

CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 21, 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 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: Molly Ring voiced concern regarding staffing at the Fire Department and asked if the City could break the contract. Ms. Ring asked if there was a change regarding campers in driveways.
Catlyn Guetschow asked about the Fire Department's fire call to Clark School.
Patti LaDue voiced concerns about traffic on South Bluff Road regarding speeding and noise.
Norm Larson asked if the City has a Code Enforcement Officer and voiced concern regarding electric bikes and scooters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on June 20, 2025, and the minutes from the Special Council Meeting held on July 7, 2025. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Voice vote carried the motion.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

1. Finance:
Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve the claims paid from July 4 – 18, 2025 in the amount of \$300,635.71. Commissioner Prentice 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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2848 Amending Chapter 18, Businesses, by adding Article XII, Residential Rental Property Regulation. Commissioner Adleman second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski explained the amendments made to the ordinance regarding local agent age from 21 to 18, and the Administrative Adjudication that will go through the City's Administrative Hearing process. Attorney Sosnowski spoke about the comparison to the Woodstock Ordinance that was suggested by the Illinois Realtors Association and said the ordinance prepared for passage is more for collecting minimal information to know if the property is a rental or not. Staffing levels do not provide time to track each problem parcel such as the robust Woodstock ordinance does. The registration has no fee for the license unless a license is not submitted by the due date. Community Development Director, Shawna Henthorn said the initial desire for the ordinance was communication based to help with code issues or emergencies to have information for a direct contact person. Ms. Henthorn also spoke about issues with inaccurate information when sending out notices to property owners when the City does not have the proper mailing address or when owners often live out of state. Council discussed issues staff has with insufficient information, and their inability to contact property owners. City Administrator, Sonya Hoppes spoke about the issues regarding inaccurate sewer billing due to the City being unaware of properties that have been converted to multi-family units and are therefore not being appropriately charged for sewer and garbage services. Roll call vote showed 2 ayes and 3 nays by Commissioners Adleman, Hedrington, and Prentice. The item failed.
- b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2852 Amending Chapter 10 – Animals, Article II – Dogs and Cats. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski advised Council if the ordinance passes there would be no further violations for cats running at large. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 nay by Commissioner Hedrington.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and/or Motion Items:

- a. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve a request for a Community Corn Roast from the South Beloit Lions Club on August 23, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Dari Ripple. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- b. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve a request for a Block Party from the Church of Christ on August 16, 2025 from Noon – 4 p.m. at 241 Hackett Street. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- c. Commissioner Prentice made a motion to reconsider 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 Hedrington second the motion. Roll call vote showed 4 ayes and 1 nay by Commissioner Hedrington.
- d. Commissioner Morse 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 Adleman second the

motion. Commissioner Prentice said he previously voted no due to no Police Department issues. Chief Truman said the items are not regulated. Administrator Hoppes said the City was previously contacted by a local dispensary who felt that the item should be prohibited due to the regulations they are required to follow for the sale of cannabis, and voiced concern over THCO products being sold too close to schools. Roll call vote showed 3 ayes and 2 nays by Commissioners Hedrington and Prentice.

- e. Commissioner Adleman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2857 Amending Chapter 66, Parks and Recreation, Article I, In General. Attorney Sosnowski reviewed the changes that were made and said there have been issues with people wading and swimming in Lake Victoria which is prohibited. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- f. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve Ordinance 2858 Amending Chapter 66, Parks and Recreation, Article IV, Regulating the Operation of Boats. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Attorney Sosnowski reviewed the changes to the code that changes the term from boat to watercraft, and clarifies the meaning of a watercraft. The amendment also clarifies the prohibition against swimming. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.
- g. Commissioner Morse made a motion to approve hiring Ezekiel Kaiser as Full Time Police Officer at a rate of \$27.47 hourly. Commissioner Prentice second the motion. Roll call vote showed 5 ayes.

ADJOURN:

At 6:02 pm on a motion by Commissioner Adleman second by Commissioner Prentice. Voice vote carried the motion.

Mayor

City Clerk

Approved: