

City of Evansville Common Council
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 31 S Madison St, Evansville WI 53536
Tuesday, July 14, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

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

Members	Present/Absent	Others Present
Mayor, Abbey Barnes	P	Jason Sergeant, City Administrator
Aldersperson, Bill Lathrop	P	Leah Hurlley, City Clerk
Aldersperson, Bill Hurlley	P	Scott Kriebs, Municipal Services Dir
Aldersperson, Erika Stuart	A	Colette Spranger, Comm. Dev. Dir
Aldersperson, Kelly Knoble	P	Ryon Riggan, City Treasurer
Aldersperson, Chuck Boyce	P	Bronna Lehmann, Library Dir
Aldersperson, Norman Barker	P	Mark Kopp, City Attorney
Aldersperson, Ben Corridon	P	Mallory Kleven, WPPI
Aldersperson, Lita Droster	A	

- Citizens: Steve Hagen, John Brandon, Rodney Balvitzh, Mark Mellecker, Jeff Stevens
3. **Motion to Approve the Agenda by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed 6-0.**
 4. **Motion to Waive the Reading of Minutes of the June 9, 2026 Regular Meeting and the June 30, 2026 Special Meeting Approve as Presented by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed 6-0.**
 5. **Civility Reminder:** Barnes issued a reminder that all City business is held with civility and decorum.
 6. **Special Presentations:** None
 7. **Citizen Appearances** (Public comments on items on the agenda not requiring a public hearing and on matters which can be affected by Council action)
 - A. Mark Mellecker: asked Council to be proactive regarding Data Centers and requested executing lasting moratorium for the City of Evansville.
 - B. John Brandon: about the events of the June 9, 2025 meeting that resulted in Brandon's arrest.
 - C. Kelly Knoble: wanted to acknowledge the hard work & dedication of City Employees and wanted to make sure that a total review of total compensation costs.
 - D. Jeff Stevens: wanted to ask questions about the City Payments.
 8. **Reports of Committees**
 - A. **Library Board Report:** Lehmann read from a written report: General Updates- Renaissance Roofing has stripped off the old clay tile roof and has begun installing the new Ludowici tile. Ludowici was the original tile manufacturer. We expect the work to be complete at the end of July. People who would like a piece of Evansville history can pick up a tile from our 1908 roof. They are stacked in the First Street vestibule. This has been a frequent request, so we arranged to have some tile to give away. As follow up to the City's Energy Audit project with Upper 90, the Library Board contracted with them to do an HVAC control software upgrade. This project is almost complete, and we can certainly feel the difference in the building temps. Program Updates-Today we had 125 children and adults attend a Snakes Discovery program. Kids got to get up

close and hold snakes and other reptiles from around the world. Our summer reading programs will continue until August 7. Starting on July 20, kids and teens who have met their reading goal can pick out their prize books. Adults who score a bingo win the book of their choice, which will be ordered in August. There's still plenty of time to participate. Native Hawaiian Malia Chow will bring Hawaiian culture and traditional Hawaiian dance to our library on July 21 at 10am. Planning for our fall programming is almost complete. The Friends of the Library Used Book Sale will be on Aug. 6-8 in the lower level of the Grange building. We greatly appreciate the support we receive from the Friends and the community's support of their fundraisers.

- B. **Parks and Recreation Board Report:** Barker shared there was discussion about the Warming House restoration, Park Store building plans, and speeding in Leonard Leota Park.
- C. **Plan Commission Report**
Spranger covered the information in the Staff Report.
- 1) **Motion to Approve Preliminary and Final Land Division Application LD-2026-06 for a 2-lot Certified Survey Map combining parcels 6-27-1200, 6-27-1200.1, 6-27-1160, 6-27-1160.1 (650 County Highway M, 749 Weary Road), subject to conditions by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon.**
Motion to Amend Motion to include the Conditions 1-3 listed in the Staff Report by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed 6-0.
Motion passed 6-0.
 - 2) **Motion to Approve Final Land Division Application LD-2026-05 for a 2-lot Final Certified Survey Map on parcel 6-27-386 (432 Longfield Street), subject to conditions listed in the Packet by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed 6-0.**
- D. **Finance and Labor Relations Committee Report**
- 1) **Motion to Accept the June 2026 City Payments in the amount of \$1,333,040.02 by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 6-0.**
 - 2) **Motion to Approve the Proposal of Caselle Fixed Assets and Timesheet Software by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 6-0.**
 - 3) **Motion to Approve the Proposal of EBC Flexible Spending Accounts by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 6-0.**
 - 4) **Motion to Approve Resolution 2026-25 Amending the 2026 Budget – Police and Purchase of Police Department Copier by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 6-0.**
 - 5) **Motion to Approve Youth Center Proposal for Historic Application and Demolition Process by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 6-0.**
 - 6) **Motion to Approve 2027-2028 Pay Philosophy by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion to Amend to strike 2028 by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed 6-0.**
Motion to Approve 2027 Pay Philosophy by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 6-0.
 - 7) **First Draft of 2027-2036 CIP:** Sergeant explained that the version in the packet is a preliminary version that rebuilds what the City had in the past. Large scale unknown items include the Municipal Services building and potentially a 4th Water Well for the City.
- E. **Public Safety Committee Report:** Did Not Meet
- F. **Municipal Services Report:** Corridon reported that there was an update provided for grants that the High School received for the updated lighting. There is a smart

thermometer program that can adjust the smart thermostats during high demand for 4-hour increments and customers will be compensated \$25 for signing up.

- 1) **WPPI Presentation and Motion to Approve the Proposed Electric Rate Case be Submitted to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) by WPPI with final input from Evansville by July 22nd by Corridon, seconded by Lathrop. Motion passed by Roll Call 5-1, with Knoble opposed.**

WPPI rep, Mallory Kleven gave a presentation on the history of WPPI and the rate application for the Rate Case to be submitted to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) for a potential rate increase. Lengthy discussion occurred regarding costs. Lathrop lead most of the considerations. Ultimately it was decided to extend to July 22nd to give Lathrop, City Staff, and WPPI additional time before the submission to the PSCW. The Rate Case asks will also be revisited and modified as needed during PSCW audit process.

- 2) **Motion to Approve Resolution 2026-24, Approval of Changes to City of Evansville Functional Classification System by Corridon, seconded by Lathrop. Motion passed 6-0.**

- G. **Economic Development Committee Report:** Knoble reported staff is developing a packet for commercial code enforcement. Business visits are on-going while planning for the Community Job Fair has begun.
- H. **Youth Center Advisory Board Report:** Did Not Meet
- I. **Historic Preservation Commission Report:** Knoble reported discussion regarding buyer interest and potential use for 101 W Church Street. 20 Mill Street had approved fencing materials. Discussion also included the future of Lake Leota's Warming House.
- J. **Fire District Report:** No Report
- K. **Police Commission Report:** Did Not Meet, prior month had met to select a new leader for the Commission and hiring a Police Officer.
- L. **Energy Independence Team Report:** Did Not Meet
- M. **Board of Appeals Report:** Did Not Meet
9. **Unfinished Business:** None
10. **Communications and Recommendations of the Administrator:** Sergeant shared the City is under new insurance and trying to complete all the roofs from the hailstorm. The July 4th event went great with the new Committee and hiccups like the large tent failing with the storm that had come through the area on July 2nd. Sergeant wanted to thank all City employees who helped with the 4th of July festivities.
11. **Communications and Recommendations of the Mayor:** Barnes shared the July 4th Committee rallied to put on the event with the tent failure. Barnes expressed appreciation for City Staff for helping with the festivities. Barnes gave acknowledgement to see how nice it was that small groups took on small pieces of the event to make it a success. Barnes reported to have met with Habitat for Humanity to look at Evansville for potential sites.
 - A. **Motion to Approve the Appointment of Ben Ladick, 126 Garfield Ave, for a five-year term to the Housing Authority, expiring 2031 by Lathrop, seconded by Corridon. Motion passed by Roll Call 6-0.**
12. **New Business:** None
13. **Introduction of New Ordinances:** None
14. **Upcoming Meeting Reminder:**
 - A. Regular Common Council Meeting, Tuesday August 11, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
 - B. 2026 Meetings: September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
15. **Adjourn:** Barnes adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.