

**City of Evansville Common Council
Regular Meeting**
City Hall, 31 S Madison St, Evansville WI 53536
Tuesday, November 11, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Duggan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:**

Mayor, Dianne Duggan	P	Jason Sergeant, City Administrator
Alderperson, Bill Lathrop	P	Leah Hurtley, City Clerk
Alderperson, Abbey Barnes	P	Scott Kriebs, Municipal Services Director
Alderperson, Erika Stuart	P	Colette Spranger, Community Development Director
Alderperson, Kelly Shannon	P	Bronna Lehmann, Library Director
Alderperson, Chuck Boyce	P	Mark Schroeder, City Attorney
Alderperson, Joe Geoffrion	P	Carolyn Kleisch, EMS Chief
Alderperson, Ben Corridon	P	Roger Berg, Developer
Alderperson, Lita Droster	P	Bill Hurtley, Citizen
		Steve Hagen, Citizen
		Jeff Stevens, Citizen
		Julie Paton, Citizen

3. **Motion to Approve the Agenda, with moving 10A before 6A, by Barnes, seconded by Droster.**
Motion passed 8-0.

4. **Motion to Waive the Reading of Minutes of the October 14, 2025 Regular Meeting and Approve as Presented by Barnes, seconded by Corridon.** Motion passed 8-0.

Discussion included changes to 7, 8D-6, 10A

5. **Civility Reminder:** Duggan noted the City's commitment to civility and decorum at Council Meetings.

6. **Special Presentations:**

A. **Public Hearing: 2026 Operational Budget and CIP:** Sergeant covered the material that was in the packet for 8D-5.

Public Hearing opened at 6:13 p.m.

Jeff Stevens: Stevens wanted to address concerns about the budget and proposed Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA).

Leah Hurtley: Hurtley spoke in regard to Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) and the history of the 2020 Wage Study. Hurtley explained that only a handful of employees will be eligible for a half step increase this year. Hurtley shared names of the communities used as comps and wanted to reiterate Edgerton should not be the only comparable community looked at. Hurtley shared Evansville has vacancies (Building Inspector) that have had to be backfilled by other staff, and other items (Cemetery, Aquatic Center, Utility Company) that staff is responsible for and perhaps other Municipalities do not have.

Nancy Greve: Duggan shared an email from Greve that was sent to Council members in support of the Cost-of-Living Adjustment(COLA) rate.

Bill Hurtley: Hurtley shared that when on Council, it was decided that there was significant catch up to be done as wage increases hadn't taken place in 8 years.

Steve Hagen: spoke in support of the proposed Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) rate.

Public Hearing closed at 6:24 p.m.

7. **Public Comments** on Items on the Agenda not Requiring a Public Hearing and on Matters Which can be Affected by Council Action. (Individuals wishing to address the City Council are required to sign in on the roster and must keep their comments under three minutes. Any materials must be delivered only to the City Clerk.)

8. **Reports of Committees:**

A. **Library Board Report:** Lehmann read from written report- General Updates:

Replacement of the flat membrane roof is in progress. The library is not a quiet place while this work is taking place. Our new website went live on November 3. We invite you to take a look. If you aren't already receiving our monthly emailed newsletter, you can subscribe on the website. Four library staff attended the Wisconsin Library Association conference. The part-time staff appreciated this rare opportunity for training and discussion with peers in the library world. The Friends of the Library Pie Sale is on Wednesday, Nov. 26. Order forms and pie baker signup forms are available now at the Library. Support of the Friends fundraising is greatly appreciated. The Friends provided \$4836 during the past year primarily for children's and summer reading programming. Program Updates: Teens are invited to attend a Mad Hatter Tea Party on Nov. 20 to play the Queen's House of Cards game, have a mad Teacup Race, and enjoy cake and tea. Thanks to a High School Senior Project we are now offering a afterschool Lego Club every Tuesday. Janesville's Hedberg Public Library sent their bookmobile to visit us as part of the bookmobile-themed Storytime for preschoolers last week. The Bookaholics book discussion group now meets at Hop Garden. The next discussion will be on Nov. 19 at 6:30pm. The daytime Antemeridians book discussion will be on Nov. 20 at 10:30am at the Library.

B. **Parks and Recreation Board Report:** Stuart shared that there was discussion about geocaching around the parks in Evansville. In addition, more responses for the Park Survey are highly encouraged.

C. **Plan Commission Report**

- 1) **Second Reading and Motion to Approve Ordinance 2025-11: Rezoning Territory from Local Business (B-1) to Central Business (B-2) for parcel 6-27-801 (129 N Madison Street) by Barnes, seconded by Droster. Motion passed by Roll Call 5-2-1, with Lathrop and Shannon opposed, Geoffrion recused.**
Spranger covered the material in the Staff Report.

- 2) **Second Reading and Motion to Approve Ordinance 2025-12: Rezoning Territory from Residential District One (R-1) to Community Business (B-3) for parcel 6-27-834 (343 Union Street) by Barnes, seconded by Lathrop. Motion passed by Roll Call 5-4, with Corridon, Droster, Stuart, Shannon opposed, Mayor breaking tie with an aye vote.**
Spranger covered the material in the Staff Report and answered questions from Council.

- 3) **Motion to Approve a certified survey map to divide parcel 6-27-396.207A into two lots for a two-family twin residence addressed at 261 and 265 North Fourth**

Street, finding that the application is in the public interest and meets the objectives contained within Section 110-102(g) of city ordinances, with the following conditions:

- (i) The final CSM is recorded with Rock County Register of Deeds.
- (ii) The applicant records a joint cross access and maintenance agreement for each of the new lots made by CSM

Motion by Barnes, seconded by Lathrop. Motion passed 7-0, with Geoffrion recused.

Spranger covered the material in the Staff Report.

D. **Finance and Labor Relations Committee Report:** Barnes shared some discussion items had included position descriptions, Creekside contract, Social Media Policy, and Responsible Bidders Philosophy.

- 1) **Discussion of Compensation and Rules for Mayor (\$550/month Ordinance 2020-01) and Alderperson (\$100/meeting Ordinance 2020-01)**
Discussion occurred about the benefits and what some thoughts were about the subject. No decision was made.
- 2) **Motion to Accept the October 2025 City bills in the amount of \$1,454,874.05 by Barnes, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 8-0.**
Jeff Stevens shared his concerns about the bills.
- 3) **Motion to Approve the Wisconsin Professional Police Association Contract by Barnes, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 8-0.**
Sergeant shared the process of coming to terms of the contract for the next three years.
- 4) **Motion to Approve the 2026 Pay Philosophy by Barnes, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 7-1, with Shannon opposed.**

Motion to Amend the Cost of Living Increase to 3.2% by Shannon, no second. No vote.

- 5) **Council Discussion and Motion to Approve Resolution 2025-19 Adopting 2026 Operating and Capital Budgets and Setting Tax Levies by Barnes, seconded by Lathrop.**

Motion to Amend the Operating and Capital Budget for the Electric Department by removing the \$467,000 of Capital Transportation Equipment purchases by Lathrop, seconded by Droster. Motion passed by Roll Call 8-0.

Motion to Approve the Amended Operating Budget passed by Roll Call 8-0.

E. **Public Safety Committee Report:** Boyce shared that the Police Department was able to hire another Officer that already has some training. Police calls are up this year as the Police Department is better staffed and able to take more calls. EMS calls are also up for the year with better staffing, while providing training at the High School and the Fire District.

F. **Municipal Services Report:** Corridon shared that there was some position description updates and discussion about proceeding with a street project for the 2026 budget. There was additional discussion about the Water Street project.

1) **Motion to Approve the Union Townline Substation (UTL) Structure and Material Package to Tatman Associates by Corridon, seconded by Droster. Motion passed by Roll Call 8-0.**

G. **Economic Development Committee Report:** Did Not Meet

H. **Youth Center Advisory Board Report:** Did Not Meet

I. **Historic Preservation Commission Report:** Shannon reported that there were 8 action items from the Hailstorm Damage. Destree Architect also came to get input on updates for City building.

J. **Fire District Report:** Stuart reported that daytime coverage has become a concern with a couple of people resigning. The Fire District also approved their 2026 budget.

9. **Communications and Recommendations of the Administrator:** Sergeant shared that most items have been covered: new Police Officer hired and hail damage updates. The year end items have been started at City Hall.

10. **Communications and Recommendations of the Mayor:** Duggan shared that there was a resignation on Tourism. Duggan's intention is to have Shannon assume that appointment. Duggan also shared that there has been work on a Social Media Policy for City employees.

A. **Mayoral Proclamation 2025-12 – In Recognition of Evansville Veterans' Participation in the Badger Honor Flight Program:** read by Barnes

11. **Old Business:** None

12. **New Business:** None

13. **Introduction of New Ordinances**

A. **First Reading Ordinance 2025-10 Chapter 122 - Traffic and Vehicles** read by Duggan

14. **Upcoming Meeting Reminder:**

A. Regular Common Council Meeting, Tuesday, December 9th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

B. 2026 Meetings: January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

15. **Closed Session:** **Motion that the Common Council convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(c), Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Discuss and consider possible termination of employee.** Motion was made by Barnes, seconded by Corridon. **Motion passed by Roll Call 8-0 at 7:55 p.m.**

16. **Reconvene into Open Session:** **Motion to reconvene into Open Session pursuant to Wis. Stats. §19.85(2) for possible action.**

Council reconvened into open session, with no action.

17. **Adjourn:** Duggan adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.