

January 5, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING
MADISON COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Mayor Tom Stalcup called a Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 2026, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 N. Wood River Avenue, with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance to receive citizen comments on the Madison County Community Development Block Grant for the Edwardsville Road Water Line Improvement Project.

Director Michael Velloff presented an overview of the proposed project associated with the Madison County Community Development Block Grant application. He explained that the purpose of the grant application is to fund Phase 3 of the Edwardsville Road water main improvement project.

Director Velloff stated that the previous phase of the project concluded at Whitelaw. Phase 3 will replace the existing four inch cast iron water main with a twelve inch PVC water main and will extend from Whitelaw to Third Street. He noted that this phase must be completed prior to paving Edwardsville Road. Ultimately, the project is planned to extend to Fifth Street. Director Velloff explained that if Edwardsville Road is already paved at the time of future phases, the water main can be extended south from Third Street through an alley. If the road has not yet been paved, the project can continue directly down Edwardsville Road.

Councilman Ayres asked when the Edwardsville Road paving project will begin.

Director Velloff responded that the water main improvement project must be completed first. He stated that Phase 3 funding for Edwardsville Road has been submitted to the Illinois Department of Transportation and the goal is to pave the roadway in a single project. He added that CDBG funds for the water main improvements must be expended by June 30.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that, at best, paving would begin in 2027.

Councilman Plank asked whether the city would wait until next year if the grant was not received.

Director Velloff responded that historically the City has received approximately \$100,000.00 annually through the program. He stated that this award is \$386,000.00 and that it is important to proceed with the project and complete it.

City Manager Steve Palen clarified that the grant has already been awarded.

Director Velloff confirmed this and stated that the City must now complete all required steps to fulfill the grant requirements.

Councilman Dettmers asked how long it will take to extend the project to Fifth Street.

Director Velloff explained that the current work represents Phase 3, which will reach Third Street. Extension to Fifth Street would be Phase 4 and would require applying for additional funding next year to complete that portion of the project.

Mayor Tom Stalcup called for comments by citizens.

Rich Stone, a member of the audience, asked whether the project would be completed using an open trench or a bore method.

Director Michael Velloff stated that an open trench method is less costly.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the project will be completed using an open trench method.

There being no further comments, the Public Hearing adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

AGENDA

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:04 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 2026. 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 Ayers moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 15, 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 BILLS:

Councilman Plank moved to approve the bills submitted for payment for the period December 11, 2025, to December 31, 2025, as printed, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

CITIZEN/OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Bill Rogers stated that he was providing follow-up comments to statements he made at a prior meeting and asserted that no action has been taken in response. He stated that the City has indicated the matter is a county issue, which he disagrees with, asserting that the issues involve City employees, specifically Police Sergeants Burns and Timmins. Mr. Rogers stated that on March 14 he alleges that Sergeant Burns knowingly filed false charges related to alleged litter on his porch. He stated that Sergeant Burns claimed to have photographs, though Mr. Rogers stated he does not recall seeing them. Mr. Rogers asserted that the items depicted were laundry belonging to his sister, who was using his washing machine due to her own being inoperable. He further alleged that Sergeant Burns violated due process by failing to properly serve him prior to prosecution and alleged trespassing and breach of curtilage. Mr. Rogers also questioned why photographs were taken of women's laundry and stated that this was not the first instance of what he described as inappropriate conduct directed toward his sister. Mr. Rogers further stated that on July 6 he spoke at a meeting regarding Sergeant Younker, which he noted coincided with the date of her official promotion. He stated that he believed there were valid reasons for his comments at that time and additional reasons now. Mr. Rogers alleged retaliatory arrest, false arrest, detention, viewpoint discrimination, and violations of free speech. He stated that the alleged basis for the action was later dismissed and claimed that the City was ordered to return funds, which he stated neither the City nor the County has done. Mr. Rogers stated that even if the matter were a county issue, which he disputes, he believes the City has taken no action to resolve it. He stated that he believes similar incidents involving the City and Police Department have occurred over a period of approximately twenty years. Mr. Rogers stated that he expects a written settlement from the City by the close of business the following day outlining how the City intends to resolve the matter. He stated that he did not want the response mailed and that it should be delivered to him directly. He further stated that retaliation or harassment would violate his constitutional right to petition the government for redress of grievances and would result in further action.

Mayor Tom Stalcup announced that Officer Jason Womack graduated from the Southwestern Illinois College Police Academy and read a Letter of Recognition from Police Chief Brad Wells.

City Manager Steve Palen invited Trisha Shrewsberry of C.J. Schlosser & Company to present the annual audit results. Ms. Shrewsberry stated that the audit was completed and that the City again received an unmodified opinion. She explained that an unmodified opinion indicates that there were

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no significant deficiencies, no material weaknesses, and no matters of concern identified during the audit procedures.

Ms. Shrewsberry distributed a five-year comparison summary covering the three fund types: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. She explained that the first page summarizes governmental funds. She noted that the most significant change was in the capital outlay line, which decreased due to the completion of the Recreation Center project in the prior audit period. She also noted that principal debt decreased as the City paid down outstanding debt. Ms. Shrewsberry stated that the City reported a net profit of \$365,962.00 and explained that prior years reflected negative results due to debt issuance related to capital projects.

Ms. Shrewsberry stated that the second page summarizes proprietary funds, including water, sewer, and other business type activities. She noted that both revenues and expenditures increased and that net income was generally consistent with prior years, though slightly lower. She explained that the loan forgiveness shown in the report relates to an IEPA loan.

Ms. Shrewsberry stated that the third page summarizes fiduciary funds, which include the police and fire pension funds. She noted that investment income increased by approximately ten percent compared to the prior year and that benefit payments also increased. She stated that the change in net position was similar to prior years, with a slight increase. Ms. Shrewsberry added that the full audit report includes additional schedules and summaries, including pension comparisons and detailed information on individual funds.

Councilman Dettmers asked when the audit was completed.

Ms. Shrewsberry stated that it was completed in early December.

Councilman Dettmers asked whether that timing was later than normal.

Ms. Shrewsberry stated that it was slightly later than usual.

Councilman Dettmers asked whether the delay was due to any issues encountered during the audit.

Ms. Shrewsberry stated that it was not and that the timing was related to scheduling.

APPROVED: RECEIPT OF THE 2024-2025 AUDIT REPORT AS PREPARED BY C.J. SCHLOSSER & COMPANY LLC:

Councilman Ayers moved to receipt of the 2024-2025 Audit Report as prepared by C.J. Schlosser & Company LLC, 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. 2984: AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER TO BORROW FUNDS FROM THE ILLINOIS WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN PROGRAM TO FINANCE THE STATE STREET STORM SEWER PROJECT:

Councilman Plank moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the City of Wood River to borrow funds from the Illinois Water Pollution Control Loan Program to finance the State Street Storm Sewer Project, seconded by Councilman Dettmers

Councilman Dettmers stated that he has an aversion to motions and votes being taken without explanation and expressed the importance of the public understanding what is being voted on. He stated that the agenda item involves a five-million-dollar loan with a twenty-year term from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. He stated that he believed the interest rate associated with the loan was low.

City Manager Steve Palen responded in the affirmative and stated that the City's most recent loan through the IEPA carried an interest rate of approximately 1.1 percent for a twenty-year term, with approximately twenty to twenty-five percent of the loan forgiven. He stated that the City is applying for two separate IEPA loans, one for the City's portion of the sewer separation project and one for the Ninth Street detention pond project.

Councilman Dettmers asked whether the five-million-dollar loan covered both projects.

City Manager Palen stated that the five-million-dollar loan applies only to the sewer separation project and that a separate ten-million-dollar loan request has been submitted for the Ninth Street detention pond project.

Councilman Dettmers asked whether the loans would count toward the City's borrowing limit.

City Manager Palen stated that they would not.

The ordinance was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO. 2985: AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER TO BORROW FUNDS FROM THE ILLINOIS WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN PROGRAM TO FINANCE THE 9TH STREET DETENTION POND PROJECT:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the City of Wood River to borrow funds from the Illinois Water Pollution Control Loan Program to finance the 9th Street Detention Pond Project, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO. 2986: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FUNDING OBLIGATION FOR WATER LINE IMPROVEMENTS ON EDWARDSVILLE ROAD FROM WHITELAW AVENUE TO THIRD STREET, AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the execution of a Funding Obligation for Water Line Improvements on Edwardsville Road from Whitelaw Avenue to Third Street, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers asked about the cost of the project.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the cost was addressed in the prior presentation by Director of Public Services Michael Velloff.

Director Velloff stated that the project is expected to cost the City approximately \$100,000.00 after grant funding, noting that a final cost estimate is not yet available.

The ordinance was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2153: AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO APPLY FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS FROM MADISON COUNTY FOR THE EDWARDSVILLE ROAD WATER LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES:

Councilman Ayers moved to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute all necessary documents to apply for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from Madison County for the Edwardsville Road Water Line Improvement project, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2154: FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION:

Councilman Plank moved for approval of a Fair Housing Resolution as a part of the application for the Madison County Community Development Block Grant, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Dettmers

Councilman Dettmers asked for an explanation of the agenda item.

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City Manager Steve Palen stated that the next several agenda items must be approved in order for the City to receive the Community Development Block Grant funds.

Councilman Dettmers asked how much funding the City would receive.

City Manager Palen stated that the amount to be received is \$386,000.00.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2155: ADA TRANSITION PLAN:

Councilman Plank moved for approval of an ADA Transition Plan Resolution as a part of the application for the Madison County Community Development Block Grant, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Tweedy

Councilman Dettmers asked for an explanation of the agenda item.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the grant requires the City to certify that it has an Americans with Disabilities Act plan in place.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2156: ENDORSING THE GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES TOURISM BUREAU AS THE STATE CERTIFIED BUREAU FOR THIS REGION:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a resolution endorsing the Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau as the State Certified Bureau for this region, seconded by Councilman Plank

Councilman Dettmers asked for clarification that the agenda item is to approve an endorsement and not funding.

City Manager Steve Palen replied in the affirmative.

Councilman Plank asked whether the endorsement of the Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau is a state requirement or if there is any mandate for the City to provide such an endorsement.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the endorsement is not mandated but that he believes providing endorsement assists the Tourism Bureau in applying for grant funding.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2157: AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR THE 2026 MADISON COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT FOR \$15,000.00, AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a resolution authorizing the application for the 2026 Madison County Resource Management Program Environmental Grant for \$15,000.00, as submitted by the Director of Parks and Recreation, seconded by Councilman Plank

Councilman Ayers asked for an explanation of the agenda item.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the item relates to the HVAC system at the golf course and that the total project cost is estimated to be approximately \$60,000.00 to \$65,000.00.

Councilman Tweedy asked whether the HVAC project is for the clubhouse.

City Manager Palen replied in the affirmative.

Councilman Plank stated that the golf course is operating at a profit and can cover the remaining cost of the project.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO. 2987: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER AND THE DISTRICT OF EDUCATION OF EAST ALTON-WOOD RIVER HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Wood River and the District of Education of East Alton-Wood River High School District No. 14, seconded by Councilman Dettmers

Councilman Dettmers clarified that the agreement is a five-year term under which the school will be responsible for maintaining the fields.

City Manager Steve Palen replied in the affirmative.

The ordinance was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2158: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER AND MADISON COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Wood River and Madison County Housing Authority, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers asked whether the item was similar to past instances when the Fire Department burned buildings.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the Police Department will also be present and clarified that the Fire Department will not burn the building and that the activity is for training purposes only.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTAIN: Plank (1)

RESOLUTION NO. 2159: REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR THE WOOD RIVER EASTWOOD PUMP STATION PROJECT, AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a resolution rejecting all bids for the Wood River Eastwood Pump Station Project, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Plank

Councilman Dettmers asked whether the City received only one bid.

City Manager Steve Palen replied in the affirmative.

Councilman Dettmers stated that the bidder indicated concerns regarding timely completion of the work and asked what the plan would be moving forward.

City Manager Palen stated that the project will be rebid and noted that the rebidding is addressed in the next agenda item. He stated that the City received only one bid and that the bid amount was approximately double the original estimate, prompting the decision to rebid the project.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: REQUEST TO SEEK BIDS TO REPLACE THE PUMPS AT THE EASTWOOD LIFT STATION WITH NEW GRINDER PUMPS, AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES:

Councilman Plank moved to approve a request to seek bids to replace the pumps at the Eastwood Lift Station with new grinder pumps, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Tweedy,

Councilman Ayers asked whether the pumps at the Eastwood Lift Station have been replaced previously.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the pumps have not been replaced since prior to 2003. He stated that the pumps have been rebuilt and that new seals have been installed over time. He explained that the proposed replacement with grinder pumps is similar to work previously completed at Carrollwood and is intended to better handle what is passing through the sewer system.

The request was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT THE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FROM OATES ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR DESIGN ENGINEERING SERVICES REQUIRED FOR THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) IDENTIFIED AS IL 143 OFF-STREET BIKE/PED FACILITY, PHASE 1 – MCT WOOD RIVER TRANSIT STATION TO SECOND STREET, AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a recommendation to accept the statement of qualifications from Oates Associates, Inc., for design engineering services required for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) identified as IL 143 Off-Street Bike/Ped Facility, Phase 1 – MCT Wood River Transit Station to Second Street, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Dettmers

Councilman Plank asked which section of Illinois Route 143 the project would cover.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the project would begin at the MCT Transit Station, proceed along the alley between the water tower and adjacent buildings, and then connect to Illinois Route 143, continuing to Second Street.

Councilman Dettmers asked how the selection was made between the two firms.

City Manager Palen stated that Director of Public Services Michael Velloff utilized a scoring sheet and that experience was the primary evaluation factor.

Director Michael Velloff stated that the other firm had more roadway project experience, while Oates Associates has completed several similar bike and pedestrian projects.

The recommendation was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: RECOMMENDATION FROM MAYOR STALCUP TO APPOINT DAVE LANDRY OF 152 S. 14TH STREET TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE MAY 2029:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a recommendation from Mayor Stalcup to appoint Dave Landry of 152 S. 14th Street to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission with a term to expire May 2029, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

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APPROVED: SET ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY'S ADA TRANSITION PLAN:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve setting the annual public hearing on the City's ADA transition plan for Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 7:00pm, before the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: CHANGE MEETING DATE DUE TO MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve changing the next regularly scheduled City Council Meeting to Tuesday, January 20, 2026, due to the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilman Dettmers moved for approval of a recess to hold an executive closed session to discuss matters pertaining to Personnel (5ILCS 120/2 (c)(1)) seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

The Council moved across the hall to hold the executive closed session.

The Council recessed at 7:30 p.m. and reconvened at 8:06 p.m.

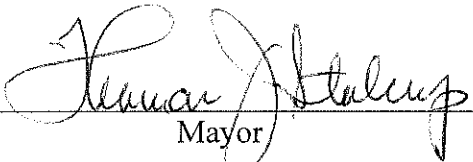
Councilman Ayres made a motion to go back into open session, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.



Mayor

City Clerk