



City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 3, 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, Planning and Development Director Jon Oliphant, Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse, Police Chief Jeff Stevens, City Clerk Valeri Brod, City Treasurer Carol Crocker, and City Attorney Mark Walton

Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Stevens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentations Mayor Stevens read a recognition commending the WCHS Varsity Boys Golf Team and their coaches for their remarkable season.

WCHS Boys Golf Recognition *Alderson McIntyre motioned to approve; Alderson Sluder seconded.*

8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith

0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote.

WWII Veteran's Proclamation Mayor Stevens read a proclamation proclaiming November 11, 2025 as "Max S. Tessier Day"

Alderson Smith motioned to approve; Alderson Ernst seconded.

8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith

0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Audience Comments None provided.

Deletions/Additions None provided.

Consent Agenda Mayor Stevens presented the Consent Agenda for approval of the following items:

- A. Approve October 20, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Approve Write-off of Uncollectible Accounts
- C. Acceptance of Police Pension Fund Municipal Compliance Report FY2025
- D. Approve Payment Authorization - Kevin Brown Memorial Tournament of Champions
- E. Approve TIF Pay Request #12 - Tangled Roots, 140 Washington Square
- F. Approve Drainage Priority Project 5 - Pay Request #4
- G. Approve Catherine Phase 2 - Pay Request #4
- H. Approve Drainage Priority Project 3 – Grandyle Sewer Pay Request #2 (Final)
- I. Approve Payment Authorization - Ambulance
- J. Approve 2025 MFT- United Contractors Midwest - Pay Request 1

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.

Mayoral Comm. Mayor Stevens shared information about a Council training session to be held November 6, 2025 at 5:30 p.m., at Countryside Banquet Center and the Let's Talk Washington event to be held at the Brickhouse Restaurant on November 24, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Council Training and Let's Talk Washington

October Let's Talk Washington Recap The event was held at the Fire Department. There has been a consistent number of people in attendance and topics at the events. Alderson Smith and Chief Stevens were in attendance.

Discussion Consideration Illinois America250 IML has a model resolution that our Council can use if we wish to be part of the commemoration of the 250 years of the United States. Municipalities are invited to participate.

City Administrator Communication Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr thanked everyone who participated in the first Halloween decorating contest. Chief Stevens clarified that the evidence building is under budget by about \$63,000. Regarding the Jefferson Building roof, Interim City Admin/City Engineer Carr estimated a cost of around \$75,000 noting that this was a preliminary figure provided to the insurance company and will be brought back for further discussion. P&D Director Oliphant stated that Planning and Zoning Commission meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month, as needed. He also clarified that the new proposed billboard is smaller and shorter than the previous proposal and would be located in the same spot.

Council Report

Purchase Authorization Square Lighting Replacement Public Works Director Rittenhouse noted previous maintenance issues on the lights near the square. LEDs were quoted to help eliminate the ballasts which tend to go out. The three areas would cost \$23,569 and would come with a 5-year warranty. Some of the taller lamps would have to be replaced by RnS. This would help make the Square more uniform.

Alderson McIntyre motioned to approve; Alderson Smith seconded.

Alderson McIntyre favors moving forward. Mr. Rittenhouse noted that placing lighting on a meter is one way to save money.

8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith

0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Finance Director Search Update

Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr shared that requests for applications went out. He provided a tentative schedule with interviews planned for mid-December. The new City Administrator should be solidified by December 4th and he will help find out if that person would like to be involved. Department heads would also be part of the determination group. A recruiter may be needed if a candidate can't be found before the city administrator is hired. Aldersons Moss and McIntyre would like to see the new administrator take part in the process. Aldersons Moss and Blundy have some reservation if the hiring process goes past mid-January, noting the need to move forward with this position. Alderson Blundy prefers waiting so the new city administrator can provide feedback. He appreciates a longer transition period and wondered about setting staff up to take over the Finance Director's tasks if there is a hiring gap. Alderson McIntyre expressed concern with needing the position filled prior to budget season. He would like to discussion bringing back committees in the future allowing for two Council members to help staff. Mayor Stevens clarified that the application date has been closed for the City Administrator position. Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr shared that the timeline specifies that interviews will begin on December 4. Aldersons Martin and Johnson would like the new City Administrator to have input regarding the Finance position if possible.

Ratification Vac-Con Emergency Repairs

Public Works Director Rittenhouse shared that Staff discovered that the Vac-Con was not operating properly and a technician found a broken grease line and fans, likely damaged by a limb, causing bearings to fail. The fans also showed excessive wear and need replacement. The repairs would cost \$47,691.23. If the repairs are not completed, the trade-in price would decrease, and the City would be without the Vac-con until the new one arrives. Completing repairs would maintain the existing purchase agreement with EJ and ensure the unit remains operational. EJ Equipment expects to receive the new Vac-Con by the end of November, with inspection and delivery to the City taking an additional 2-3 weeks.

Alderson Smith motioned to approve; Alderson McIntyre seconded.

Alderson Moss confirmed the timing. Public Works Director Rittenhouse was not sure if the fan was under warranty due to an external impact. He also shared that this machine is used daily and it can still be used to jet but not hydro-excavate. Alderson Blundy wondered if insurance would cover it. The new truck cost \$630,000. Because the older Vac-con would sit mostly unused, Public Works Director Rittenhouse doesn't feel fixing and keeping it as a spare would be cost effective unless the City was large enough to have two crews using the machines.

8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith

0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Resolutions
R-1449 (25-25) Joint Funding Agreement for the US 24 Resurfacing Project

Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration:

Synopsis: Approval of this resolution would approve funding of the City's portion of the signal work in a joint funding agreement with IDOT for the US24 resurfacing project. **Title:**

Approving the Joint Funding Agreement for the US 24 Resurfacing Project

The US24 Resurfacing Project will repave US24 from Cummings to Eureka. Since the City and IDOT share costs for the traffic signals at US24 and Cummings Lane, IDOT is requesting a joint funding agreement for the City's portion of the signal work. The project is scheduled for January 2026 letting, with construction to be completed in 2026.

Alderson Martin motioned to approve; Alderson Smith seconded.

Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr clarified that the City's portion is \$66,356 and this is the only shared intersection within our jurisdiction.

8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith

0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote.

R-1450 (26-25) Declaration of Surplus Property – Unclaimed Bicycles

Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration:

Synopsis: Approval of this resolution would declare twenty-two unclaimed bicycles that are in the possession of the Police Department to be surplus property. **Title:** Declaration of Surplus Property – Unclaimed Bicycles

Alderson McIntyre motioned to approve; Alderson Johnson seconded.

8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith

0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote.

First Reading Ord
Donation or Sale of Surplus Property – Unclaimed Bicycles

Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration:

Synopsis: Approval of this resolution 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

Chief Stevens clarified that the bicycles will be donated to Russell's who will prep them for donations and there is no need to expedite the approval.

Jurisdictional Transfer of N. Main Street

Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration:

Synopsis: 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

Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr clarified that these are the northern radius returns of Cruger and won't impact the future resurfacing of US24.

Second Reading Ord 3602 (37-25) City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration: **Synopsis:** Approval of this ordinance would approve an intergovernmental agreement for ADA paratransit services. **Title:** Intergovernmental Agreement with Citylift for ADA Paratransit Services
Intergovernmental Agreement with Citylift for ADA Paratransit Services
Alderson Smith motioned to approve; Alderson Johnson seconded.
Alderson Johnson shared that she has been in contact with Jewel Ward at the Township and they have approved their portion. She will be working with them in the future to give the best service to residents.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Second Reading Ord 3603 (38-25) City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following ordinance for consideration: **Synopsis:** Approval of this ordinance would amend Chapter 16, Article III of the Washington City Code regarding the solicitors, peddlers & similar vendors. **Title:** Solicitor Ordinance (Revised)
Solicitor Ordinance (Revised)
Alderson Moss motioned to approve; Alderson McIntyre seconded.
Attorney Walton provided a few clarifications and provided a redline version requiring payment at time of application and requiring vehicle information to include the state of issuance of the license plate. Alderson Moss appreciated staff, the attorney and council for their work on this.
Council voted on the proposed ordinance with additional items provided by the attorney.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Second Reading Ord 3604 (39-25) City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration: **Synopsis:** Approval of this ordinance would amend section 52-52 of the Washington City Code regarding prohibitions on parking of certain vehicle types on streets. **Title:** Parking on Street for RVs and Campers for 24 Hours
Parking on Street for RVs and Campers for 24 Hours
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.

Second Reading Ord 3605 (40-25) City Administrator/City Engineer Carr presented the following for consideration: **Synopsis:** Approval of this ordinance would authorize the Mayor and City Clerk of the City of Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois, to enter into an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Washington and County of Tazewell for animal and rabies control services. **Title:** Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal and Rabies Control between the City and Tazewell County
Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal and Rabies Control between the City and Tazewell County
Alderson Smith motioned to approve; Alderson Ernst seconded.
8 Ayes: Blundy, Ernst, Johnson, Martin, McIntyre, Moss, Sluder, Smith
0 Nays:
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Alderson Comments Alderson Smith shared that the WCHS football team is in the second round of playoffs at 2:00 p.m. at home and she hopes there will be a big crowd. Alderson Blundy shared that Five Points will have their annual public meeting on December 10, 2025 at 7:00 a.m. He will provide an email reminder and everyone is invited. Interim City Administrator/City Engineer Carr asked if multiple council members are wanting to attend, to let him or the Clerk know so that it can be properly notified. Alderson McIntyre asked for future discussion regarding bringing back committees. He feels they can help support staff and community.

Adjournment At 7:26 p.m. *Alderson Ernst moved to adjourn; Alderson Smith seconded.*
Motion carried by voice vote.


Valeri L. Brod, City Clerk