CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
September 2, 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, Prentice, and Mayor Fitzgerald
City Attorney Laura Goding 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 Morse made a motion to approve the agenda second by Commissioner Prentice. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Josh Loyd commented on the Fire Department contract and voiced concerns regarding things he's heard about the Fire Department relating to equipment and the building. Mr. Loyd said the situation must be managed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on August 18, 2025. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

1. Finance:
   Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the claims paid from August 16 - 29, 2025 in the amount of $1,051,077.87. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
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

Commissioner Adleman made a motion to amend the agenda for New Business to move item f. under to before a., and to move Correspondence to after item e. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:
   f. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the request for a Corridor Planning and Feasibility Studies in an amount not to exceed $30,000. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Executive Director of Beloit200, Kerry Frank was present to speak regarding plans for a corridor project including the Garden Hotel site. Ms. Frank spoke about Beloit200 working with City staff as well as collaborating with the City of Beloit. Beloit200 hired Smith & Group for the Master Plan Study at a cost of $50,000.00. The Hunden Group was contracted by Beloit200 for a possible sports complex that would generate tourism at a cost of $47,150. Ms. Frank said studies need to be completed to see what projects would be viable. Ms. Frank said Beloit200 would like to amend the request to $10,000 towards the Corridor Planning and Feasibility Studies and asked that the City approve the development of a 10-year strategic plan to create a public and private partnership. Ms. Frank said there would not be any public comments yet, but there would be in the future. Mayor Fitzgerald said he was in favor of anyone looking to develop the property. Commissioner Morse made a motion to amend the request for a Corridor Planning and Feasibility Studies to $10,000.00 and commit to a Strategic Plan for the City of South Beloit in 2026. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve the request for a Corridor Planning and Feasibility Studies in an amount not to exceed $10,000. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 abstain by Commissioner Prentice.
   a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2863 Amending Section 106-160 Wastewater Service Charges, of Division 4 Service Charges, of Article III Sewers and Sewers and Sewage Disposal, of Chapter 106 Utilities of the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances regarding Rates of Service. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Attorney Goding said the ordinance will be retro approved to September 1, 2025. Fehr Graham confirmed the rates are accurate. Council discussed unmetered rates, and looking into a shared cost program that residents could participate with the city. Wastewater Superintendent, Jeff Reininger said he looked into programs a few years ago, which were costly. Costs for the meters have likely gone up since then. Council discussed the need for the increase, as well as the 7-year cycle. City Engineer, Brandon Boggs said funding nominations for improvements for the lift station project are due by March 31, 2026 or there will be a need for supplemental funding. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 nay by Commissioner Hedrington.
   b. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2864 Amending Various Provisions of Article II Excavations and Section 302 Regulation of Small Wireless Facilities, of Article VII Small Wireless Facilities, of Chapter 86 Streets Sidewalks and Other Public Places, and Amending Section 192 Excavations, of Division 5 Building Sewers and Connections, of Article III Sewers and Sewage Disposal, of Chapter 106 Utilities in the City of South Beloit Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. City Engineer, Brandon Boggs said there is a large fiber optic installation push in the region likely from federal and state grants pushing broadband access. The current code does not have standards. Staff recommended standards for the city's right-of-way. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
   c. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2865 Approving a Real Estate Contract for the purchase and sale regarding the property located at 910 Ingersoll Place, South Beloit, Illinois. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

d. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6634 Authorizing the ORC Grant Agreement for the LPR Camera's in the amount of $16,000.00. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

e. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6635 Authorizing Grant Agreement for the Law Enforcement Camera Grant in the amount of $15,162.00. Commissioner Morse second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

Attorney Goding realized items d. and e. were approved in opposite order and asked for a motion to approve an amendment stating such. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to amend the agenda to move item e. before item d. under New Business. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE:

City Engineer, Brandon Boggs spoke about the Stormwater System, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4 permit program). Mr. Boggs provided an overview of the City's MS4 permit. The MS4 Program is administered through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Clean Water Act. The program is designed to collect or convey storm water separate from the sewer system. The program does not include sanitary sewer. Mr. Boggs provided an overview of the City's MS4 Program. The City's current MS4 permit is effective August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2030. Mr. Boggs reviewed the minimum requirements for the MS4 program. Mr. Boggs said updates are being made to the City's website for the new MS4 Permits. Measurable goals were reviewed. Mr. Boggs reviewed the requirements for City staff as part of the MS4 program. Mr. Boggs reviewed Best Management Practices (BMP's).

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:58 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Morse the council approved going into Executive Session. Commissioner Prentice 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. Discuss Pending 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 as provided by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:

At 6:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURN:

At 6:30 pm on a motion by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Prentice. Voice vote carried the motion.

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Mayor City Clerk

Approved: