

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF HOOPESTON

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 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 8 alderpersons were present: Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, Lawson, McElhaney, Porth, and Scharlach. Mayo Carter and Clerk Hardcastle were also present. Eric Eves was present on Zoom.
- III. AMENDMENT OR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – Alderwoman K. Ferrell made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Alderman M. Ferrell seconded the motion. A voice vote was held and all voted yes. Motion carried.
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING – Alderman Scharlach moved to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2026, city council meeting. Alderman M. Ferrell seconded the motion. A voice vote was held and all voted yes. Motion carried.
- V. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS – Alderman McElhaney made a motion to pay the city’s bills. Alderwoman Lawson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, Lawson, McElhaney, Porth, Scharlach – Nays: None – Abstentions: None – Absent: None) and the bills were approved 8-0.
- 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. WATER DEPT JET TRUCK – Alderman Eyrich reported that the jet truck is currently back at the manufacturer for repairs. It was discovered that one of the tanks had a leak along the seam. This repair is covered under warranty. Also, one of the extension hoses is malfunctioning and is in need of repair,

which will also be fixed.

b. K. FERRELL

- i. Nothing to report.

c. M. FERRELL

- i. ORDINANCE 2027-1 – BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM – Alderman M. Ferrell made a motion to approve the ordinance. Alderwoman K. Ferrell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, Lawson, McElhaney, Porth, Scharlach – Nays: None – Abstentions: None – Absent: None) and the ordinance was approved 8-0.
- ii. ORDINANCE 2027-2 – SOLAR ORDINANCE CHANGES – Alderman M. Ferrell made a motion to approve this ordinance. Alderwoman K. Ferrell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, Lawson, McElhaney, Porth, Scharlach – Nays: None – Abstentions: None – Absent: None) and the ordinance was approved 8-0.

d. GARRETT

- i. CEMETERY WATER LEAK – Alderman Garrett reported that there was a water leak at the cemetery and that water had to be shut off. Repairs are ongoing.

e. LAWSON –

- i. SCOOTER COMPLAINTS – Alderwoman Lawson reported that she has fielded several complaints about people riding scooters recklessly.

f. MCELHANEY

- i. CITY SLAB HOURS – Alderman McElhaney reported that city slab hours will start being enforced due to ongoing illegal dumping of materials. He will be working with Don Stebbins on the exact hours.

g. PORTH

- i. YEAR END PRINT OUTS – Alderman Porth reported that the year end budget sheets had been distributed to the alderpersons. He asked everyone to look them over and let him or Trish know if there were any issues.

h. SCHARLACH

- i. FIRE MARSHAL GRANT – Alderman Scharlach announced that the fire department was awarded a \$10,000 grant through the Illinois State Fire Marshal’s office for new boots.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL – None

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. SOLAR PANELS IN GREATER HOOPESTON – Alderman Garrett asked about the ground based solar panels that were installed on a property in greater Hoopeston. Mayor Carter answered that Compliance Officer Bane had the installation stopped and that he and Mayor Carter are working with the installers in the correct way they need to be installed. Garrett requested that the installers take down what they have already put up. Mayor Carter replied that they violated 3 parts of our ordinance governing solar panels and they are working on a solution.

XIV. MAYOR COMMENTS

- a. GRANT WRITER – Mayor Carter announced that the city has parted ways with the Van Hyfte Grant Lab.
- b. LOTS – Mayor Carter advised that he would like to split the 85’ right of ways along Euclid Ave. into 42.5’ lots so that each neighbor could get the adjoining lot. Alderman M. Ferrell asked if the building that is on one of the right of ways would be within the 42.5’. The neighbor who is interested advised that it is right on the line. Alderman Scharlach asked if we would have to pay to have it surveyed? Mayor Carter answered no, that is up to the purchasers. The consensus of the council was to offer each one of the lots/right of ways for purchase at \$850. The council further discussed the downtown lots and what an appropriate business plan would entail. Mayor Carter advised that he would get something typed up and send it out to the council. The council further agreed that for the railroad right of ways, the purchase fee would be whatever the recording fee would be.

XV. COMMENTS FROM THE ATTORNEY

- a. ESSEX BUILDING – Eric Eves advised that there is a hearing scheduled for June 29 on the motion to compel discovery. Alderwoman K. Ferrell asked about the back taxes being sold and how that affects the lawsuit? Eric answered that the judge would settle that at the end of the case. Mayor Carter asked what happens after the

June 29 hearing? Eric advised that it depends on what comes out during discovery.

- b. SOLAR ORDINANCE – Eric advised that the city needs to determine who at the city will be responsible for certain things in the solar ordinance.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further action to come before the council Alderman McElhaney moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman M. Ferrell seconded the motion. Motion was carried 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bradley Hardcastle
City Clerk