

NOTICE

A meeting of the City of Evansville Economic Development Committee will be held on the date and at the time stated below. Notice is further given that enough members of the City Council may be present to constitute a “meeting” under Wisconsin statutes and this constitutes notice of any such meeting. Requests for persons with disabilities who need assistance to participate in this meeting should be made by calling City Hall: (608)-882-2266 with as much advance notice as possible. Please silence cell phones and electronic devices during the meeting.

City of Evansville Economic Development Committee
Regular Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2026
City Hall, 3rd Floor, 31 S Madison St, Evansville, WI
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Motion to approve the agenda.
4. Motion to waive the reading of the May 18th, 2026 minutes and approve as printed.
5. Civility reminder
6. Citizen Appearances, other than listed agenda items
7. New Business
 - A. Letter from Ethan Mohrbacker
 - B. Enforcement Letter to Commercial/Industrial Properties
8. Old Business
 - A. Review Sec. 94-81. Powers and Duties.
 - B. Library Partnership Update
9. Monthly Reports
 - A. Community Development Report
 - B. Chamber of Commerce Report
 - C. Tourism Commission Report
10. Discussion
11. Next Meeting Date:
 - A. July 20th, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
12. Motion to Adjourn.

City of Evansville **Economic Development Committee**
Regular Meeting
3rd Floor City Hall, 31 S Madison Street, Evansville, WI 53536
Monday, May 15th, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order. 6:02 pm

2. Roll Call:

	Present/Absent	Others Present
Norman Barker	A	Erik Ferrar, ECSD
Kelly Shannon	P	Colette Spranger, Com. Dev. Director
Jon Alling	P	Shawn Dunphy, Chamber of Commerce
Paul Liesse	P	
Brandon Rutz	P	
Pat Carr	P	
Sue Berg	P	

3. Chair Election. *Motion to nominate Kelly Shannon by Berg,* second by Carr. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion to Approve Agenda as printed. *Motion by Berg, second by Shannon. Motion carried unanimously.*

5. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes from March 17, 2026 meeting and approve as printed. *Motion by Berg, second by Liesse. Motion carried unanimously.*

6. Civility Reminder

7. Citizen appearances, other than listed agenda items
None.

8. New Business

9. Old Business

A. Review Sec. 94-81. Powers and Duties.

Brief review of ideas discussed in April. The intention was to bring the new member up to date at this meeting, but he was unable to attend.

B. Library Partnership Update

Intro to AI class will be June 18th from 6:00 to 7:00pm at the library. She is working with someone at SCORE to identify what the market should be for their services – new owners, owners in the middle of their business planning, or should we feel out the community to identify the need.

10. Monthly Reports**A. Community Development Update.**

Results from the 170 E Church survey and in-person planning session are in. These were discussed at length by the committee. Some good insights from the community were gathered but gives the City a better idea on how to market the land. Permits through March were shared.

B. Chamber Update.

Art Crawl was a good success. Community guide is coming but has been very difficult this year to get published in a timely manner – the year is almost halfway through.

C. Tourism Update.

Brief report on the 4th of July committee's efforts, which are ongoing and happening. Another Maker's Market is anticipated to bring in foot traffic. Next Tourism meeting is in June.

11. Discussion**12. Next Meeting Dates:**

- A. Regular Meeting: June 15th, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

13. Adjourn. Motion by Berg, second by Rutz. Motion carried unanimously.

Dear City Council Member Kelly Shannon,

My name is Ethan Mohrbacher. I am a student at Evansville High School in Evansville, Wisconsin, and I am currently in 9th grade. I am reaching out to you because I have observed the lack of a quality car wash option in Evansville. Evansville has recently lost a car wash due to the new Ford Detail business that took over the previous car wash by Lake Leota. From my research, there is only one car wash remaining, which is Papa Dukes. Papa Dukes has been around since 1976 and is outdated. With Evansville lacking a quality car wash, citizens face many issues.

One issue that is currently happening due to the lack of a quality car wash is citizens are becoming angry. There are many negative comments and reviews about the car wash we have in town right now, and without another option, citizens are easily angered. Comments often include concerns such as poor equipment, low water pressure, out-of-order machines, and scratches on their car after going through the automated wash. The citizens of Evansville are forced to travel to a surrounding community to wash their cars, creating frustration and taking business away from our town. With Americans roughly washing 8 million vehicles a day, a well operated car wash could thrive. Another issue that concerns me is that dirty cars can cause accidents. Did you know that dirty windshields and windows are a primary factor in an estimated 40,000 nighttime crashes every year? At first, I never thought a new car wash could save lives, but I have realized how serious and impactful a change like this could be. The final statistics I have for you show how car washes can also help protect the environment. They can protect the environment by using less water and proper, safe soaps. Professional car wash facilities use up to 50% less water than home washing. Up to 92% of commercial sites utilize water recycling and many adopt biodegradable soaps. On top of this, going through a commercial or professional car wash takes, on average, 5-8 minutes while home washing takes 45-50 minutes.

This issue is personally important to me because my family takes pride in keeping our cars in good shape. We never buy brand new cars, so we have a big responsibility to make them look good for as long as possible. Our oldest car is from 2011 and while it has started to form some rust, it is still in good condition. We have never once used the car wash in town, even though we have lived here for ten years. My family usually has to travel to Janesville to get it washed properly. On average, Janesville is 12-15 miles away from the citizens of Evansville. So wouldn't it be nice if we could just stay in town to get our cars washed properly? In less than a year, many of my friends and I will have our licenses. Chances are, we will be driving older cars and if we want these cars to stay in good condition, we need a proper car wash. If we properly maintain our cars, we could be increasing its trade-in or resale value by as much as \$1,500 compared to poorly maintained vehicles. As you can see, this issue is directly affecting my classmates and me. It is also affecting the community, as I've already mentioned. You've probably also experienced this sort of frustration or wish that we had a proper car wash conveniently in town. You can see that many people are affected by this, which is why I believe that you should care about this issue. At first, it may have sounded silly, but I hope that the importance of this issue is growing on you.

Given these factors, a change should be made. I understand that you cannot personally establish a car

wash in Evansville unless you are looking to start a business, but I would love for you to in construction of a car wash. After my research, I understand that you are in a position to have a big impact on this project. I am hoping you could use several development incentives to influence where a new car wash is located, how it's designed, and the community benefits it provides. I found through my research that you serve on the Economic Development Committee. Through your work on this committee, you could evaluate sites for potential business and recommend sites for the future project. Any other ways that you could influence a new car wash would be appreciated. I would appreciate it if you could consider my recommendations to influence this project.

Thank you for taking the time out of your day to read this email and consider my issue. I appreciate your service to our community and I hope you keep this change for Evansville in mind with future development opportunities. I hope you see why this is such a big issue and can make an effort to influence this project.

Sincerely,

Ethan Mohrbacher

Student at Evansville High School



City of Evansville

Community Development Department

www.evansvillewi.gov
31 S Madison St
PO Box 529
Evansville, WI 53536
(608) 882-2266

Monday, June 15, 2026

<NAME>
<STREET ADDRESS>
<CITY> <STATE> <ZIP>

Re: Building Permit and Code Enforcement Services

Dear Business Owner and/or Property Owner,

The City is glad that you have chosen to operate your business in Evansville. We are proud to have such a vibrant and committed group of business owners who do their best to serve their customers and grow their businesses. We at the City do our part by trying to ensure all businesses and properties are doing their best to provide a clean and compliant space that enhances, not detracts, themselves as well as their neighboring properties. It is for this reason we are taking the time to update you on our building permit and code enforcement services.

Building permits for most commercial work are issued by the General Engineering Company (GEC). Our local building inspectors are Dave Geraths (608-697-7776) and Steve Gothard (608) 617-0758. GEC is delegated for the construction, HVAC, and plumbing permits issued in the City. We are working to add electric permitting to their list of delegated services in order to provide you streamlined service and faster review times from DSPS.

The City has recently contracted with Municipal Code Enforcement (MCE) to provide code enforcement services for the City. MCE's work so far has focused on residential property maintenance but soon will extend to our commercial and industrial areas. Code enforcement ensures that properties are maintained in good condition and that all businesses in the City are held to similar standards for property care and maintenance. For your convenience, we have compiled a list of common code violations for you to review, including a brief overview of sign and lighting standards. This can be found by visiting: <http://www.evansvillewi.gov/URL-I-HAVEN'T-NAMED-YET>

Please reach out with any questions you may have. I am available via e-mail at: c.spranger@evansvillewi.gov or (608) 882-2263.

Sincerely,

Colette Spranger
Community Development Director

City of Evansville
Evansville Tourism Commission
June 2026 Summary Submitted by Sue Berg

The Evansville Tourism Commission met June 11. The Commission meets every other month: February, April, June, August, October and December.

Updates

The resolution that established the Tourism Commission was amended at City Council to add The Grove Society and remove Evansville Community Partnership, which has ceased to exist. Kris Thome, on behalf of The Grove Society, attended the June meeting of the Tourism Commission.

The artist for the Rex Theater mural sent an update with a potential timeline for doing touchups and applying the final seal coat to the mural.

Paul Liesse gave a performance report on the website VisitEvansvilleWI.com. In the last three months—March, April and May—the most popular item was the Evansville Aquatic Center.

The date changed for History in the Park from August 23 to August 16. Kris Thome reported that one of the key speakers had a scheduling conflict. The program will focus on several historical individuals featured on the new downtown banners.

The Grove Society is beginning to recruit docents for the Historic Home Tour set for September 19.

Kelly Shannon shared that a schedule for the Fourth of July 3-day festival was recently published and shared through social media. Kris Thome confirmed that the Declaration of Independence will be read in a dynamic presentation at noon July 4.

Activities with Tourism Potential

- a. Events page (managed by Chamber of Commerce & Tourism)
<https://www.facebook.com/evansvillewievents>
- b. Evansville Underground Music – check calendar
<https://evansvilleundergroundmusic.org/calendar/> and
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2442819112656816/events>
- c. Concerts on Allen Creek
<https://www.facebook.com/allencreekcoffeehouse>
- d. Hop Garden music
<https://www.facebook.com/HopGardenEvansville>
- e. Evansville Jays Hometown Baseball League <https://www.facebook.com/EvansvilleJays>
- f. Annual Chamber Golf Outing June 19
- g. FEFPL Ice Cream Social June 26
- h. A Lake Leota Fourth of July - July 3-5
- i. Fun Run July 4
- j. Creekside Cruise Night July 9
- k. Creekside Food Truck Night July 15
- l. Creekside Cruise Night August 6
- m. City-wide Garage Sale Days August 7-8
- n. Creekside Food Truck Night August 12
- o. Evansville Night Out August 13
- p. History in the Park August 16

- q. Creekside Outdoor Movie Night August 28
 - r. Creekside Cruise Night September 3
 - s. Historic Home Tour September 19
- Next meeting dates are August 13 and October 8, 2026.

Common violations

- Exteriors of building should be in good repair, free of peeling paint and deterioration
- Exterior lighting should not create glare
- Windows and doors should be properly installed and functioning
- Tarps should not be used as permanent window hangings.
- Sidewalks should be maintained and repaired to avoid tripping hazards

DRAFT