



City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 17, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.
Five Points Banquet Room - 360 N. Wilmor Road, Washington, Illinois

Call to Order Mayor Lilija Stevens called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., with a quorum present.

Roll Call *Present:* Alderpersons Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith

Also Present Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Dennis Carr, Finance Director Joanie Baxter, Planning and Development Director Jon Oliphant, Public Works Director Brian Rittehouse, Police Chief Jeff Stevens, City Clerk Valeri Brod, City Treasurer Carol Crocker, and City Attorney Mark Walton

Pledge of Allegiance Scout Troop 163 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentations Mayor Stevens recognized the Central Intermediate 2025 Softball Team for their exceptional season and IESA 3A Runner-up State Championship Title.
Central Intermediate School Softball Recognition Alderperson McIntyre motioned to approve; Alderperson Ernst seconded.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

City Clerk CMC Designation Recognition Mayor Stevens recognized City Clerk Brod for her designation of Certified Municipal Clerk. Alderperson Johnson motioned to approve; Alderperson Smith seconded.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP Presentation: Audited Financial Statements Auditor Hanna Colorten shared the following points regarding the annual audit:

- The independent auditor's report issued the highest possible opinion, reflecting a clean and accurate audit.
- Pages 19–20 outline details of the City's net position for governmental activities.
- The Statement of Activities shows revenues and annual expenses, with increases from the prior year.
- The Notes to the Financial Statements, beginning on page 37, include information on farm and tower leases and their expiration dates.
- Pages 51–52 highlight numerous new projects and the completion of various infrastructure, vehicle, and equipment leases.
- Page 53 summarizes the City's long-term debt—including bonds, loans, and leases—payable through 2030.
- Pages 60–61 provide information on pensions, major projects, and remaining payment obligations.
- A 10-year history of fund schedules is provided on page 71.
- The management letter includes recommendations, new rules and regulations, IT security notes, and emerging risks; no issues were identified.
- New reporting standards (GASB 102 and 103) will take effect over the next two years.
- Finance Director Baxter clarified that "net position" is government-wide terminology that includes all assets and capital investments; it does not represent cash on hand.

Audience Comments None provided.

Deletions/Additions *Aldersperson Moss motioned to remove Item 12-A the First Reading Ordinance requested by Robinson Outdoor, for a large billboard variance at 1230 Peoria Street, and bring to a future meeting; Aldersperson McIntyre seconded.*
Mayor Stevens explained that this was brought to the Planning and Zoning Commission twice. She felt it should be removed and they should present it again to Council.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Consent Agenda Mayor Stevens presented the Consent Agenda for approval of the following items:
A. Approve November 3, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
B. Approve Bills and Payroll
C. Approve Washington Commercial Grant Program Pay Request- Sleep Inn, 1101 N. Cummings Ln.
D. Approve TIF Subsidy Pay Request #1 - Washington Square Condominium North Unit Owners Association, 101 Washington Square
E. Approve Washington Police Evidence Storage Pay Request #8
Aldersperson Smith motioned to approve; Aldersperson Sluder seconded.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Mayoral Communication Mayor Stevens shared that the November Let's Talk Washington will be held on November 24, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at Brickhouse in Washington.
November Let's Talk Event

City Administrator Communication Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr opened for questions. None provided.
Council Report

Accept and Place on File: *Aldersperson McIntyre motioned to approve; Aldersperson Smith seconded.*
Audited Financial 8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
Statements, Year Ending 0 Nays:
April 30, 2025 Motion carried by roll call vote.

Resolutions Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration:
R-1451 (27-25) Truth-In-Taxation **Synopsis:** The following resolution would make the determination pursuant to the Truth-in-Taxation Act for the City of Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois for the 2025 property tax levy. **Title:** Resolution for Truth-In-Taxation
Interim City Administrator Carr explained that this resolution declares that we are not pursuing a public hearing and discussion regarding the levy can be provided during the first reading of the ordinance.
Aldersperson Ernst motioned to approve; Aldersperson Moss seconded.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

R-1452 (28-25) Illinois America250 Commemoration Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration:
Synopsis: Adoption of this resolution would establish that the City of Washington, Illinois is in support of the Illinois America250 Commemoration. **Title:** Illinois America250 Commemoration
Aldersperson Johnson motioned to approve; Aldersperson Smith seconded.
Aldersperson Ernst will chair the committee. Mayor Stevens suggested the Candlewood Bridge Historical Marker be considered by this committee.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

First Reading Ord The following first reading ordinance was removed from consideration. ~~**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would grant a variance to allow for the future construction of a large billboard at 1230 Peoria Street. **Title:** Request by Robinson Outdoor, LLC, for a Large Billboard Variance at 1230 Peoria Street~~
Request by Robinson Outdoor, LLC, for a Large Billboard Variance at 1230 Peoria Street

Second Reading Ord Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration:
3606 (41-25) Donation/ Sale of Surplus Property Unclaimed Bicycles **Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would authorize the sale, donation, or disposal of twenty-two unclaimed bicycles that are in possession of the Police Department and have been declared surplus property. **Title:** Donation or Sale of Surplus Property – Unclaimed Bicycles
Alderson Smith motioned to approve; Alderson McIntyre seconded.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Second Reading Ord Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration:
3607 (42-25) Approve Jurisdictional Transfer of N. Main St. **Synopsis:** Approval of this ordinance would authorize the jurisdictional transfer of a portion of North Main Street from Tazewell County to the City of Washington. **Title:** Approving the Jurisdictional Transfer of N. Main Street
Alderson McIntyre motioned to approve; Alderson Smith seconded.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Alderson Comments Alderson McIntyre provided a shout-out regarding the WHIP-mas Tree Challenge which provides canned goods to the local pantry.

Executive Session At 7:00 p.m., *Alderson Moss motioned to enter executive session; Alderson Sluder seconded* for the purpose of: 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) – Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Council reconvened regular session at 8:14 p.m.
Alderson McIntyre congratulated the WCHS Football season and WCHS Swimming and Diving athletes for outstanding seasons.

Adjournment At 8:15p.m. *Alderson Sluder moved to adjourn; Alderson Ernst seconded.*
Motion carried by voice vote.

Valeri L. Brod, City Clerk