



City Council Meeting Minutes – *New Council Seated*  
Monday, May 5, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.  
Five Points Banquet Room - 360 N. Wilmor Road, Washington, Illinois

---

*County Clerk John Ackerman swore in the newly elected and re-elected officials prior to the start of this meeting.*

**Call to Order** Mayor Lilija Stevens called the regular meeting to order at 7:18 p.m., with a quorum present. She provided a welcome statement that is attached and made part of these minutes.

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

**Also Present** Finance Director Joanie Baxter, Planning and Development Director Jon Oliphant, City Engineer Carr, Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse, Deputy Police Chief Jeff Stevens, City Clerk Valeri Brod, Deputy City Clerk Lisa Anderson, City Treasurer Carol Crocker, and Press; *City Attorney Mark Walton was present and awaiting appointment.*

---

**Audience Comments** None provided.

**Deletions/Additions** None provided.

**Mayoral Communications** Mayor Stevens provided the following for annual appointments and reappointments:  
**Annual Appointments and Re-appointments**  
A. City Collector - Valeri Brod  
B. Interim Budget Officer - Joanie Baxter  
C. Cemetery Board of Managers - Don Twaddle  
D. Liquor Control Commission - Deputy Police Chief Jeff Stevens  
E. Police Pension Board - Doug Brod  
*Aldersperson McIntyre motioned to approve; Aldersperson Smith seconded.*  
7 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder and Smith  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Other Appointments** Mayor Stevens introduced the appointment of Paula Johnson as Ward 1 Aldersperson to fill a two-year vacancy.  
*Aldersperson Smith motioned to approve; Aldersperson Moss seconded.*  
7 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder and Smith  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Swearing in Paula Johnson** Tazewell County Clerk John Ackerman swore in newly appointed Ward 1 Aldersperson, Paula Johnson. She was seated.

**Approve Signatories** Mayor Stevens introduced the appointment of Alderspersons McIntyre and Moss as Signatories for the city. Finance Director Baxter explained that additional signatories are needed in the event that the City Treasurer is absent. This is needed to obtain approval from the bank.  
*Aldersperson Smith motioned to approve; Aldersperson Sluder seconded.*  
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder and Smith  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Announce Memorial Day Comm** Mayor Stevens read a memo regarding the formation of a planning committee for the Memorial Day events. She shared that further details will appear on Facebook and the city website. She also shared that Aldersperson Martin will coordinate the ceremony at Glendale Cemetery.

**Bid Award for 2025 MFT Contract** City Engineer Carr explained that this is for the 2025 MFT contract. It covers four different projects, each allowing for multiple bids. They intend to address Calvin and Brown, the roads between Muller and Wilmore, the roads north of Santa Fe and the roads north of the bypass that are west of Cummings. The low bidders were:

- Ace in the Hole for spray patching at \$66,648.
- RA Cullinan for seal coating at \$469,255.50
- RA Cullinan for fog coating at \$130,651.65
- American Asphalt for recycling at \$236,746.32

The costs were budgeted and came in around \$60,000 less than the engineers estimate.  
*Aldersperson McIntyre motioned to approve; Aldersperson Ernst seconded.*  
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder and Smith  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Resolutions** Mayor Stevens presented the following resolution for consideration: **Synopsis:** This resolution will approve an interim city administrator agreement between the City of Washington, a Municipal Corporation, Tazewell County, Illinois (the "City"), and Dennis Carr ("Carr"). **Title:** Approving an Employment Agreement with Dennis Carr as Interim City Administrator  
*R-1434 (10-25) Alderperson Martin motioned to approve; Alderperson Smith seconded.*  
**8 Ayes:** Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder and Smith  
**0 Nays:**  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

*R-1435 (11-25) City Engineer/Interim City Administrator Carr presented the following resolution for consideration: **Synopsis:** This resolution will approve an interim police chief contract ("Agreement") between the City of Washington, a Municipal Corporation, Tazewell County, Illinois (the "City"), and Jeff Stevens ("Stevens"). **Title:** Approving an Employment Agreement with Jeff Stevens as Interim Chief of Police*  
*Alderperson McIntyre motioned to approve; Alderperson Ernst seconded.*  
**8 Ayes:** Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder and Smith  
**0 Nays:**  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

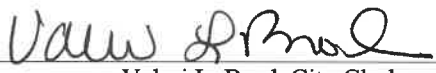
*R-1436 (12-25) City Engineer/Interim City Administrator Carr presented the following resolution for consideration: **Synopsis:** This resolution will approve a city attorney appointment and establish attorneys' fees. **Title:** Approving an Agreement with Miller, Hall & Triggs, LLC as City Attorneys*  
*Alderperson Smith motioned to approve; Alderperson Martin seconded.*  
**8 Ayes:** Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder and Smith  
**0 Nays:**  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Mark Walton with Miller, Hall and Triggs, LLC introduced himself and shared that he is excited to work with everyone.

*R-1437 (13-25) City Engineer/Interim City Administrator Carr presented the following resolution for consideration: **Synopsis:** This resolution would approve the use of Motor Fuel Tax Allotment funds to be used to perform Candlewood Bridge repairs, as required by IDOT. **Title:** Approving Resolution for Improvement - Candlewood Bridge*  
*City Engineer/Interim City Administrator Carr explained that this is needed in order to use MFT funds for the bridge repairs. This will approve \$356,188.25 for the repairs. Staff had previously budgeted \$500,000 which has been updated.*  
*Alderperson Smith motioned to approve; Alderperson Moss seconded.*  
**8 Ayes:** Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder and Smith  
**0 Nays:**  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Alderperson Comments** Alderperson McIntyre congratulated everyone on their new positions and thanked the community for attending. He felt it was an exciting meeting.

**Adjournment** At 7:36 p.m. *Alderperson Smith moved to adjourn; Alderperson Sluder seconded.*  
Motion carried by voice vote.

  
Valeri L. Brod, City Clerk

Call to Order

Good evening everyone.

It is my honor to call this meeting to order at \_\_\_pm on May 5, 2025.

I extend a warm welcome to all of you - whether you are joining us here in person or tuning in via livestream. Your presence reflects the shared commitment we have to our community's future, and I am grateful for your engagement.

Before we move forward, I want to take a moment to express gratitude to our outgoing officials. Your service and dedication have laid the foundation for so much of what we build upon today. We recognize and thank you for your commitment to our City.

To our re-elected and newly elected officials, I want to say how excited I am to work alongside you. I believe that by working together with a spirit of collaboration, we can meet Washington's present needs and chart a path forward that reflects the values and aspirations of the people we serve.

Together, let's build a culture of community-focused collaboration that strengthens our City and inspires trust in all who call it home.

Thank you. Let's get to work.

Roll Call Please.