

AGENDA

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2026. The Deputy Clerk called the roll and reported that the following members were:

PRESENT: David Ayres
Bill Dettmers
Jeremy Plank
Tom Stalcup

ABSENT: Scott Tweedy

and that a quorum was present and in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 6, 2026, as printed, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve the bills submitted for payment for the period July 2, 2026, to July 15, 2026, as printed, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Councilman Plank moved to approve the Financial Statement ending June 30, 2026, as printed, seconded Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

CITIZEN/OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Chief Wells introduced Zoe and Annabelle Slusser, explaining that their parents had successfully bid on a silent auction item at the Tyler Timmins Memorial Trivia Night, giving the girls the opportunity to serve as "Chiefs for the Day." He stated that the girls had been his bosses throughout the day and shared that their favorite activity was visiting the donut shop. Chief Wells added that they had also visited several locations, including the Fire Station, where Fire Chief Nate Kamp spent time with them.

Mayor Stalcup welcomed Zoe and Annabelle, congratulated them on winning the experience, and remarked that it might be something they could look forward to pursuing in the future.

City Manager Steve Palen noted that one of the girls wanted to become a police officer and encouraged them to speak. Chief Wells joked that becoming Chief requires public speaking. Mayor Stalcup thanked the girls for attending.

Mayor Stalcup stated that the Annual Ice Cream Social was once again a great success. He thanked everyone who contributed, volunteered, and attended the event, expressing appreciation for the community's support and participation. He concluded by stating that the City looks forward to next year's Ice Cream Social.

RESOLUTION NO. 2189: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER AND OATES ASSOCIATES FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES:

Councilman Plank moved to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a Professional Services Agreement between the City of Wood River and Oates Associates for engineering services, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Ayres

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Councilman Dettmers asked for clarification that the agreement was with Oates Associates and inquired whether any future annual fee increases would require Council approval.

City Manager Steve Palen explained that the agreement was a general services agreement and questioned whether it included a specific term, noting that he did not believe one was listed. He stated that the City has similar agreements, such as one with Gonzalez that automatically renews each year with only the annual rates changing, while another agreement with SMS Engineering is for a two- or three-year term. He indicated that he believed the Oates Associates agreement would likewise continue from year to year, with the rates rolling over annually.

Councilman Dettmers asked whether any future rate increases under the agreement would be required to come back to the City Council for approval.

City Manager Steve Palen explained that, typically, annual rate increases under the general services agreement would not require additional City Council approval, as the agreement itself would remain in effect. He noted that the agreement is intended for smaller projects and explained that any individual project exceeding \$25,000.00 would be brought before the City Council for approval.

City Attorney Mike McGinley explained that engineering services are procured based on qualifications and merit rather than the lowest cost. He stated that the purpose of this approach is to allow the City to hire the most qualified engineers instead of simply selecting the least expensive option. However, he noted that engineering firms are still required to charge rates that are fair and comparable to those of other firms providing similar services. He summarized that the City hires the engineering firm it believes is best qualified while ensuring the fees remain reasonable.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2190: AUTHORIZING THE SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF A 2027 F-250 4X4 TRUCK FROM WEBER COMMERCIAL TRUCK CENTER FOR \$53,923.00 AND WAIVING CUSTOMARY BIDDING PROCEDURES:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a resolution authorizing the sole source purchase of a 2027 F-250 4x4 Truck from Weber Commercial Truck Center for \$53,923.00 and waiving customary bidding procedures, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Plank

Councilman Dettmers commented that he wanted to ensure he understood the procurement process correctly. He stated that both bids had been submitted through the Illinois State Purchasing Program and noted that he did not fully understand how the program worked. He stated that the proposal submitted by Morrow Brothers exceeded the proposal submitted by Weber and asked if the City would therefore be accepting Weber's proposal.

City Manager Steve Palen explained that the City initially pursued the purchase through Morrow Brothers because the vehicle was available under the Illinois State Purchasing Program. However, after discussions and identifying discrepancies, Public Services Director Michael Velloff obtained a proposal from Weber Ford, a more local dealer, which was able to provide the same truck at a lower price than the state bid.

Councilman Dettmers asked for clarification on the language included in the resolution regarding waiving the customary statutory bidding process and asked if it is because the City had already obtained pricing through the State Purchasing Program and an additional competitive proposal. He asked if that is what makes the separate statutory bidding process unnecessary.

City Attorney Mike McGinley explained that, for Ford vehicles, the manufacturer designates one dealer in northern Illinois and one dealer in southern Illinois to sell vehicles through the Illinois State Purchasing Program. He stated that the City is permitted to purchase vehicles directly through that pre-approved procurement process, which is why the resolution includes language waiving the customary bidding requirements. He clarified that, although the City is technically waiving its own statutory bidding process, it is still purchasing through a purchasing program. He further explained that if a local dealer can offer the same vehicle at a price lower than the state contract, the City may accept the lower price, resulting in a better value while maintaining transparency through Council approval of the bid waiver.

Councilman Dettmers asked for confirmation that four votes from the City Council would still be required to approve the purchase.

City Attorney Mike McGinley replied in the affirmative.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2191: REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR THE CITY CENTER PARK PROJECT:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve a resolution rejecting all bids for the City Center Park Project, seconded by Councilman Plank

Councilman Dettmers asked for clarification, stating that he assumed the architects had provided an estimated cost for the complete scope of work and asked whether the bids came in above that estimated amount.

City Manager Steve Palen explained that there were several issues with the bid process that contributed to the higher bids. He stated that some details were not communicated as clearly as they could have been in the bid documents provided to contractors. He added that the pricing was also higher than anticipated and that the City had placed a tight timeline on the bid process. He noted that allowing additional time for the rebid process could potentially result in lower bid amounts.

Councilman Dettmers asked whether the City would need to revise the bid specifications or modify the scope of the project to reflect any changes to what would be constructed.

City Manager Steve Palen advised that no revisions have been made at this time.

Councilman Dettmers asked whether the City still has the option to rebid the project.

City Manager Steve Palen confirmed that the intention is to rebid the project.

Councilman Dettmers asked how much time would be provided for the rebid process.

City Manager Steve Palen explained that the rebid process would allow a two-week turnaround period. He stated that most contractors had completed a significant amount of the required work, but he had received feedback that the original timeline was a quick turnaround. He then confirmed that if the rebid results were still not acceptable, the City would have the option to reject the bids and revise the project scope if necessary.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: REQUEST TO SEEK BIDS TO CONSTRUCT CITY CENTER PARK:

Councilman Plank moved to approve a request to seek bids to construct City Center Park, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: REQUEST TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM FELD FIRE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,300.00 FOR A NEW SCBA FILL STATION COMPRESSOR:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a request to accept the bid from Feld Fire in the amount of \$30,300.00 for a new SCBA fill station compressor, as submitted by the Fire Chief, seconded by Councilman Plank

Councilman Dettmers asked for clarification regarding this item.

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Fire Chief Nate Kamp explained that the item is a compressor used for the department's fill station that the firefighters use to fill the SCBA cylinders that are used on calls and for training. Chief Kamp added that the purchase will be funded primarily through a \$25,000.00 grant received from the Illinois State Fire Marshal.

The request was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

SOLICIT – MARINE CORPS LADIES AUXILIARY UNIT 488 – APPROVED:

Councilman Plank moved to approve a request from Marine Corps Ladies Auxiliary Unit 488 to solicit at the intersection of Wood River Avenue and Penning Avenue on Saturday, October 3, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in accordance with City Policy, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

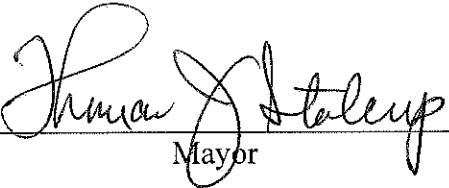
SOLICIT – EAWR HIGH SCHOOL – BOYS BASKETBALL – APPROVED:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a request from EAWR High School – Boys Basketball to solicit at the intersection of Wood River Avenue & Penning Avenue on Saturday, October 10, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in accordance with City Policy, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.


Mayor


City Clerk