

**CITY OF BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL
MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026 – 7:00 PM**

Mayor Gain Meyer called this meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

City Clerk Schaefer called roll. Members present on roll call: Alderperson Whitaker, Alderperson Schneider, Alderperson Dowling-Urban, Alderperson Randle, Alderperson Ferguson, Alderperson Anthony, Alderperson Ovia, Alderperson Dintelman, Alderperson Kaiser, Alderperson Rothweiler, Alderperson Elmore, Alderperson Weygandt, Alderperson Sullivan, Alderperson Osthoff.

Excused: Alderperson Duco, Alderperson Stiehl.

ROLL CALL DEPARTMENT HEADS

City Clerk Schaefer called roll of Department Heads: City Treasurer, Sarah Biermann; City Attorney, Garrett Hoerner, Asst. Police Chief, Mark Heffernan; Fire Chief, Curt Lougeay; Finance Director, Jamie Maitret; Director of Public Works, Jason Poole; Director of Wastewater, Brett Friedman; Library Director, Leander Spearman; Director of IT, Ty Buckner; City Engineer, Scott Saeger; Director of Health, Housing & Building, Scott Tyler; Director of Grants & Special Projects, Eric Schauster; Director of Human Resources, William Clay; Director of Maintenance, Mike Schaefer.

Excused: Police Chief, Matt Eiskant.

PLEDGE

PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rick Brown: Ok, folks, I want to make it perfectly clear when I'm talking up here not heaving my stuff forward. I talked to somebody the other day that I trusted, and they explained to me it looks like I'm putting Ms. Biermann and Ms. Schaefer in the position of getting yelled at. Well, I want to assure you two are not involved with what I am talking about, okay. A couple of three years ago, one of their committees was uh the one that passed the Bond for Deed Ordinance where they treat that as rental property. And uh so let me tell you who all you that were here; Eros, Randall, Dintleman, Elmore, Chairwoman Steihl, Whitaker, Rothweiler, Schaefer, and Dennis Weygandt. Department Heads present; Garrett Hoerner, Jenny Gain Meyer, Scott Tyler, and Todd Kielbach. I want to read you a quote from that meeting. This was originally drafted and sent to me and I think the reason behind it is really to clear up any existing ordinances when you have a contract for deed or a bond for deed, you are not an owner, you are a renter until you own it. This is just clarifying that. And it was actually made simpler if we just added the first sentence in rental property where the record currently says, quote, a structure with one or more residential units which are leased for occupancy, end quote. And then we just add quote and or subject of a contract for deed or other sentiment similar agreement. The crime committee ordinance defines a bond for deed in certain cases, and we were just

clarifying that language because you are not a bond for deed situation. The seller is still an owner until the entire bond, and the deed is paid off. It will hold the owner accountable just as if it was a lease. Just like a leased home, they are subject to it as a tenant because it is really a landlord tenant situation until the deed transfers. Now, those of you who are there might remember that. Maybe not, check it out look at the prints, I've got him right here. Mr. Hoerner, what you said wasn't true, was it? To the committee, were those true statements?

City Attorney Hoerner: This isn't a question-and-answer session, sir.

Rick Brown: Well, maybe some of you will check into that. Look at the minutes and see what it is. Because if those statements aren't true, somebody's in a lot of trouble. Professional Disciplinary Action, Rule 8.4C prohibits conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation. Rule 3.9 extends the duty of candor to non-adjudicative proceedings such as representing a client before a legislative body or city council. And it could lead to an investigation by the ARDC.

Mayor Gain Meyer: Thanks Mr. Brown.

Rick Brown: I'm not done. Oh, I guess I am. Well, thanks for listening, guys. I hope you check up on this.

Mayor Gain Meyer: Anybody else?

Tom Witty: I grew up with her. She was my neighbor at one point. My name is Tom Witty. Thank you for showing up tonight, Officers. It's just simply a couple questions that I thought I had. As you drive up and down West Main Street and a little bit of East Main Street, there seemed to be an awful lot of empty, not only businesses, but apartments, like second floor apartments and stuff. And I got to thinking about the fact that every time I hear something about the city, there's no people downtown, there's no people. Well, there's a lot of people that go downtown, but they don't live here. This thing used to be a big deal in this town. I've lived here my entire life. Mr. Weygandt there, we will talk later. Anyway, what I was thinking is if there's a way that the city or the county, and maybe even the government, I don't know how it would go to get everybody to work out a deal where you shouldn't have to pay \$1,000 a month for a one bedroom apartment, that's nuts. You could work something out. People who own apartments that don't live there or don't rent them or whatever. If they could work out a deal to maybe make it a little cheaper, to make it easier for seniors or whatever who don't want to go to retirement homes, but they could live a little less expensively. There would be more people in the area, there would be more people that would come downtown to shop, and there would be money for other things for the city, you know, just in general, just funding. Besides, I was just thinking let's make this town a little bit more, used to be the way it was when I was a kid. There's just people everywhere all the time. That's all I got.

Mayor Gain Meyer: Thank you.

Tom Witty: Thank you for your time.

Mayor Gain Meyer: Anybody else? Stuart?

Stuart Lannert: West. I'm just going flying a little bit here. West Main and has a bunch of stoplights for these pansies. I call them pansies, these so-called wannabe cops that live across from Lindenwood. Gotta have four lights that blind here. Two lights each way, yellow real bright caution lights that actually blind a person and on 29th Street there's no lights at all. And these cars going by 29th and Godfrey, 40, 56, 60 miles

an hour. And there is school kids, believe it or not, still walking to and from school nowadays to cross 29th Street and Godfrey and there's no lights. And somebody I called said, well, you know, they have these lights up at Lindenwood, they will save some lives. If these adults can't cross the street by looking both ways, why do they need all these big flashing lights to actually blind somebody? Seven, eight-year-old kids need these lights more than these adults do. These lights should be for young kids, not adults who ought to be smart enough to be able to look both ways and cross the street from across the street where I supposedly live to go to Lindenwood to go into whatever's going on over there. Yeah, I'm just wondering. And you also got a caution light on Optimist drive going back to the trailer park back there. And there's absolutely no schools at all back there, so why do they need a caution light on Optimist drive? I think there should be a caution light on South 29th Street. Thank you.

Mayor Gain Meyer: Thanks, Stuart. Anybody else for public participation?

PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Presentation of check from the Belleville Marathon to Belleville Parks and Recreation Department.

I believe you have a presentation from Belleville Marathon for the Parks and Rec Department. Come on up guys.

I'm Sarah West. I'm Co-Race Director at the Belleville Main Street Marathon and Half Marathon.

I am Arthur Sheridan and I help.

I am Evan Gudmestad and I am the Sponsorship Coordinator.

Sarah West: And we are here tonight to present a check to the Belleville Parks and Recreation Department for \$7,500. We always say this is one of our favorite parts of the race, is being able to give back to the community. And we feel like we are in the perfect community for this event. We have tremendous support from the city with logistics, racecourse setup. We get two hundred volunteers every year to come out to keep our runners safe and to guide them on the course. And we get sponsorships every year from the community organizations and businesses. And without those, a check like this would not be possible. So, thank you very much for what was city does and to our community in general.

Mayor Gain Meyer: We Appreciate you guys doing this here. Thank you.

Sarah West: This will be our 10th year for the full marathon, so it's going to be exciting and fun as always, but even more so. So come out and volunteer. If you know any runners, recruit them to run the event.

Aldersperson Osthoff made a motion second by Aldersperson Weygant to approve Mayor Gain Meyer recommendation to appointment Steve Mathews to serve the remaining of a 1-year term on the Historic Preservation Commission, expiring 6-5-2026.

All members voted aye.

Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Aldersperson Schneider made a motion second by Aldersperson Weygandt to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2026.

All members voted aye.

Motion carries.

CLAIMS, PAYROLL AND DISBURSEMENTS

Aldersperson Whitaker made a motion second by Aldersperson Weygandt to approve claims and disbursements in the amount of **\$1,156,894.60** and payroll in the amount of **\$1,076,067.22**.

Members voting aye on roll call: Whitaker, Schneider, Dowling-Urban, Randle, Ferguson, Anthony, Ovian, Dintelman, Kaiser, Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff. (14)

Motion carries.

REPORTS

Aldersperson Rothweiler made a motion second by Aldersperson Ferguson to approve Treasurer's Report-November 2025 and a motion to approve Statement of Cash and Investments Report-November 2025.

All members voted aye.

Motion carries.

ORAL REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND ANY OTHER ORAL REPORTS FROM THE ELECTED OFFICIALS OR STAFF

BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Aldersperson Anthony made a motion second by Aldersperson Whitaker to approve the lateral hires of Artez Hardin and Brett Weingardner as probationary police officers effective January 21, 2026, at 12:01am.

Members voting aye on roll call: Schneider, Dowling-Urban, Randle, Ferguson, Anthony, Ovian, Dintelman, Kaiser, Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff, Whitaker. (14)

Motion carries.

STREETS AND GRADES

Aldersperson Randle made a motion second by Aldersperson Weygandt to approve Phase 1 Archaeology Survey from SCI not to exceed \$5,000.00 for Cool Valley Drainage Improvement (TIF 3).

Members voting aye on roll call: Dowling-Urban, Randle, Ferguson, Anthony, Ovian, Dintelman, Kaiser, Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff, Whitaker, Schneider. (14)

Motion carries.

Aldersperson Randle made a motion second by Aldersperson Sullivan to appropriate local funds for the proposed Roundabout at Freeburg Avenue Intersection IL-158 and IL-13 in the amount of \$480,000.00 (TIF 3).

Members voting aye on roll call: Randle, Ferguson, Anthony, Dintelman, Kaiser, Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff. (10)

Members voting nay on roll call: Ovian, Whitaker, Schneider, Dowling-Urban. (4)

Motion carries.

Aldersperson Randle made a motion second by Aldersperson Sullivan to approve joint funding agreement between City of Belleville and Illinois Department of Transportation for Federally Funded Construction of a proposed Roundabout at Freeburg Avenue intersection IL-158 and IL-13 to include all necessary work to complete the project (TIF 3).

Members voting aye on roll call: Ferguson, Anthony, Dintelman, Kaiser, Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff, Randle. (10)

Members voting nay on roll call: Ovian, Whitaker, Schneider, Dowling-Urban. (4)

Motion carries.

Aldersperson Randle made a motion second by Aldersperson Weygandt to approve Addendum #4 Jurisdiction and Maintenance Agreement for a proposed Roundabout at the Freeburg Avenue intersection IL-158 and IL-13.

Members voting aye on roll call: Anthony, Dintelman, Kaiser, Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff, Randle, Ferguson. (10)

Members voting nay on roll call: Ovian, Whitaker, Schneider, Dowling-Urban. (4)

Motion carries.

ORDINANCE & LEGAL COMMITTEE

Aldersperson Randle made a motion second by Aldersperson Anthony to amend Title XV (Land Usage), Chapter 150 (Building Code; Building Regulations), and Section 150.37 (Dumpster Permit) for possible requirement of pavement weight protection.

All members voted aye.

Motion carries.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ANNEXATION COMMITTEE

Motion to approve a Development Agreement with Wealth Partners by Design, LLC for the remodeling of 127 East Main Street.

Motion to approve a Development Agreement with White Cottage Ice Cream, Inc. for the remodeling and expansion of 102 Lebanon Avenue.

Motion to approve a Development Agreement with Leshawn Herron for acquisition of the City-owned property located at 2510 East Main Street.

Aldersperson Osthoff made a motion second by Aldersperson Ferguson to approve the requests as read.

Aldersperson Whitaker: For the addition to 11-D(1), the \$15,000 for the ADA entrance. Is that in addition to the \$130 or will that? Will it cap at \$130 still?

Mayor Gain Meyer: That's a separate amount to \$130. Yes, that would be our max contribution. Any other discussion?

Aldersperson Kaiser: So, it's \$145 total?

Mayor Gain Meyer: Yes. If for some reason the sidewalk doesn't need to be amended, but it doesn't look like that. Then obviously that \$15,000 would not be given. If that makes sense. Okay. Any other discussion?

Members voting aye on roll call: Dintelman, Kaiser, Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff, Whitaker, Schneider, Dowling-Urban, Randle, Ferguson, Anthony. (13)

Members voting nay on roll call: Ovian. (1)

Motion carries.

COMMUNICATIONS

LUCKY LEPRECHAUN 5K – 03/14/2026

Request from Belleville Main Street to host the Lucky Leprechaun 5K, Saturday, March 14, 2026, 9:00am to 10:30am. Rolling street closures. Additional request: Police Personnel, barricades and "No Parking" signage

MAIN STREET SENIOR DAYS – -4/24/2026 and 10/16/2026

Request from Belleville Main Street to host Main Street Senior Days, Friday, April 24, 2026, and October 16, 2026, 10:00am to 1:00pm – Downtown Belleville.

BELLEVILLE HOMEBREWFEEST– 04/25/2026

Request from Shoehorn Brewing to host Belleville Homebrewfest, Saturday, April 25, 2026, 12:00pm to 4:00pm. Street closure request: use of Paderborn Square and North Church Street between East Main Street and alleyway (residents must have access to their driveways) for food trucks. Additional City services: picnic tables, cones, barricades, "No Parking" signage, and trash totes

KEEP BELLEVILLE BEAUTIFUL – 04/25/2026

Request from the City to host Keep Belleville Beautiful City-Wide Litter Pick-Up, Saturday, April 25, 2026, 9:00am to 12:00pm. Additional City services: Personnel, trash bags, gloves, and safety vests.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - 05/25/2026

Request from City of Belleville to hold the Belleville Memorial Day Parade, Monday, May 25, 2026, 10:00am to 11:00am. Street closure request: North 3rd Street from West "A" Street to Hough Park, 9:00am to 11:00am. Parade route rolling closure, 10:00am to 11:00am. Additional City services: barricades, "No Parking" signage, Port-a-Potties, clean-up, Police and Public Works personnel.

CRAFT BEER WALK – 06/27/2026

Request from Belleville Main Street to host Craft Beer Walk, Saturday, June 27, 2026, 3:00pm to 7:00pm – Downtown Belleville.

CHILI COOK-OFF – 10/9/2026 and 10/10/2026

Request from Belleville Chamber of Commerce to hold the Chili Cook-Off, Friday, October 9, 2026, and Saturday, October 10, 2026, 11:00am to 8:00pm. Street closure requests: Public Square one block north, south, and west; East Main Street from Illinois Street to the west side of Church Street; 5:00pm Thursday, October 8, 2026, until 12:01am Sunday, October 11, 2026. Additional City services: picnic tables, barricades, trash totes, Personnel, "No Parking" signage and electric. Banner across East/West Main Street.

CHILI CHASE 5K AND KIDS PEPPER DASH – 10/10/2026

Request from Belleville Chamber of Commerce to hold the Chili Chase 5K & Kids Pepper Dash, Saturday, October 10, 2026, 7:00am to 11:00am. Street closure request: North and South Church from alley to alley, East Main Street from Church Street to Charles Street; 6:00am to 12:00pm. Additional City services: barricades, "No Parking" signage and Police Personnel.

ART & WINE WALK – 11/14/2026

Request from Belleville Main Street to host Art & Wine Walk, Saturday, November 14, 2026, 3:00pm to 7:00pm – Downtown Belleville.

DOWNTOWN COOKIE STROLL – 12/11/2026 and 12/12/2026

Request from Belleville Main Street to host Downtown Cookie Stroll, Friday, December 11, 2026, and Saturday, December 12, 2026, 10:00am to 5:00pm. Additional City services: access to City Hall as a cookie stop – Downtown Belleville.

DOWNTOWN CHRISTMAS STROLL – 12/17/2026

Request from Belleville Main Street to host Downtown Christmas Stroll, Thursday, December 17, 2026, 3:00pm to 7:00pm – Downtown Belleville.

CHRISTKINDMARKT – 11/27/2026 thru 12/23/2026

Request from BCEO to hold the Belleville Christkindlmarkt, Friday, November 27, 2026 (9:00am to 8:00pm) through Wednesday, December 23, 2025; SE and NE quadrants of the Public Square. Thursdays thru Saturdays, 11:00am to 8:00pm, Sundays 11:00am to 6:00pm; Wednesday, December 23rd 11:00am to 5:00pm. Additional City services: chalets, trash totes, picnic tables, Port-a-Potties, water barriers, electric, vendor parking at City Hall and "No Parking" for trolley. Banner across West Main, East Main and North Illinois and Facility Use Agreement for 30 Public Square, Thursday, November 12, 2026, through Friday, January 1, 2027.

LINCOLN THEATRE SHOW SPACE- 02/14/2026, 03/13/2026, 03/28/2026, AND 04/11/2026

Request from the Lincoln Theatre to host Country Royalty, Saturday, February 14, 2026, 7:30pm to 10:00pm, Etta May & the Country Fried Chicks Comedy Tour, Friday, March 13, 2026, 7:00pm to 10:00pm, Laughs at the Lincoln featuring Dustin Nickerson, Saturday, March 28, 2026, and Chattahoochee, Saturday, April 11, 2026, 7:00pm to 10:00pm. Additional City Services: closure of 8 parking spaces in city parking lot at the corner of North High Street and East “A” Street and barricades.

MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION – 02/14/2026

Request from Charlie’s Off Main, LLC to host Mardi Gras Celebration, Saturday, February 14, 2026, 11:00am to 10:00pm. Street Closure requests: Mascoutah Avenue from corner of East Washington to corner of East Lincoln/Mascoutah Ave (residents must have access) 9:00am to 11:00pm. Additional City Services: barricades, “No Parking” signage, picnic tables, and trash toters.

THE BARKERY EVENTS- 01/22/2026, 01/24/26, AND 02/14/2026

Request from The Barkery to host Food Truck, Thursday, January 22, 2026, 9:00am to 4:00pm, Nail Trim Day, Saturday, January 24, 2026, 9:00am to 4:00pm, and Puppy Love Adoption Event, Saturday, February 14, 2026, 9:00am to 4:00pm. Additional City Services: closure of 2 parking spaces in front of 335 West Main Street, cones, and “No Parking” signage.

Aldersperson Whitaker made a motion second by Aldersperson Kaiser to approve the communications as read.

All members voted aye.

Motion carries.

PETITIONS

None.

RESOLUTIONS

Aldersperson Randle made a motion second by Aldersperson Weygandt to read Resolutions 3561 by title only.

All members voted aye.

Motion carries.

RESOLUTION 3561

Resolution for Joint Funding Agreement Between City of Belleville and Illinois Department of Transportation for Federally Funded Construction of Roundabout at the Proposed Intersection, IL 158 and IL 13 to include all Necessary Work to Complete the Project (TIF 3).

Aldersperson Randle made a motion second by Aldersperson Weygandt to approve the Resolution as read.

Members voting aye on roll call: Dintelman, Kaiser, Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff, Randle, Ferguson, Anthony. (10)

Members voting nay on roll call: Whitaker, Schneider, Dowling-Urban, Ovia. (4)

Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

Aldersperson Randle made a motion second by Aldersperson Schneider to read Ordinance 9453 by title only.

All members voted aye.

Motion carries.

ORDINANCE 9453-2026

An Ordinance Amending Title XV (Land Usage), Chapter 150 (Building Code; Building Regulations), Section 150.37 (Dumpster Permit) of the Revised Code of Ordinances of Belleville, Illinois.

Aldersperson Rothweiler made a motion second by Aldersperson Weygandt to approve Ordinance 9453 as read.

Members voting aye on roll call: Kaiser, Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff, Whitaker, Schneider, Dowling-Urban, Randle, Ferguson, Anthony, Ovian, Dintelman. (14)

Motion carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

MISCELLANEOUS & NEW BUSINESS

Aldersperson Weygandt made a motion second by Aldersperson Ferguson to pay the Motor Fuel Claims in the Amount of **\$46,073.41**.

Members voting aye on roll call: Rothweiler, Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff, Whitaker, Schneider, Dowling-Urban, Randle, Ferguson, Anthony, Ovian, Dintelman, Kaiser. (14)

Motion carries.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Aldersperson Schneider made a motion second by Aldersperson Randle to go into executive session to discuss the appointment, personnel, litigation, workers' compensation, property acquisition, transfer of property, (5 ILCS 120/2(c)).

All members voted aye.

Motion carries.

Executive Session Began: 7:31 p.m.
Regular Session Resume: 7:41 p.m.

Aldersperson Weygandt made a motion second by Aldersperson to approve Worker's Compensation settlement with Thomas Kriegel in the amount of \$46,855.50.

Members voting aye on roll call: Elmore, Weygandt, Sullivan, Osthoff, Whitaker, Schneider, Dowling-Urban, Randle, Ferguson, Anthony, Ovian, Dintelman, Kaiser, Rothweiler. (14)

Motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT

Aldersperson Randle made a motion second by Aldersperson Schneider to adjourn at 7:42 p.m.

All members voted aye.

Motion carries.



Shelly Schaefer, City Clerk