

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
July 7, 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, Prentice, and Mayor Fitzgerald. Commissioner Morse 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  
Deputy Fire Chief Brian Snyder  
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, Donald Elliott delivered the invocation.

APPROVE AGENDA: Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the agenda second by Commissioner Prentice. Voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Josh Loyd asked when he would get an update on the Fire Department, and said there were rumors that the Town of Beloit would be experiencing staffing issues. Mr. Loyd mentioned an inventory list of items that he requested under the Freedom of Information Act, and named items that were not on the list. Mr. Loyd questioned why the items were not on the list.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on June 16, 2025. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

1. Finance:  
Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the claims paid from June 14 – July 3, 2025 in the amount of \$494,954.65. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2836 Amending Chapter 62, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article III, Offenses against the Public Peace and Safety, Prohibiting the Possession, Transfer, or Sale of Unregulated Food and Beverage Products Infused with Cannabis or Containing any Amount of Tetrahydrocannabinol Acetate Ester (THCO). Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski reviewed the ordinance that would prohibit the sale of Delta 8 and Delta 9 products in any location other than cannabis stores that have been state approved. An ordinance violation for possession or offering for sale of the products would go through the City's Code Hearing process imposing a fine or the revocation or suspension of the business license. Mayor Fitzgerald expressed concern over the products being unregulated by the state. Attorney Sosnowski said the City has received concerns from residents with the products being sold near schools. Commissioner Adleman voiced concern with there being no age limits to buy the products similar cigarette product regulations. Commissioner Hedrington asked if the products are illegal. Attorney Sosnowski said they were not illegal. Administrator Hoppes said she spoke with Commissioner Morse, who said he is strongly opposed to the product without regulations. Commissioner Prentice asked if the goal is to place regulations on the product before it becomes an issue. Mayor Fitzgerald said there are other municipalities where the products have been prohibited. Mayor Fitzgerald said the products have too many unknowns. Roll call vote showed 2 ayes, 1 abstain by Commissioner Hedrington, 1 nay by Commissioner Prentice, and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse. The item failed.
- b. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2848 Amending Chapter 18, Businesses, by adding Article XII, Residential Rental Property Regulation. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Council discussed two amendments made to the ordinance as requested. Crime Free Housing was removed, and the age requirement was changed from 21 to 18. Neely Erickson was present on behalf of the Realtors Association. Ms. Erickson asked if there could be a reference added for the appeals process and expressed concerns regarding the requirement for all property owners to register. Ms. Erickson said the ordinance is still overly broad, targets all rental properties without focusing on nuisance properties, and will make the process burdensome for property owners of rental owners. Council briefly discussed an ordinance from Woodstock provided by Attorney Sosnowski. Commissioner Prentice said he believes the ordinance is overreaching. Commissioner Adleman would like to look at the Woodstock ordinance to consider revisions closer to Woodstock's ordinance. Commissioner Hedrington made a motion to layover Ordinance 2848 so that Commissioner Morse could weigh in. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
- c. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve Ordinance 2852 Amending Chapter 10 – Animals, Article II – Dogs and Cats. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Mayor Fitzgerald said the ordinance is simply omitting the requirement to have cats on leashes, which will allow for trapping and neutering from other animal organizations. Resident, Sarah McLain said she is the owner of Beloit TNR, and has been trapping and neutering cats under her 501(c)(3) non-profit business. Ms. McLain spoke about the efforts that have been made by her business, adding she would like to have a working relationship with the City. Council discussed the issue with feral cats reproducing. Commissioner Hedrington said part of the issue is residents that continue to feed feral cats. Commissioner Hedrington said he had a dog, and he did not let his dog run freely defecating in neighbors yards; however, neighbors in his neighborhood feed the feral cats and there is nothing done with the issue. Mayor Fitzgerald said if the leash law is removed the organization, Cares for Pets would be able to come in to work with the City regarding the feral cat issue.

Commissioner Adleman made a motion to lay the item over to the next meeting so that Commissioner Morse could weigh in on the conversation. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

##### 1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve a request for a Car Show event from the Knights of Columbus at Didier Hall from 8 am – 1 pm on September 6, 2025. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
- b. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve a request for a Car Show events from Gearheads Global at Dari Ripple on Friday's from 6 pm – 10 pm from April through October. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
- c. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve a 5k Run & Walk event from Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful on September 20, 2025 at the South Beloit City Park. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
- d. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve a request for Aquatic Education Lessons for Illinois Educators event to be held at the City Park on July 21, 2025. From 9 am – 3 pm. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.
- e. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2853 Correcting an Ordinance Number Scrivener's Error. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- f. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve Ordinance 2855 Amending Section 37 Part-time Police Officers, of Article II, Police Department, of Chapter 50, Law Enforcement, of the Code of Ordinances for the City of South Beloit to Amend the Requirement of U.S. Citizen. Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- g. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2856 Amending Appendix A – 2022 City of South Beloit Ordinance Fines. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- h. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6627 Approving a Hotel/Motel Grant Application for the South Beloit Historical Society in the amount of \$8,500.00. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- i. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6628 Re-appointing members to the Library Board as follows:
  - Margie Bertholomey is hereby appointed to a (3) three-year term set to expire on July 1, 2028.
  - Stephanie Kohl is hereby appointed to a (3) three-year term set to expire on July 1, 2028.
  - Paula Richeson is hereby appointed to a (3) three-year term set to expire on July 1, 2028.Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- j. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6629 Appointing member to the Parks and Recreation Board as follows:
  - Maggie Packett is hereby appointed as a member for the Parks and Recreation Board to fill the unexpired (3) three year term of Brandi Miller with said term to expire in December 2027.Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.
- k. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Resolution 6630 Appointing members to the South Beloit Hotel/Motel Tax Fund Review Committee as follows:

- Tracy Patrick is hereby appointed as a member for the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund Review Committee for a term of (2) two years with said term to expire in July 2027.
- Melody Cruz is hereby appointed as a member for the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund Review Committee for a term of (2) two years with said term to expire in July 2027.

Commissioner Hedrington second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 absent by Commissioner Morse.

ADJOURN:

At 6:06 pm on a motion by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Hedrington. Voice vote carried the motion.

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Mayor

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City Clerk

Approved: