

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF HOOPESTON

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

7:00 PM – CITY HALL

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Carter called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm following the pledge of allegiance.
- II. ROLL CALL – The following alderpersons were present: K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, Lawson, and McElhaney. Alderpersons Eyrich, Porth, and Scharlach were absent. Mayor Carter and Clerk Hardcastle were also present. Eric Eves was present on Zoom.
- III. AMENDMENT OR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – Alderman Garrett moved to approve the agenda as presented. Alderman McElhaney seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken, all voted yes.
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING – Alderman M. Ferrell moved to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2026, city council meeting. Alderwoman Lawson seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken, all voted yes.
- V. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS – Alderman McElhaney moved to approve the payment of the city's bills. Alderman Garrett seconded the motion. Alderwoman Lawson asked that the checks for the internet services be held until she can investigate why we were being charged for the same service from 2 different companies. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, Lawson, McElhaney – Nays: None – Abstentions: None – Absent: Eyrich, Porth, Scharlach) and the bills were approved 5-0.
- VI. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNCIL – None
- VII. PETITIONS TO THE COUNCIL – None
- VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT – None
- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None
- X. REPORT OF OFFICERS
  - a. EYRICH
    - i. Absent.
  - b. K. FERRELL

i. ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT – May 9, 2026, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at McFerren Park.

c. M. FERRELL

i. PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING – The Parks Committee will be meeting again in the next few weeks.

d. GARRETT

i. Nothing to report.

e. LAWSON

i. Nothing to report.

f. MCELHANEY

i. STREET AND ALLEY TRUCK UPDATE – Delivery is supposed to be done in May of 2026. There was a misunderstanding regarding the delivery date and Rahn Equipment has bumped us to the top of the list.

g. PORTH

i. Absent.

h. SCHARLACH

i. Absent.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

a. STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS – Clerk Hardcastle announced that the list has been sent to the county so be expecting the forms to come in the mail soon.

b. COMMUNITY AWARDS/MISS HOOPESTON CROWNING – The Hoopeston Jaycees will be hosting the annual community awards banquet and Miss Hoopeston crowning on February 14, 2026, at the Lorraine Theater. Nominations of the Legacy of Hoopeston award are open on their website through January 31, 2026.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

XIII. NEW BUSINESS – None

XIV. MAYOR COMMENTS

- a. RESOLUTION 2026-23 – APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR FIREWORKS – Alderman Garrett moved to approve the agreement. Alderwoman K. Ferrell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, Lawson, McElhaney – Nays: None – Abstentions: None – Absent: Eyrich, Porth, Scharlach) and the resolution was approved 5-0.
- b. 217 E MAIN ST CONTRACT – Mayor Carter asked if any alderpersons had questions on the contract for the property. Alderman Garrett asked what would happen if the buyer defaulted on part of the contract? Eric Eves answered that it would be a breach of the contract and the city could then sue.

XV. COMMENTS FROM THE ATTORNEY

- a. DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS – Eric Eves advised that he has contacted by only 1 person from the letters that were sent out. 620 S. Second St. Alderwoman K. Ferrell stated that she has spoken with the daughter of the deceased owner who could not afford to do anything to do anything with it. Eric advised that daughter would like to work something out with the city. No other communication from the rest of the notices. Eric asked for the ok for the remaining buildings to proceed to the court steps. Council agreed.
- b. ACTON SUIT – Eric asked if anyone had information about a meeting between Justin Acton and Finance Committee on Dec 1, 2021, and if so to contact him. The next hearing on the case will be held tomorrow.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further action to come before the council Alderman Garrett moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman McElhaney seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and all voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bradley Hardcastle  
City Clerk