



Minutes of the May 5, 2025 City Council Meeting

Unofficial meeting minutes until approved by Council

The regular meeting of the Robins City Council was called to order at 6:00p.m. on Monday, May 5th, 2025 at Robins City Hall, 265 S. 2nd St by Mayor Chuck Hinz. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with the following members present: Councilor Leigh Cook, Councilor Mike Foley, Councilor Dave Franzman, Councilor Cary Smith and Councilor JD Smith. Also present were City Clerk Lisa Goodin, Deputy City Clerk Rhonda Kortenkamp, City Attorney Holly Corkery, Building Official/Superintendent of Public Works Mike Kortenkamp, Zoning Administrator Vance McKinnon, Police Chief Andy Humphrey and Fire Chief Keith Feldkamp.

J. Smith moved to approve the agenda, Franzman seconded and all voted aye.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Robins is getting busy with the city-wide garage sales May 16th & 17th, Fire Department Pancake Breakfast May 17th and Robins Roundup Celebration June 13th & 14th.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY: Foley reported that April was relatively quiet for the Fire Department with 19 calls, noting that recent rain has reduce the threat of brush fires. FD members also participated in several training activities. The Police Department initiated over 137 contacts, including 28 traffic stops and 5 citations . PD provided 35 house checks and responded to 6 suspicious activity reports. Councilor J. Smith inquired as to the status of the installation of the digital speed-monitoring signage which the City initially purchased two years ago. Foley reported no update was available.

STREETS: C. Smith reported that several streets projects were on that evening's agenda.

FINANCE: Cook reported that the FY24 Annual Audit was nearly complete, the FY26 Budget was complete and certified, and that the FY25 Budget Amendment was on that evening's agenda. She also noted that the list of bills includes the 2nd FY 25 debt service payment for the City's 3 bonds. Additionally, the agenda includes the annual transfer of TIF funds and payment to Robins Landing, LLC for upsizing of the water main installation, water services along Robins Rd and two payments for the purchase of parkland. Finally, Cook noted that the City's portion of the premiums for the employee health plan selected by Council will likely exceed the amount of the Employee Benefits Levy.

PARKS: Franzman reported that work in the parks continues with upgrades to the ball diamond base anchors.

PUBLIC WORKS: J. Smith reported that aside from a few drainage issues and lift station problems where infiltration is suspected, both sewer and water systems are operating well.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: No questions presented.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS: None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Randy Fouts, 250 Robinwood Dr., reported that the Robins Roundup Parade is returning for the 25th Annual celebration. Registration for parade participation is open on the Robins Civic Club website. There will be 8 categories with \$25 prizes available. He added that registration for the annual 5k is also open on the website.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Franzman moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which contained the Minutes of the April 21st & 28th City Council Meetings and the List of Bills Submitted. Cook seconded and all voted aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Presentation of REDI Annual Report by Carrie Wilkinson, Chairperson. Wilkinson reported that REDI has formed several committees with the goal to encourage commercial and industrial additions to Robins: Infrastructure, Economic Development, City Services and Community Identity/Engagement. REDI is also actively working to attract additional members.

B. **Resolution No. 0525-1 Approving Transfer of Funds from TIF Fund to the Debt Service Fund.** Franzman motioned for approval, J. Smith seconded and upon a roll call, all votes were aye.

- C. Public Hearing to Hear Comments and Concerns Relating to an Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2025 Municipal Budget. Hearing was opened at 6:25 p.m. and upon hearing no comments, the hearing was closed at 6:26 p.m.
- D. **Resolution No. 0525-2 Approving Amendment to Fiscal Year 2025 Municipal Budget.** Cook motioned for approval, J. Smith seconded and upon a roll call, all votes were aye.
- E. **Resolution No. 0525-3 Approving Engineering Professional Services Agreement with Snyder & Associates.** Hinz commented that the services provided by Snyder & Associates will blend well with the City's addition of a City Engineer to its staff. Franzman motioned for approval, Foley seconded and, upon a roll call, all votes were aye.
- F. Public Hearing to Hear Comments and Concerns on the Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract and Engineers Opinion of Probable Cost for W. Main St. Rehabilitation - N. Center Point Rd. to Tullymore Project. Hearing was opened at 6:28 p.m. Hinz commented that the project will address an area of W. Main St. which sorely needs rehabilitation and this option provides 10-15 years of life for the roadway. Upon hearing no comments, the hearing was closed at 6:30 p.m.
- G. **Resolution No. 0525-4 Approving Proposed Plans, Specifications, Proposed Form of Contract and Engineers Opinion of Probable Cost for W. Main St. Rehabilitation - N. Center Point Rd. to Tullymore Project.** C. Smith motioned for approval, Cook seconded and upon a roll call, all votes were aye.
- H. Consideration of Bids for the W. Main St. Rehabilitation – N. Center Point Rd. to Tullymore. C. Smith reported that a single bid was received for the project and came in \$100,000 over project budget. As such, she recommended tabling Resolution No. 0525-5 until Snyder & Associates could report back on further research into the matter.
- I. **Resolution No. 0525-5 Awarding Contract for the W. Main St. Rehabilitation – N. Center Point Rd. to Tullymore Project.** C. Smith motioned to table, S. Smith seconded and all votes were aye.
- J. **Resolution No. 0525-6 Approving Bid Package for the Sale of Kervin Court Outlot A.** Hinz urged the inclusion of coverage of the City's legal fees by the winning bidder in the bid documents. C. Smith commented that this might preclude interested parties from bidding. J. Smith questioned the winning bidder's responsibility for the establishment of an easement for the existing private sewer connection on the property. Attorney Corkery recommended tabling the matter until these concerns could be addressed. Franzman motioned to table, J. Smith seconded and all votes were aye.
- K. **Resolution No. 0525-7 Eliminating Opt-Out Stipend in Lieu of Health Insurance for Employees.** Foley stated his support for rescinding the stipend, adding that he saw it as non-negotiable as the City offers a competitive benefits package. C. Smith stated that Council was encouraged to approve the stipend last year as a means of saving the City money on employee benefits but was now unsure of the benefit. Cook stated that the stipend adds to the total compensation package available to employees. J. Smith commented that if an employee who currently receives the stipend were to elect insurance coverage through the City instead, this will cost the City more money. Franzman questioned as to whether feedback had been received from the employee who currently receives the stipend. A response was provided that the stipend encouraged participation in a spouse's health insurance, and that if the stipend were rescinded, that decision would be re-evaluated. Foley motioned for approval, Cook seconded. Upon a roll call, votes were as follows: J. Smith – Nay, Franzman – Nay, Cook – Aye, C. Smith – Aye, Foley – Aye. Resolution approved.
- L. **Resolution No. 0525-8 Approving Contract with ABC Disposal Systems for Solid Waste and Recycling Collection.** Franzman questioned the possibility of the contractor offering smaller garbage totes for residents who requested them. Goodin provided that 65-gallon totes would be delivered to all households. If a resident requested a 35-gallon tote, ABC would provide one, but with no discount on the service rate. Franzman motioned for approval, J. Smith seconded. Upon a roll call all votes were aye.
- M. **Resolution No. 0525-10 Authorizing Payment to Robins Landing, LLC for Hydrants & Services, Water Upsizing and Parkland Purchase Relating to Robins Landing Development.** Cook motioned for approval, C. Smith seconded. Upon a roll call, all votes were aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Resolution No. 0525-9 Establishing Salaries for Fiscal Year 2026.** Foley stated that the Fire Chief salary should be included in the FY26 annual raises, suggesting to amend the resolution to reflect that change. J.

Smith questioned the salaried status of the Fire Code Official/Deputy Superintendent of Public Works position. Corkery commented that as the salary status issue was outside the scope of the resolution, it should be tabled until a future meeting. Smith further commented that the Police Chief's salary is currently capped due to IPERS requirements but that the proposed change to the health insurance would cost employees more money. Additionally, Smith proposed that Fire Department volunteer pay should differentiate between medical calls and active fire calls to compensate volunteers for danger to life and limb. C. Smith urged tabling the matter. Foley motioned to approve with the suggested amendment including the Fire Chief position, Franzman seconded. Upon a roll call, all votes were aye.

- B.** Motion to approve selection of *Wellmark Enhanced Blue 3000 PPO* and *Wellmark myBlue High-Deductible Health Plan Silver PPO* as health insurance offerings to eligible City employees, with employer contribution rate of 90%. Foley motioned to approve, Cook seconded and all votes were aye.
- C.** Discussion relating to the establishment of regulations pertaining to the installation of memorial benches on City property. Franzman summarized his research as most cities with memorial regulations charge approximately \$1000 for a bench, installation and engraved plaque. Most cities offer a single choice for a bench and restrict the verbiage on the plaque. Vinton also offers picnic tables, plaques in flower beds and banners for veterans. Other cities offer memorial trees. Franzman proposed standardizing options for City Staff to offer to donors and recommended passing the matter on to the Parks Master Planning Committee for further research. Hinz concurred with the recommendation.

ADJOURN: J. Smith moved to adjourn at 7:27 p.m., Franzman seconded and all voted aye.

Chuck Hinz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer