REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF HOOPESTON

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2026

7:00 PM-CITY HALL

1. CALL TO ORDER-Mayor Carter called meeting to order at 7:00 pm following the pledge of allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL-The following 6 alderpersons were present: Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, McElhaney, Porth, Mayor Carter and Trish Stebbins. Absent were: Lawson, Scharlach, and Clerk Hardcastle. City Attorney Eric Eves was present via Zoom.

III. AMENDMENT OR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – Alderman Garrett moved to approve the agenda as presented. Alderman M. Ferrell seconded the motion. A voice vote was held, all six alderpersons voted yes.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING – Alderman Garrett moved to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2026, City Council meeting. Alderman M. Ferrell seconded the motion. A voice vote was held, all six alderpersons voted yes.

V. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS – Alderman Garrett moved to approve the payment of the city's bills. Alderman McElhaney seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, McElhaney, Porth-Nays: None-Absent: Lawson and Scharlach) and all bills were approved 6-2. Alderman Garrett had a question about one of the bills that we paid to Landfill for dump fees. Trish explained that Allen Decker was hired by the owner of the home to demolish and he used the city's dump rate which he paid the city and then we in return paid the landfill bill.

VI. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNCIL – None

VII. PETITIONS TO THE COUNCIL – None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. A resident needed advice on how to handle tree limbs that are growing up in wires. She said that he has reached out to the internet service and they won't cut them down. She was advised to write a formal letter every so often and send it to the company that way she has it in writing and that when something does happen its noted.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Alderwoman K. Ferrell moved to enter into executive session for the Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)-Discussion regarding the purchase or lease of real property for use of the City. Alderman Eyrich seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: Eyrich, K.Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, McElhaney, Porth-Nays: none-Absent: Lawson and Scharlach) and the council went into executive session at 7:12 pm.

b. Alderman Garrett moved to exit the executive session. Alderman McElhaney seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garett, McElhaney, Porth-Nays:0, Absent: Lawson and Scharlach) and the council exited executive session at 7:28 pm.

X. X. REPORT OF OFFICERS

a. EYRICH

i. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGET 2027-9- Alderman Eyrich updated the council that the water department needs more meters to replace old ones that still needed changing throughout the city. Alderman Eyrich moved to approve this ordinance, Alderman Garrett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, McElhaney, Porth- Nays: None- Absent: Lawson and Scharlach) the ordinance was approved 6-0

ii. RESOLUTION 2027-14 –RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 300 WATER METERS – Alderman Eyrich moved to approve this resolution. Alderman McElhaney seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes: Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, McElhaney, Porth, –Nays: None – Absent: Lawson and Scharlach) and the resolution was approved 6-0.

b. K. FERRELL

i. RECYCLING EVENTS – Alderwoman K. Ferrell advised that the tire collection will be held on October 10, 2026, from 9am-12pm at the park shop. No semi tires. Residence can bring up to 4 tires per truck.

c. M. FERRELL

i. Nothing to report.

d. GARRETT

i. Nothing to report.

e. LAWSON

i. absent

f. MCELHANEY

i. ALLEY CLEAN UP-announced alley cleanup will start on the week of October 19, 2026, and the week of October 26, 2026. It will start on the SW side of town, go to SE, then NE, then NW.

g. PORTH

i. ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A LINE OF CREDIT CONTRACT WITH SERVBANK 2027-10-Alderman Porth moved to approve the ordinance. Alderwoman K. Ferrell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken (Ayes; Eyrich, K. Ferrell, M. Ferrell, Garrett, McElhaney, Porth-Nays: None- Absent: Lawon and Scharlach) the ordinance was approved 6-0

ii. Porth passed out financials on incomes/budgets to each department Alderpersons so that everyone is aware of the expenses are paid out city wide to compare with last year's so they can see the difference between the 2 years. He will try and do a chart every 4 months. He focused on wages, fuel, utilities, social security, and the upkeep on vehicles.

h. SCHARLACH

i. absent

XI. COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL-None

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

i. Alderwoman K. Ferrell wanted clarification about the house on East Thompson that caught fire. She asked Alderman Garrett where the money was coming from for the demo of the property. Alderman Garrett explained that the city would not be taking it down just that we need to send a letter to homeowner to get more clarification on what will be done with the house such as repairs or being taken down. Alderwoman K. Ferrell felt as if her budget money was being spent without her approving the cost. Alderman Garrett said we need to be more proactive when a house or building catches on fire, so the city isn't stuck with taking it down. Alderwoman K. Ferrell said that she only has so much in her budget and that she just wants more communication before deciding on items that are taken out of her budget.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS-None

XIV. MAYOR COMMENTS-None

XV. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

a. 643 WYMAN – The party is out of state. Hope to have an answer by next week or next meeting.

b. ESSEX BUILDING – court is set for October 29, 2026

c. 627 E YOUNG-it is filed with the court

XVI. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further action to come before the council Alderman Garrett moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderwoman K. Ferrell seconded the motion. Motion was carried 6-2. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trish Stebbins