council Members that voted in favor of the \$20,000.00 when the FY26 Budget Ordinance was passed. Voice vote carried. Motion carried.

(9) Unfinished Business:

- (A) Ord. #730H – 2nd Reading: An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Annexation Agreement Between the City of Belvidere, Black Hawk Reserve LLC, and Contry Homes LLC.

Motion by Ald. Peterson, 2nd by Ald. Stevens to pass Ord. #730H. Roll Call Vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini and Brereton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

- (B) Ord. #731H – 2nd Reading: An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory Lying North of US Business Route 20, and East of Beaver Valley Road to the City of Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois.

Motion by Ald. Stevens, 2nd by Ald. Peterson to pass Ord. #731H. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Brereton and Fleury. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(10) New Business:

- (A) Res. #2025-11: A Resolution Establishing a Donation Policy for the City of Belvidere.

Motion by Ald. Montalbano, 2nd by Ald. Hoiness to approve Res. #2025-11. Discussion took place in regards to the wording of the resolution and if other communities have similar ones. It was noted that it was not and that most do not have a resolution as they do not require donations to be approved by City Council. Discussion took place regarding individuals, families, organizations, etc. who donate repeatedly and the total amount ends up being over the \$500.00 cap. Discussion took place regarding how the resolution allows people to donate electronically and the checks and balances that have been put in place. Roll call vote: 9/1 in favor. Ayes: Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Fleury and Frank. Nays: Brereton. Motion carried.

Motions forwarded from Committee of the Whole – Building, Planning and Zoning and Public Works of July 14, 2025.

- (A) Motion to waive building and zoning fees for Habitat for Humanity project at 309 Gilman Ave. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Brereton, Fleury, Frank and Gramkowski. Motion carried.

- (B) Motion to approve the allocated amount of \$27,373.00 for the Downtown Façade Improvement Grant as proposed in memo dated July 2, 2025, from Community Development Planner Gina DelRose. Roll call vote: 10/0 in

favor. Ayes: McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Brereton, Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski and Hoiness. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(C) Motion to consent to and approve the appointment of Mrs. Alexandra Omiotek to the Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission for a three-year term, ending April 30, 2028. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Brereton, Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness and McGee. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(D) Motion to consent to and approve the appointment of Mrs. Lisa Kummerow to the Belvidere Historic Preservation for a three-year term, ending April 30, 2028. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Brereton, Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee and Montalbano. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(E) Motion to consent to and approve the appointment of Mr. Paul Engelman to the Belvidere Planning and Zoning Commission for a five-year term, ending May 2030. Discussion took place regarding the term length of this appointment versus the previous ones. It was noted term lengths are statutorily set and the first two were for Historic Preservation whereas this one is for the Belvidere Planning and Zoning Commission. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Stevens, Albertini, Brereton, Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano and Peterson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(F) Motion to approve purchasing a replacement Dinkmar Curb Runner chassis from R.N.O.W. Inc., in the amount of \$50,200.00. The chassis will be paid for from Public Works Impact Fees, which has a current balance of approximately \$60,000.00. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Albertini, Brereton, Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson and Stevens. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(G) Motion to approve the proposal from Ceroni Piping, in the amount of \$42,336.00, for replacement of the MAU in the office/lab/filter building at the WWTP. This work will be paid for from Sewer Depreciation Line Item #61-1790. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Brereton, Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens and Albertini. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(H) Motion to not reinstate the 1% Grocery Tax. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini and Brereton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(I) Motion to authorize the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Belvidere and Belvidere School District No. 100. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Frank, Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Brereton and Fleury. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(J) Motion to accept check #27421 from Meyers Kennel Inc. in the amount of \$501.00 for the Belvidere Police Department K9 program. Discussion took place regarding the donation and if the resolution just passed would apply to it. It was noted that it would not as the amount is over \$500.00. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Gramkowski, Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Brereton, Fleury and Frank. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(K) Motion to approve the Belvidere Police Department Street Closure Request of North Main Street from East Perry Street to East Menomonie Street on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, from 5:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. for National Night Out. Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: Hoiness, McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Brereton, Fleury, Frank and Gramkowski. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(L) Motion to accept the proposal from Jake Wacker Plumbing in the amount of \$4,000.00 for the replacement of the urinal and sink in the men's bathroom at Station 1, with funding to be provided from line item 01-5-220-6010 (Station Repair and Maintenance). Roll call vote: 10/0 in favor. Ayes: McGee, Montalbano, Peterson, Stevens, Albertini, Brereton, Fleury, Frank, Gramkowski and Hoiness. Nays: None. Motion carried.

(11) Other:

Mayor Morris offered condolences to the family of Debbie Deeter Kemp who recently passed away. She graduated from the class of 1975 and owned Fast Lane Threads for many years.

(12) Adjournment:

Motion by Ald. Peterson, 2nd by Ald. Gramkowski to adjourn meeting at 6:37p.m. Voice vote carried. Motion carried.



Mayor

Attest:



City Clerk