CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 6, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 pm, Council Chambers, City Hall by Mayor Fitzgerald

ROLL CALL: Present & answering to roll call were Commissioners Adleman, Hedrington, Morse, and Mayor Fitzgerald. Commissioner Prentice was absent.
City Attorney Roxanne Sosnowski was present
City Administrator Sonya Hoppes was present
City Clerk Tracy Patrick recorded the minutes
Department Heads in attendance:
Wastewater Superintendent Jeff Reininger
Police Chief Adam Truman
Street Superintendent Steve Haas
Community Development Director Shawna Henthorn

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Fitzgerald and recited by all members present.

INVOCATION: Finance Director, Don Elliott delivered the invocation.

APPROVE AGENDA:

Commissioner Adleman made a motion to amend the agenda to move Correspondence to after the approval of the Minutes second by Commissioner Morse. Voice vote carried the motion.
Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the agenda as amended.
Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Fitzgerald said he was invited to the Concerned Citizen's meeting, and explained his decision not to attend the Concerned Citizen's Meeting, citing past criticism and negative interactions. Mayor Fitzgerald said citizens have been protected with a 24-hour ambulance service with qualified personnel. Mayor Fitzgerald said the 6 station Fire Department would have been a good idea. Now the options the City has will be more costly. Mayor Fitzgerald said the City is looking into all options. Employees are needed right now.

Commissioner Morse provided an update with for the Illinois Chief's Association regarding the Fire Chief application process. Commissioner Morse said the goal is to have the City's own Chief and own department, however it's hard to find applicants, and the City is starting from scratch. Commissioner Morse said he previously attended the Concerned Citizen's meeting and when he tried to speak was told to shut up.

Don Dittmer commented on the cost of the Chief's Association asking who pays for the Chief's search, and stated the Concerned Citizen's group have a Chief and 7 employees who are willing to come and work at the Fire Department. Mr. Dittmer spoke about the Fire Department's mutual aid and said mutual aid is being provided but he believes the City is not providing mutual aid to other departments.

Sharon McGinney spoke about an issue she experienced with Rock River Disposal with her garbage not being picked up.

Ralph Skalak responded to Commissioner Morse's statement regarding being told to shut up, and commented further on the Concerned Citizens meeting.

Patty LaDue said she is tired of the back and forth with the Fire Department and wants to see the issue move forward.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on September 2, 2025 and the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on September 15, 2025. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

1. Finance:
   Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the claims paid from September 13 – October 3, 2025 in the amount of $1,044,371.09. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Prentice.
2. Attorney Report:
3. Reports:
   City Administrator Report and Staff Report
   Accounts and Finance-Commissioner Ryan Adleman
   Health & Public Safety-Commissioner Ken Morse
   Streets & Public Improvement-Commissioner Brian Hedrington
   Public Properties-Commissioner Courtney Prentice
   Mayor-Tom Fitzgerald

CORRESPONDENCE:

Don Shaw with Lauterbach & Amen was present and gave a presentation of the 2024 Audit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. a. Commissioner Adleman made an a motion to layover Ordinance 2848 Amending Chapter 18, Businesses, by adding Article XII, Residential Rental Property Regulation. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:
   a. Attorney Sosnowski explained there were no bids received for the bid opening for Miller Street for Lot #20 with PIN 04-06-179-019 and Lot #21 with PIN 04-06-179-020. Attorney Sosnowski said staff will discuss options regarding the sale of the property.
   b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve a request for the Homecoming Parade for South Beloit High School on October 10, 2025 at 1:00 pm. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
   c. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve a request for a church picnic from Fellowship Church from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm on October 18, 2025. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
   d. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the Budget Timetable. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

e. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2868 Amending Section 10, Base District Intent, Regulations & Uses of Chapter 118, Zoning regarding allowance of Mixed Use Development in the Various Zoning Districts. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Community Development Director, Shawna Henthorn explained the amendment adds the Mixed Use back in to the revised Zoning Code that was left out when the new Zoning Code was written. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Prentice.

f. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2869 Imposing Lift Assist Fees for the City of South Beloit. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski explained state legislation allows municipalities to charge nursing homes and assisted living facilities after a certain number of lift assists that will be effective January 1, 2026. The fees do not apply to residential calls for lift assistance. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Prentice.

g. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6640 approving and accepting the Annual Audit for Fiscal Year 2024. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Prentice.

h. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve placing on file the Actuarial Reports for the Police and Fire Pensions from Lauterbach & Amen. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Prentice.

i. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6641 Approving an Agreement with Winnebago County Health Department for Tobacco Enforcement Program Services. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Prentice.

j. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6642 Approving a Commercial Security Systems and Services Agreement with Alarm Detection Systems, Inc. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Prentice.

k. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6643 Approving an Amendment to a Franchise and Garbage Collection Contract with Rock River Disposal Services, Inc. for Residential Garbage Collection. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski said the renewal is for an additional 10-year term. Attorney Sosnowski said the new rates will be an increase to $18.25 beginning January 1, 2026, and 5% increase each year after. Yard waste still be offered directly through Rock River Disposal and will increase to $85.00 for each season beginning April 1 – November 30. Attorney Sosnowski said comparison of rates were reviewed, and most other municipalities start at $20.00,$23.00 or $26.00 monthly. Council discussed the increase and the hardship the increase will cost residents. Staff will look into any ways the city could possibly offer any savings. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Prentice.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:59 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Adleman the council approved going into Executive Session. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion. The purpose for Executive Session is to:

1. Discuss personnel issues as provided by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.
2. Review closed session minutes including semi-annual review of closed session minutes pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(21) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:

At 6:08 pm

ROLL CALL:

Roll call showed all members previously at the meeting and the reconvening of the meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURN:

At 6:09 pm on a motion by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Morse. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor | City Clerk

Approved: