

June 16, 2025

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 16, 2025. The Clerk called the roll and reported that the following members were:

PRESENT: David Ayres  
Bill Dettmers  
Jeremy Plank  
Scott Tweedy  
Tom Stalcup

and that a quorum was present and in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 2, 2025, as printed, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve the bills submitted for payment for the period May 29, 2025, to June 11, 2025, as printed, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve the Financial Report ending May 31, 2025, as printed, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

City Attorney Kathryn Warren opened proposals for real property owned by the City, specifically the Wood River Business Park, f/k/a Envirotech Business Park. The only proposal received was from WR Farm Investments LLC d/b/a 'Hollywood River Studios' in the amount of \$500,000.00.

City Attorney Kathryn Warren explained that the City will review and consider accepting the proposal at a future meeting.

CITIZEN/OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Nick Bauer from 326 Haller stated that his side lot was used for easement access during construction work for the State Street Sewer Separation Project. Mr. Bauer expressed dissatisfaction with the restoration work done on his property stating that only the sidewalk has been replaced per the contract. He stated that grass seed was laid last year, but no action was taken to repair ruts or other property damage, and the condition of the property was not restored to its pre-construction state. Mr. Bauer mentioned he has been in contact with Director of Public Services Michael Velloff, City Manager Steve Palen, Mayor Stalcup, and Councilman Plank regarding the issue. He emphasized that the issue remains unresolved six months after the contract ended which was December 31, 2024. He requested a clear resolution plan to avoid pursuing further action.

Councilman Dettmers asked for more details regarding the contract and easement. It was clarified that the contract is with the City of Wood River and that a temporary easement was granted for traffic access for the State Street Sewer Separation Project. Mr. Bauer confirmed that the City repaired the sidewalk, but significant ruts were left behind and the ruts are now interfering with lawn maintenance while using his riding-lawn mower. Councilman Dettmers asked Mr. Bauer if he will allow enough time for the City to try and resolve the issue. Mr. Bauer agreed.

City Manager Steve Palen added that Director Velloff has been in contact with Mr. Bauer. The City has completed the sidewalk work in that area and the plan is to come back, grade the yard, and return the grass to its original condition before the project began. There are only certain times of the year when you can successfully plant grass seed or lay sod, so timing is important, but Director

June 16, 2025

Velloff has been staying on top of it.

Councilman Tweedy asked if the easement was originally intended for emergency vehicle access.

City Manager Steve Palen stated no, not specifically. He explained that it was mainly in place to allow access for residents at the end of the street, since a portion of the project temporarily cut off the roadway. Of course, ensuring access to emergency vehicles was also a key consideration, but the easement served a broader purpose.

Councilman Plank asked if Ameren was involved in putting new lines in.

City Manager Steve Palen replied in the affirmative stating that he believes Ameren has put in a new gas line and Ameren can be difficult to deal with after their construction is completed. City Manager Steve Palen confirmed that Mr. Bauer's property will be taken care of.

Mayor Stalcup congratulated Director of Parks and Recreation Pat Minogue and his staff at Belk Park Golf Course for having the fourth highest revenue in May out of the last 32 years.

Mayor Stalcup announced that the 2025 Farmers Market will start Thursday, June 19, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Downtown Parking Lots. The Farmers Market will be held every Thursday evening until August 28, 2025.

Mayor Stalcup announced that Food Truck Friday will be held at Atomic Pinball located at 102 Whitelaw on Friday, June 27, 2025, and Sunday, June 29, 2025, a Summer Celebration will take place at Shelter Insurance on Ferguson Avenue.

Director of Parks and Recreation Pat Minogue explained that the Bike Ramble scheduled for Friday, June 13, 2025, was cancelled due to the threat of thunderstorms. The Bike Ramble has been rescheduled for Sunday, July 13, 2025, lineup at 1:30 p.m. and ride at 2:00 p.m. The Ice Cream Social will follow the Bike Ramble.

City Manager Steve Palen asked Kristen Burns to come up and give an update on the Wood River Business Alliance and Main Street.

Kristen Burns stated that Placer AI, the data provider used by the Wood River Business Alliance, Main Street, and Main Street America, has reported that downtown had 120,460 visitors in 2024 which is about 11.7 visitors per resident. Most visitors stayed around 61 minutes, and five percent visited monthly. The busiest days were during events like the Halloween Parade on October 26, 2024, and Downtown Trick-or-Treat on October 23, 2024, while quieter days were holidays like Christmas and 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Visitor numbers have steadily increased since 2017, especially post-COVID, with Fridays and Saturdays being the busiest. On August 19, 2025, Main Street America and Illinois Main Street will visit Wood River for a two-day Transformation Strategy Workshop. This will involve local leaders and business owners reviewing survey results and setting a five-year plan for Downtown and economic growth. Please complete the survey via the QR code provided, it only takes a few minutes and gives valuable feedback. The Business Alliance has also launched a new, improved website at [wrbusinessalliance.org](http://wrbusinessalliance.org). It includes a business directory where businesses can manage their own pages, post events, offer coupons, and track customer engagement. These events will also appear across multiple platforms, like Riverbender and WBGZ. Additionally, a new Visit Wood River App is coming soon, featuring a map of local restaurants, menus, and more all to support and promote our local businesses. Best of all, it is free for all businesses to join.

Councilman Dettmers asked if there is a way through the ping data to distinguish between people regularly coming to Downtown because they are working or if they are visiting Downtown.

Ms. Burns stated there is a way to distinguish and explained that the data she handed out is a synopsis of the information.

Councilman Dettmers stated that he gave information to the Mayor of a resident who is wanting to volunteer and get involved with the community.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-8: AMENDING CITY CODE 90-7, TITLE XIII: GENERAL OFFENSES, CHAPTER 130: OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC PEACE AND ORDER, SECTION 130.14: UNLAWFUL USE OF WEAPONS:

Councilman Tweedy moved to amend City Code 90-7, Title XIII: General Offenses, Chapter 130: Offenses Against Public Peace and Order, Section 130.14: Unlawful Use of Weapons, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO. 25-9: AMENDING CITY CODE 90-7, TITLE XV: LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 150: BUILDING REGULATIONS, SECTIONS 150.15 THROUGH 150.090:

Councilman Ayres moved to amend City Code 90-7, Title XV: Land Usage, Chapter 150: Building Regulations, Sections 150.15 through 150.090, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO. 25-10: AMENDING CITY CODE 90-7, TITLE XV: LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 150: BUILDING REGULATIONS, SECTIONS 150.126 THROUGH 150.128:

Councilman Plank moved to amend City Code 90-7, Title XV: Land Usage, Chapter 150: Building Regulations, Sections 150.126 through 150.128, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO. 2950: AMENDING THE 2025-26 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET TO INCLUDE BUDGET AUTHORIZATION FOR 2024-25 ENCUMBRANCES:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve amending the 2025-26 Fiscal Year Budget to include budget authorization for 2024-25 encumbrances, as submitted by the Director of Finance, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO. 2951: AMENDING THE 2024-25 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET BY INCREASING THE EXPENSE CATEGORY OF VARIOUS BUDGETS:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve amending the 2024-25 Fiscal Year Budget by increasing the expense category of various budgets, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO. 2952: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH JACK MATTHEWS DEVELOPMENT LLC FOR TIF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AT 56 & 60 E. FERGUSON, WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS 62095:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the execution of a Redevelopment Agreement with Jack Matthews Development LLC for TIF Financial Assistance at 56 & 60 E. Ferguson, Wood River, Illinois 62095, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2128: EXECUTING A SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER AND RIVERBEND GROWTH ASSOCIATION FOR MARKETING IN SUPPORT OF THE WOOD RIVER RECREATION CENTER:

Councilman Plank moved to approve a resolution executing a Sponsorship Agreement between the City of Wood River and Riverbend Growth Association for marketing in support of the Wood River Recreation Center, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

June 16, 2025

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
 NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: REQUEST FROM THE WOOD RIVER BUSINESS ALLIANCE TO USE THE DOWNTOWN PARKING LOT FROM MADISON AVENUE TO FIRST STREET ON THURSDAY EVENINGS FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. FOR THE 2025 FARMERS MARKET SEASON BEGINNING THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025, AND ENDING THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025:

Councilman Plank moved to approve a request from the Wood River Business Alliance to use the Downtown Parking Lot from Madison Avenue to First Street on Thursday evenings from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the 2025 Farmers Market Season beginning Thursday, June 19, 2025, and ending Thursday, August 28, 2025, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
 NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: REQUEST FROM MARK SMITH INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC (SHELTER INSURANCE) TO PARTIALLY CLOSE SECOND STREET FROM THE ALLEY TO FERGUSON AVENUE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2025, FROM 11:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M. TO CELEBRATE THEIR BUILDING RENOVATION:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a request from Mark Smith Insurance Agency, LLC (Shelter Insurance) to partially close Second Street from the alley to Ferguson Avenue on Sunday, June 29, 2025, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to celebrate their building renovation, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
 NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: REQUEST FROM RESIDENTS OF THE 800 BLOCK OF RICE STREET TO CLOSE THE STREET BETWEEN 800 AND 838 RICE STREET ON FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2025, FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M. TO HOLD THEIR ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY:

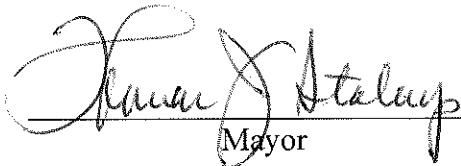
Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a request from residents of the 800 block of Rice Street to close the street between 800 and 838 Rice Street on Friday, July 4, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. to hold their annual block party, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
 NAYS: None (0)

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

  
 Mayor

  
 City Clerk