City of Evansville
Finance and Labor Relations Committee
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 31 S Madison St., Evansville, WI 53536
Wednesday, October 7, 2026, 3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Lathrop called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:**

Members	Present/Absent
Chair, Bill Lathrop	P
Ben Corridon	P
Erika Stuart	P

Others Present
Jason Sergeant, City Administrator
Scott Kriebs, Municipal Services Director
Ryon Riggan, City Treasurer
Leah Hurtley, City Clerk

Others Present: Abbey Barnes (Mayor), Bill Hurtley (Alderperson), Greg Johnson (Ehlers), Tom Alisankus (Municipal Judge), Bronna Lehmann (Library Director), Lieutenant Ian Reilly (Police), Chief Carolyn Kleisch (EMS)

3. ***Motion to Approve the Agenda, moving Agenda item 8 before 7, by Lathrop, seconded by Stuart.*** *Motion passed 3-0.*
4. ***Motion to Waive the reading of the Minutes of September 2, 2026 Regular Meeting and Approve them as printed by Stuart, seconded by Corridon.*** *Motion passed 3-0.*

   Corridon requested edit to 4: to add "3-0" to "motion passed."
5. **Civility Reminder:** Lathrop issued a reminder that all City Business is handled with civility and friendliness.
6. **Citizen Appearances:** None
7. ***Motion to Accept the September 2026 City Payments in the amount of $3,311,729.97 by Corridon, seconded by Stuart.*** *Motion passed by Roll Call 3-0.*
   Discussion on: Computer Know How bill and visionary technologies

8. New Business
   A. Ehlers Presentation on General Obligation Bond
      1. ***Motion to Recommend Option 3 for General Obligation Debt Borrowing by Corridon, seconded by Lathrop.*** *Motion passed by Roll Call 3-0.*
         Greg Johnson from Ehlers covered the material that was passed out offering a third option and is looking for a singular option for avoiding confusion at the Common Council meeting. Lathrop shared there were 3 factors to consider: overall cost, debt service levy, debt capacity percentage.

   B. Review and Discussion of 2027 Draft Budget & CIP:

   Municipal Court: Judge Alisankus reported that the funds recovered by SDC (State Debt Collection) is currently just short of $30,000 for year. No questions asked about budget.

   Library: Lehmann gave a summary sharing some of the changes to reflect actual usage, such as combining funds from Rock and adjacent Counties, and which is about 22% of total funding; to a single line item "County Reimbursement Funds". Additional discussion about wages and employee benefits.

Police: Lieutenant Reilly shared that there aren't any big items scheduled for next year. Additional discussion occurred regarding higher costs in benefits, and low cost of training.

EMS: Chief Kleisch reported that most items went down except employee retirement and recognition program due to large increase of staff. There was additional discussion about Medicare/Medicaid write offs.

Government: Changes occurred regarding more closely aligned employee time and allocations from the Utility towards Government resulting in higher benefit numbers in Government. Clerk Hurtley shared the Election Budget increase was due to include the purchase of two (2) new election tabulators that will no longer be supported.

Public Works: Kriebs gave information in tree reforestation and equipment. Discussion about Highway 213 budget amount and additional employee for Public Works. Additional discussion about CIP items for Department of Transportation and Railroad Support.

Parks and Recreation: Kriebs shared the cost of fertilizer increased and CIP items for playground improvements, kayak launch, and truck replacement. Additional discussion about the reallocation of Aquatic Center expenses to multiple GL accounts and position request from Park Board for Recreation Coordinator position.

Economic Development: Sergeant reported in Spranger's absence. Spranger is seeking additional funding for grants for building improvements downtown, and a study of downtown for mix of users and store fronts. Additional questions surrounding higher costs surrounding training and software expenses.

Cemetery: Kriebs reported the operation budget stayed the same and the CIP is for milling and overlaying of some roads.

Tourism: Sergeant shared that Tourism isn't required to break line items out.

Building Inspection: Sergeant explained current amounts are for building inspection and code enforcement to remain contracted out. The goal is to make another attempt to hire for in-house Building Inspector this winter.

Health & Human Services: There was discussion about AWARE funding and Creekside contract negotiations.

Sewer: Kriebs shared summary information in the packet. Lift station upgrade at County Hwy. M will be covered by CHS. Additional discussion regarding sludge hauling expenses, and concerns regarding conservative operation revenues. Sewer rates may need to be reevaluated by rate case to ensure the utility doesn't operate as a negative.

Stormwater: Discussion regarding operating income at a loss.

Electric: Kriebs reported that the operating expense remains the same with an exception to an increase to tree trimming which was attributed to a reduction in overhead line maintenance. The CIP items have been reduced to what just needs to be done next year, while waiting for the rate case.

Water: Kriebs reported the operating budget stayed the same and the capital expenses have been pushed out.

C. Discussion and ***Motion to Recommend Resolution 2026-27 to Create Fund 211 for Separately Held Library Funds* by Stuart, seconded by Corridon.** *Motion passed by Roll Call 3-0.*

Riggan shared that this will be to show funds not included in the operating budget, still recorded by the City of Evansville.

D. ***Motion to Recommend the Intergovernmental Emergency Medical Service Contract with Towns of Union, Porter, Magnolia, and Brooklyn for 2027 by Corridon, seconded by Stuart.*** *Motion passed by Roll Call 3-0.*

E. ***Motion to Recommend Park Store Phase 1 Rehabilitation Contract to Bauer Builders in the amount of $181,058.00 by Corridon, seconded by Stuart.*** *Motion passed 3-0.*

Sergeant explained the history of the building update project and the lack of bids for the project. Part of the project is to be paid through a grant from the Antes Fund and the difference can be made by increasing the Antes Fund grant amount through the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin.

F. ***Motion to Recommend Common Council Request to have $42,000 from the Robert J. Antes Leota Park Fund at the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin sent to the City of Evansville for Rehabilitation of the Historic Park Store in Leonard-Leota Park by Corridon, seconded by Stuart.*** *Motion passed 3-0.*
There was discussion about potential risk of not providing funds.

G. **Discussion on Amending Fee Schedule for Sewer Credits:** Discussion about having 2 policies governing sewer credits, both being valid, and just need to be cleaned up. A recommendation is to do an updated Resolution to wipe the credits off the fee schedule and then clean up the policy book.

H. ***Motion to Recommend MOU for WPPA Contract by Corridon, seconded by Stuart.*** *Motion passed 3-0.*
Sergeant shared that the Wisconsin Professional Police Association reached out to have the contract corrected to match the rest of the contract.

I. **Discussion on MOU with Grove Society for Bandstand Rehabilitation:** Sergeant attributed a Memorandum of Understanding imperative to move forward with a partnership.

9. Old Business:

A. **Status and Progress Toward Regular Monthly Accounting Close:** Riggan shared that a checklist will be implemented in the next couple months.

10. City Administrator/Finance Director Report: Sergeant have an update on the Hailstorm repairs and Longfield Street reconstruction project.

A. **Update on Employee Reviews:** Sergeant reported staff reviews are behind.

11. Next Meeting Dates:

A. 2026 Meetings, held the Wednesday before Council at 3:00 p.m.: November 4, December 2

B. 2027 Meeting Dates, held the Wednesday before Council at 3:00 p.m.: January 6, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4, September 6, November 3, December 8

12. Adjourn: Lathrop adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.