

City of Belleville
City Council Meeting
Monday, March 23, 2026
City Council Meeting Room

The meeting of the City of Belleville Council was held on Monday, March 23rd, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Belleville Council Meeting Room.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor James Doyle called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Rick Snodgrass offered the opening prayer. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ATTENDENCE:

Council members present: Andrew Bates, Dianne Kramer, Doane Sells, Will Boman, Mike Palmquist and Diane Boman.

City Staff present: City Manager Adam Anderson, City Clerk Russ Piroutek and City Attorney Julie Effenbeck.

Others present: Fred Arnold, Rick Snodgrass, Chris Springer, Hans Hansen and Caleb Mahin.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND DISBURSEMENTS:

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9th, 2026, Council Meeting. Will Boman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Will Boman made a motion to approve the bills and their disbursements. Diane Boman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Caleb Mahin gave an update on the City's insurance renewal. The Power Plant saw a reduction of approximately \$55,000 after submitting actual costs of replacing the engines. Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve the renewal with EMC Insurance, for \$186,733, effective April 1, 2026. Dianne Kramer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. Caleb also presented the dividend check for \$22,763.77.

The Governing Body discussed the Gas Utility Fund. City Manager Anderson provided information regarding the increasing costs, cold weather events, lower overall usage, and cash balance of the fund. The Council spent a majority of the discussion talking about the cold weather events, and what can be done to mediate them. An Ordinance was included in the packet, increasing the rates. After more discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to increase the minimum charge for both Residential and Commercial customers by \$5.00 each

month. Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1089, setting the gas rates for the City of Belleville, with the changes to the base rate of \$15.00 for Residential customers and \$26.00 for Commercial customers. Diane Boman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Will Boman made a motion to approve an application for the use of the downtown lot for the Alumni Weekend Music Event, May 22, 2026. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously, on a voice vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Will Boman made a motion to go into executive session for personnel matters of non-elected personnel, for appointed position evaluations, to include the Mayor and City Manager, and return to the Council room at 7:55 p.m. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The Governing Body left for executive session at 7:37 p.m. The Council returned at 7:55 p.m. No action was taken.

Mayor Doyle made the following recommendations for appointed positions:

- Police Chief Chris Springer
- City Clerk Russ Piroutek
- City Attorney Julie Effenbeck
- Municipal Judge Guy Stier

Will Boman made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Mayor for the appointed positions. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

CITY ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS:

There were a number of trials at court this evening. Also discussed was how diversions are receipting into the City.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

City Manager Anderson gave an update on City Recreation activities.

COUNCIL MEMBER/MAYOR COMMENTS:

Will Boman asked about some improvements at the Rocky Pond playground area.

Done Sells commented on the Recreation Board and diversions.

Andrew Bates mentioned he had some interested parties who could do some work at Rocky Pond.

The Council was all appreciative of the employees who were just appointed to their positions.

Mayor Doyle mentioned that Chris Zach, Economic Development Director, had started his position and was at training this week. He also reminded everyone that City wide cleanup starts April 13, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, Will Boman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Diane Boman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Russell Piroutek
City Clerk